

The New Zealand Graphic

And Ladies' Journal.

VOL. X.—NO. 24.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1893.

[Subscription—25s per annum; if paid in advance, 20s. Single Copy—Sixpence.]

NAPIER BOWLING CLUB.

THE present number of the GRAPHIC contains a photographic group of the Napier Bowling Club taken during an interval in the play on a recent occasion. The club now possesses one of the best and most commodious greens in the colony, there being in reality two greens, the largest of which is 120 by 110 feet, and the smaller one adjoining it 110 by 50 feet. Previous to the Wellington tournament of 1890, the Napier bowling green consisted of only three rinks, and the green itself was situated at a most inconvenient distance from the business portion of the city. After returning from that gathering, however, the Napier bowlers were convinced of the necessity of obtaining a larger ground, and arrangements were made with the Borough Council for the purchase of a piece of ground in a central position, which has since been converted into an admirable bowling green, surrounded on all sides by hop plants, creepers, and flowers of all descriptions. Although the green is only about four years old, the Northern Bowling Association tournament was held in Napier at Easter, 1892, and was a most pronounced success. The Napier Club was then in a position to place eleven rinks at the disposal of the Association for the tournament, which was attended by bowlers from Auckland, Wellington, Wanganui, Gisborne, New Plymouth, and Palmerston. At the present time the Club numbers over one hundred members.

MADAME STERLING'S NEW ZEALAND TOUR.

THE news that Madame Antoinette Sterling is coming to New Zealand will delight all lovers of music in this colony. The famous cantatrice will be assisted by Miss Isabella Webster, a soprano well-known as an interpreter of ballad and operatic music; Mr James Wood, who gained great success when he appeared recently at the concerts given under the direction of Mr Turner in the Jubilee Exhibition Building, and the favourite basso, Mr H. R. Holder. With commendable foresight the management have secured the services of Miss May Haggood as solo pianiste and accompanist, and it goes without saying that no more popular selection could have been made. Mr T. P. Hudson will take the general direction of the party during the tour, and that well-known representative, Mr L. J. Lohr, will assume the duties of business manager. With such a combination success will certainly be deserved and should accordingly follow.

MADAME STERLING was born in 1850 at Sterlingville, in the State of New York, U.S.A., and is descended from one of those families who left England in the historic Mayflower. Early in life she displayed the possession of a voice of remarkably fine quality, with an exceptional range. To this was added the natural musical feeling which led to her attaining the exalted position which she now occupies. She

went to England in 1873, and shortly afterwards proceeded to the Continent for the purpose of studying under the leading masters of the vocal art, amongst whom may be mentioned Madame Marchesi, Madame Viardot, and Signor Garcia. Her voice is acknowledged to be a pure contralto, remarkably flexible, sympathetic in character, and with an ample compass. While having gained the warmest encomiums from the most competent critics for her rendering of operatic and oratorio music, her special style is perhaps more suited to music of the ballad order, into which she infuses such spirit and feeling as to fairly entrance her audiences. Amongst her most successful songs may be noted 'The Better Land' and 'The Lost Chord,' the latter having been specially written for her by Sir Arthur Sullivan. Already the music-loving portion of the community is anxiously awaiting the opportunity of hearing the world-famed artiste, and the success of her season here is considered as thoroughly assured.

Mr Lohr, who will have been absent from New Zealand only a few months, will doubtless also receive a warm welcome. Madame Stirling may count herself an exceedingly lucky person in having retained the services of so able and popular an agent. Mr Lohr never brings anything but the best, and is possessed of a personal charm of manner that secures him the hearty co-operation of all those with whom his profession brings him in contact.



Hawley & Co.,

A GROUP OF BOWLERS, NAPIER.

photo., Napier

FIRST ROW.—R. D. SWEETAPPLE, G. P. MORLEY, H. SWAN, A. STUBBS, W. J. TARUTEAU. SECOND ROW.—J. BEATSON, J. L. LAROK, W. HODGSON, J. G. GILBEHD, W. C. YATES, E. KYANA.
THIRD ROW.—J. G. SWAN, E. HULL, G. FAULKNER, J. DINWIDDIE, M. APLIN, W. SMITH, M. OWEN, T. W. BALFOUR, J. HEHON, D. L. LAIRD, H. C. A. WINDHAM. FOURTH ROW.—H. BULL, T. HUMPHRIES, T. WATERWORTH, T. MORRISON, H. S. KUDDOCK, F. DINWIDDIE, J. B. FIELDER, L. LESSON, J. CERAK, J. HOLT, E. REYANS.
FIFTH ROW.—C. H. EDWARDS, A. V. LUCKIE, W. MILLER, DR. HITCHINGS.