

LIGHTCLIFFE'S LAPSE.

Despite a fine innings by A. Hartley, who hit up 54, Lightcliffe were beaten by their visitors from Keighley. Although the wicket might have been expected to assist the bowlers, the Lightcliffe attack did not seem to utilise whatever advantage the condition of the pitch might have offered. Young, in particular, seemed unable to find pitch, and in his first spell with the ball proved very costly. Hirst kept a good length, and at first the visiting batsmen found it difficult to get him away, but later, when he began to rise, Sellers showed a tendency to punish him severely. Hartley's bowling was rather patchy; he sent down some good balls but others simply asked to be hit. He it was, however, who got rid of Sellers, the batsmen hitting his wicket in playing back to a ball, while Patefield, who took on rather an unusual rôle as bowler, managed to get Butterfield, the Keighley top scorer, caught, and also disposed of R. Jowett. The condition of the ground naturally was against smart work in the field, but, even allowing for that, there was little excuse for some of the missed chances.

Lightcliffe's batsmen, when it came their turn, were unable to do anything against the bowling of Lamb. The wicket has obviously been growing more difficult, and Lamb made use of the help which it afforded, to the fullest extent. Apart from Hartley, who played a really creditable innings in compiling 54, only J. Hirst was able to reach double figures, and his 19, useful though it was, did not prove sufficient to stave off defeat. Lightcliffe lost partly because they found their opponents in top form.