

THE DRAMA.

AS far as houses are concerned, at the Imperial this week has been a repetition of the last. During the first two nights, M'liss, a dramatization of one of Bret Harte's novels, was presented in a most acceptable manner. Miss Dalglish played the title role in her usual style. The Bummer Smith of Mr. Belmour was good, as was also the broken theatrical manager of Mr. Benett. Miss Marshall played Mrs. Smith, the adventuress, very acceptly. This was scarcely the role in which Miss Marshall should have made her first appearance, but after all, the character was sufficient to demonstrate this lady's artistic merit; and Mr. Rice is to be congratulated upon having secured such a clever lady to take the place of Miss Belmour. Mr. Armstrong was as usual equal to his part, as was also Mr. Summerfield. Every climax scene received a curtain call, the jail breaking scene being particularly effective. Mr. Gilbert made this scene so realistic that the audience could not help thinking that Mr. Gilbert had escaped from prison before. The other parts were well taken.

The company played to a good house on Wednesday, and began the evening's amusement with the one-act farce, the Rough Diamond which put the audience in a humor to receive Muldoon's Pic-nic, the greatest of Irish comedies, in two acts. Miss Dalglish appeared as Kitty Muldoon and played the part in a most charming fashion. Miss Marshall acted as Mrs. Muldoon in which she represented the old Irish woman to perfection. Mr. Gray as Mulcahy kept the audience in roars of laughter as also did Mr. Belmour as Muldoon. Both brought down the house. Messrs. Armstrong, Bennett and Summerfield, in their respective parts, added not a little to the successful rendition of this farcial Irish comedy. Muldoon's Pic-nic will be repeated to-night (Thursday) with the Rough Diamond as

a curtain-riser. Friday and Saturday night Solomon Isaacs will be produced.

The bill for next week will be: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Camille; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the Octoroon.

The orchestra of the Imperial has been enlarged by the addition of a bass viol. Mr. Cross promises an extra musical programme, for Christmas.

FOOTLIGHT FLASHES.

Miss Wheeler of the Imperial, contemplates visiting San Francisco, in the course of a week or so.

Mr. Oliver Ward, late of Cor-drays, has arrived and will look after the Imperial stage.

The Carelton Opera Company sang to good houses at the Victoria, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Mr. John E. Rice of the Imperial Stock Company has again been unjustly assailed by the Dramatic Star. During the time Mr. Rice has been on this circuit he has made many friends, and the editor of the Star should not permit himself to be led into the abuse of Mr. Rice, because Nip and Tuck, in which the former is interested, got roasted at every turn. The editor of the Dramatic Star, Mr. Rice says, should know better than to make the statement that the Star was in existence before he became smitten with the theatrical business. While the editor of the Star was conducting an ordinarily fair coffee house in Los Angeles, Mr. Rice was managing the Spanish Student, and Mexican Orchestra. Previous to that, he had controlled organizations in the east, and reference to eastern dramatic papers would inform the Star man on this point.

PEN PICTURES OF PROMINENT MEN.

S. PERRY MILLS, ESQ.

Samuel Perry Mills, the eminent barrister, is an Englishman, born in the world's metropolis—London

—18th September, 1853. His grandfather was a merchant in Philpot Lane, City of London, and resided at Muswell Hill, Tottenham. It appears that the mother of our subject was a Calvert, and a direct descendant of Frederick, the last Earl of Baltimore, Sir George Calvert being the Secretary of State to James I. of England, whose son Cecill was the founder of Maryland, in the United States, and afterwards created Earl of Baltimore. From his mother's side Mr. Mills inherits that strong judicial mind and capacity for public affairs which forms such a striking part of his character. There were many barristers in this branch of the family, who were afterwards driven from the Bar of England by religious persecution, and later on, assisted in forming one of the schools which made conveyancing a distinct branch of the law. Mr. Mills' early education was received at the hands of a clergyman of the Church of England, after which he entered the City of London school. It was the wish of his father that he should enter the Navy, but he refused to do so, and, acting on his own responsibility entered the office of a firm of solicitors in the city of London. A few years after attaining his majority he left England for British Columbia, arriving in Victoria, during the month of June, 1877. From 1877 until 1882 he devoted his energies entirely to the study of the law, and on the 30th day of June, 1882, was admitted as a solicitor and called to the bar the same day, he having successfully passed the barrister's examination. His career since that time has been a continuous success. In 1883 he was appointed a public notary for this province, and the same year was appointed Judge of the Court of Revision and Appeal under the Provincial Assessment Act. This position he has held ever since, discharging the duties of that responsible office to the entire satisfaction of the public and honor to himself. On the 7th of October, 1876, Mr.