

## Opening of Mr. Holroyd's New Bowling Green.

IT is a matter of surprise that, among all our amusements, bowling has not taken a prominent position in this colony. At Melbourne and its surroundings, clubs have been formed, bowling greens have been made, and, as a consequence, matches are played almost every evening. The clubs are liberally supported, and are under committees of management, who keep the greens in excellent order ; pavilions have been erected as a store for the members' bowls, and for refreshments ; and last, though not least, many of the players have imported their knowledge of the game to Victoria, so that sides are formed and matches played with such science and skill as would do credit to the greens in England and Scotland.

Some years ago a bowling green was formed on the grounds of the Sir Joseph Banks Hotel, at Botany; but whether the distance from Sydney prevented its being extensively used, or successive landlords neglected it, it became practically useless, from want of proper attention for bowling purposes.

Some four or five years ago Mr. Holroyd, being desirous, of reviving the game of bowls, commenced forming a green at his residence at Sherwood Scrubs. When apparently 'completed, and it came to be tried, he discovered that his gardener, to whom he had entrusted the making of it, had committed such egregious blunders in the levels that he commenced forming a second green two years ago, and which was completed and opened for play last Saturday week. The now green is 120 feet long by 50 feet wide, has a fourteen-inch ditch round the four sides, and the banks are raised and surrounded by a belt and clumps of flowers. To complete these and the green required no less than 1200 loads of soil, but the effect now forms a pleasing picture. Everything has been done on orthodox principles, assisted by suggestions he obtained when visiting the Melbourne and suburban greens some time ago.

Saturday, the 14th instant, was fixed for commencing play on the green, and invitations were issued to celebrate the event; and among the guests were some of the best bowlers in New South Wales. As the green is sufficiently large to accommodate comfortably two rinks of eight, the ground was pinned on the banks at each end. Mr. Holroyd suggested that the first match should be played by his Christ College Cambridge team (composed of gentlemen who had been educated there) against a picked Scotch team, and as it will appear the sides were so equally matched that throughout it excited the greatest interest. But the score speak for itself.

### CHRIST COLLEGE TEAM.

First, Mr. Watkins ... 4  
Second, Mr. Holley ... 6  
Third, Pro. Liversidge 6  
Capt, Mr. Holroyd ... 4

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### SCOTCH TEAM.

First, Mr. Caird ... 6  
Second, Mr. D. Nichol 4  
Third, Mr. McDougall 6  
Capt. Mr. Webster ... 5

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The latter winning by one point.

While this match was being played another rink was engaged alongside, in which the playing of Mr. Lambert, of Rockhampton, Captain Fairclough, Messrs. N. Stewart, Wickham, and Vickers Moyse, established the fact that we have excellent materials for forming bowling clubs in Sydney. Though the afternoon was showery, sufficient care had been bestowed in draining the green to prevent its becoming sodden. The opening of the new green was so successful, and the ground so perfect that Mr. Holroyd's bowling friends expressed a wish to have a return match, and we have little doubt but that arrangements will shortly be made for that purpose.

The introduction of the ancient pastime of bowls by Mr. Holroyd has already produced a good effect, as several greens are in the course of formation, which will be ready for playing upon sometime next year.