

act the part of a spectator. The Rev. J. M. Marshall, who had returned from England early in the year, won the Singles after two severe matches with Parker and Hooper. Marshall was in splendid form, and both these players underrated his strength, Parker, in particular, very foolishly playing a five set double immediately before his match. Marshall's drive, though not quite so ferocious as in 1890, was both powerful and accurate, while his all-round play had distinctly improved, and there is no doubt that on his form he fully deserved the title of champion. Hooper is a player who shines most on his own courts, and this occasion proved no exception, as his display in the final was, on the whole, disappointing. His strokes lacked life, but this was perhaps due to the hard double he had played in the morning.

The Championship Doubles were won by Parker and C. Gore, who beat Cox and Styche in the final. The real struggles had, however, taken place in the second and third rounds, when they put out H. M. and R. Gore, and Hooper and P. Marshall, respectively. In both these matches Parker and Gore had two sets to one called against them, but by determined play managed to win the rubber on each occasion.

The Ladies' Singles were looked upon as a foregone conclusion, and the event proved this to be a correct surmise, as Miss Nunneley won with consummate ease. Miss Kennedy, of Wellington, who won the All-comers Singles, was the unfortunate wight who opposed her in the Challenge round, and, though she struggled gamely, was hopelessly outclassed by Miss Nunneley. The latter, in partnership with Miss Trimmell, won the Ladies' Doubles without encountering any serious oppositon.

The fruits of the Sydney visit were apparent in the greatly improved backhand style acquired by those fortunate enough to have made this trip. All the best players in Sydney have very telling backhand strokes, and every beginner over the other side picks up a good backhand style as naturally as a duck takes to water.

I cannot conclude the account of this meeting without making some reference to the perfect management. The matches were got off with machine-like regularity, and yet Mr. Charles Green, the ubiquitous Hon. Secretary and General Manager, succeeded in pleasing everyone. The "Brook" Courts, probably the finest in New Zealand, are Mr. Green's own property, and his kindness in placing them at the disposal of the Association has earned him the gratitude of every lover of the game. Mr. Green is one of the greatest



C. C. COX (Present Champion).

enthusiasts in the colony, and is, I understand, eagerly looking forward to the next meeting in "Sleepy Hollow."

When I begin to write of the Auckland Meeting at Christmas, 1897, we are, indeed, approaching modern times. As in 1893, the Tournament again suffered by the non-appearance of any South Island representatives, and the entry for the Singles was only moderate. The weather was all that could be desired, but the courts were on the bumpy side, owing to the scarcity of water. The principal feature of the Tournament was the fine form shown by Hooper, and it