



Lawn Tennis in New Zealand.

By H. A. PARKER (Ex-Champion).

[CONCLUDED].

AFTER the form that he had shown at Christchurch, it is not to be wondered at that Marshall was looked upon as a certainty for the Singles at Napier in 1891, and this belief was accentuated by the fact that Fenwicke, considered by many his only dangerous opponent, was beaten at an early stage by R. Koch. Fenwicke did

the three sets straight off the reel. It is only fair to say that Marshall was not in the best of health on the day, but Harman would probably have won in any case. The new champion possessed a very deadly forehand drive from right to left, and this was supplemented by a good backhand and fair volleying powers.



Slack

HOOPER VOLLEYING A BACKHANDER.

Auckland

not display his usual accuracy in this match, as he was very short of practice; his judgment was constantly in fault, and Koch continually passed him at the net. The latter played a sterling game, and won the three sets straight. Koch in turn succumbed to R. D. Harman, who was thus left in the final with the champion, and to the surprise of the *cognoscenti*, who anticipated no great difficulty for Marshall, Harman gave a fine and vigorous exposition of the game, winning

in the final, the score reading 6—3, 6—2, 6—0. Since his brilliant *début* in 1887, he had taken part in every championship, and now reaped the reward of hard practice and experience. As Wilding was unable to attend the meeting, Harman played with Marshall in the Doubles, and partly owing to the exhaustion consequent upon the hard single they had played, and partly to Marshall's inability to play doubles, Fenwicke and Logan simply smothered them

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The Ladies' Singles were won by Miss Douslin, of Blenheim, although Mrs Abraham, of Palmerston North, who had learnt her lawn tennis at Home, was probably the best lady player at the Tournament. In her match with Miss Douslin she held a commanding lead in the deciding set, but a nasty fall over a spectator at a critical moment unnerved her and she lost.