

familiar to Darwinites the "tail" of a cricket team has become as extinct as the Dodo or "Sydenham" Taylor, for in recent matches we have seen it not.

The Midlanders have made a gigantic start and would have done even better if Lash, who is batting really well, had not had the misfortune to be run out.

Wynyard once more demonstrated that the opinion we have frequently expressed respecting him had solid foundation; and we shall hear yet more of him.

Harris showed a return to his old form, and received a perfect ovation from the spectators. He is a difficult man to evict after a few minutes tenancy has been vouchsafed him.

The small boy question received attention at the "smoke" given to the Aucklanders; their presence and demonstrative ability at the match were not looked upon as undiluted blessings. At the same time one cannot help being impressed with the ultimate advantages to cricket of extending to the impecunious small boy the freedom of the grounds. The position they hold corresponds to that held by the pittites of the theatre; they lead the applause with spontaneous heartiness and are the keenest critics of the game; its principles and delights are thus early inculcated; the fruits will be manifest in the near future. The truest sign of the solid popularity of the game is shown by the deep interest taken by them, for boys soon desert that which is unworthy of support.

In the same way is to be commended the wisdom of admitting ladies free. Their charming variety of costume and its colour lent a rare gayness to the scene.

#### BOWLING.

A team selected from the Wellington Bowling Club will leave here on Sunday night for Nelson, where a match will be played with the local club on Anniversary day. The visitors will return to Wellington on Wednesday morning.

The Wellington Bowling Club sent seven rinks to Napier in 1892 at the time of the Eastern Tourament held in that town. The Council having again decided to hold the annual tournament of the North Island in Napier, names of intending competitors are being received. The Napier boys are a hospitable crowd and it is pretty certain that Wellington will be quite as strongly represented this year as on the previous occasion.

In the match between the Wellington and Thorndon Bowling Clubs, played on the former's green last Saturday, the Thorndonites got an awful "slopping." They were soundly beaten in each of the four rinks and the aggregate score of the Wellington players will be for sometime quoted as an "awful example."

Entries for the Port Nicholson Yacht Club closed at the Empire Hotel on Thursday night, at 10 o'clock.

The C class shots of the City Rifles will hold a competition for class trophy and ammunition prizes on Saturday next, at the cadet range; morning squad only. Ammunition on Friday evening.



The farewell tour of the Fillis Circus through New Zealand promises to be a most successful one from a financial point of view, judging by the crowded houses which have greeted every performance since the opening on Friday of last week. The performance given is an exceptionally good one, including as it does feats of equitation, ground and lofty tumbling, trapeze play, balancing acts, and the exhibition of trained wild beasts. From start to finish the attention of the auditor is riveted and as one seemingly impossible feat after another is performed with an unrivalled deftness and neatness, the admiration of the assembled crowd reaches a point of open-mouthed wonder and enthusiasm. As to the details of the programme they are all referred to on page 18, in Mrs. Sairey Snodgins letter. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings Mr. Cox entered the lions den and put his ferocious pets through their paces.

There was a large attendance at the Opera House on Wednesday evening, to listen to the lecture by Archbishop Redwood on his experiences during his late American tour. His Worship the Mayor (Mr. Brandon) occupied the chair, and Sir Patrick Buckley moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer. His Grace gave a running comment on the institutions in the United States and spoke in high terms of the religious liberty enjoyed there. He expressed himself as pleased with his visit to the exhibition at Chicago, but criticised the American press and Government in a humourously satirical manner. He addressed several audiences while in America and endeavoured to make it plain to them that New Zealand was not a savage country and that boiled missionary was not a regular article of diet. As a representative at the Church Congress he occupied a prominent position and at the opening sat to the left of the presiding Cardinal, the Archbishop of Chicago, being on the right. Archbishop Redwood stated that his trip had been a most pleasant one, and that he brought home greetings from the Catholics of America to their co-religionists in the colonies. The lecture was a most interesting one and was warmly received by those present.

The Palmer Beaumont Company did good business in Dunedin last week. They shortly leave for Australia.

The J. J. Kennedy Company are still playing to good houses on the West Coast.

The Lynch family of bellrings are at present playing in Blenheim to very fair houses.

The cantata "The Lion of Judah" was given in Mayo's Hall, Wairoa, last Wednesday with great success.

J. C. Williamson sailed for London last Tuesday in search of novelties for Australasia.

Ned Farley and Colburne-Baber, the latter, a New Zealand production, are resurrecting the Giroffle-Giroffa class of comic opera at the Opera House, Sydney.

The pantomime of "Beauty and the Beast" which is running at the Sydney Lyceum is, judging by the *Bulletin's* critic, mounted in a gorgeous manner. He states that the impression given is "That you have been hit on the head with the Kohinoor, after which you went to supper with a bird of paradise."

L. J. Lohr is expected here next week in advance of Brough and Boucicault. The company have decided not to visit Napier, and will consequently play a longer season in Wellington.

The Minstrel Company which was playing recently at the Criterion Theatre here, opened to a very fair house in Masterton. They return to Wellington shortly.

Gourlay and Walton are still playing at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne. For a wonder they are not producing "Skipped by the Light of the Moon."

Maggie Moore is doing good business in the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne. The pantomime was constructed by Garnet Walch, one time manager and playwright for Alfred Dampier. Garnet seems to have his hands full in Melbourne at the present time as he is doing a lot of work for *Table Talk*, Maurice Brodsky's paper.

Mr. J. D. Baird, who has been secretary of the Opera House Company, Wellington, since its formation, has sent in his resignation. Mr. Baird was the original promoter of the Company and has become so thoroughly identified with it that his loss will undoubtedly be severely felt. He finds, however, that the duties connected with the position take up so much of his time that he is not able to devote sufficient time to other and more important matters which demand his attention.

Little Dora Mostyn, who wrote an adaptation of Marcus Clarke's "For the term of his Natural Life" for production in Newcastle by the Dan Barry Company some two or three years ago, has become quite a "pet" with the Melbourne public.

It is rumoured that Tom Pollard and his Juvenile Opera Company contemplate another tour through New Zealand during this year, and that Tom is already arranging for dates. The Company was to have performed in Wellington last Christmas, but were unfortunately cut out by the Holloway Company.

Mr. Harry Lynch, business manager for the Lynch Family of Bellrings, arrived in Wellington on Wednesday per the s.s. "Rotorua" from Nelson. The Company will appear in Wellington shortly.

The Williamson and Musgrove Italian Opera Company left for the Old Country by the s.s. "Marseilles" last Saturday.

Alfred Dampier and company are at present doing Shakespeare in Queensland. It is really wonderful how long-suffering the bananalanders are; and the hot weather on too.

Essie Jenyns, the Australian "Juliet," now wife of brewer John Wood, of Newcastle, is returning to Australia by the s.s. "Himalaya." We wonder if Essie will ever take to the boards again?