



Old Dutchman.—What's the matter, sonney?

Boy.—Oh! I'm so hungry.

Old D.—Never mind, sonney, wait till next Sunday, and you shall go over to the Island and have a swing.

THE DRAMATIC SEASON.

THE dramatic season opened brilliantly on Adelaide street on Monday evening. Mr. Sheppard, of the Grand, finds himself no longer burdened with the sole responsibility of supplying the city with stage attractions, having, a few doors further west, a most competent, fellow-caterer in Mr. Shaw, of the new Toronto Opera House. No doubt the grand young man fully appreciates the relief this will afford to his over-worked brain and muscles. The new aspirant for public favors comes to our city with a well established reputation as the manager of successful theatres at Detroit, London and other western points, and his competency is attested in the choice of his opening attraction—the celebrated McCaull Opera Comique Co., an organization which stands admittedly at the head of its class in America, and which now pays its first visit to Toronto. The pieces presented—*Don Caesar* and *The Crowing Hen*—are also seen for the first time here. The Grand opens with the old favorites, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence, in a round of their delightful comedies.

MR. WM. J. OBIENIER, has been selected to lead the orchestra in the new opera house, and Mr. Shaw may be congratulated on the choice. Mr. Obenier is a familiar figure before the footlights, and thoroughly competent for the exacting duties of the leadership.

MR. J. H. STUART, whose great success as a comic opera basso, is familiar to Toronto theatre goers, died at the St. Vincent Hospital, New York, a few weeks ago, and was buried by the actor's fund in Evergreen Cemetery. Mr. Stuart, who was a Toronto boy, made his *debut* at the old Royal Lyceum, and had well nigh reached the highest place in his profession, when death cut short his career.

MR. JOHN TEMPLETON and his splendid comic opera company return to this city on September 6th for another short season at the Gardens, when Mr. J. W. Bengough's two act comic opera will be presented. This piece was given for two evenings in Hamilton recently and made a

decided hit. Mr. Herbert's performance of *Henry Irving Bunthorne* setting the audience fairly wild. The singing of Mr. Taylor as *Frederick*, and Mr. Broderick as the *Pirate King* was superb, while Miss Baker, as the *Pirate Cook*, carried off a good share of the honors. The cast was as follows: *Pirate King*, Mr. Geo. H. Broderick, Captain of the *Big Tycoon*, afterwards disguised as a poet; *Lord Clarence Herbert*, a passenger on board, afterwards disguised as *Henry Irving Bunthorne*. Mr. Jcs. W. Herbert, *Frederick*, 1st Lieutenant of the *Big Tycoon*, Mr. Jay Taylor; 2nd Lieutenant, Mr. Wm. Moore; First Officer, Mr. Eugene Avery; *Ethel*, ward of the *Pirate King*, Miss Georgie Knowlton; *Ruth the Pirate Cook*, Miss Emma Mabella Baker; *The Pirate Queen*, Miss Herminie Pelacio; *Sir Jos. Porter, K.C.B.*, Mr. Daniel Packard; *Captain Rackstraw*, Mr. Jay Taylor; *Lieutenant Deadeye, R.N.*, Mr. Buckland; *Little Buttercup*, widow of Captain Corcoran and wife of Deadeye, Miss Baker; *Lady Porter*, Miss Selina Rough; *Sir Joseph's Baby*, (his first appearance) Anon.

All costumes and stage settings will be unusually brilliant, and those who have heard the artists of this company will require no assurance that the singing both of principals and chorus will be a rare treat.

THE PROHIBITION CONVENTION.

THERE is going to be a great convention of prohibitionists at Temperance hall, September 14th and 15th. General Neal Dow, the old war-horse of Maine, is to be present, and General Clinton B. Fisk, of New Jersey, is also expected. In addition to these great gems, there is a possibility that the exercises of the occasion will be enlivened by the following contributions:

An address, by Edward Blake: "The Disadvantages of Precipitancy in the Annunciation of one's Attitude upon the Temperance Question." Essay, by Professor Goldwin Smith: "Beer, a Temperance Beverage," illustrated by views of the slums of London, gathered during a recent visit.

Pathetic song, by John Cameron, Esq.: "O dear, don't smash the Party," with chorus by Messrs. Peter Ryan, T. Anglin, Oliver Mowat and R. Jaffray. Comic Ditty, by Sir John Macdonald: "A little too much is just enough." Sermon, by His Grace, Archbishop Lynch. Subject: "How I work the Local Government."

Symposium, by Eugene O'Keefe, Frank Smith and John Cosgrave. Subject: "How we work the Archbishop."

Address, by Hon. Oliver Mowat: "The experiences of a Prohibitionist who dare not call his soul his own."

Five minute talks:

"How to head off a Third Party." Participated in, by Hons. John Charlton, A. S. Hardy, Geo. Foster, S. L. Tilley, H. L. Langevin, E. Blake and Sir John A. Macdonald.

WHAT THEY ALL SAY.

GRIP of last week contained some excellent cartoons, every one of which was particularly good.—*The Oakville Star*.

OUR excellent comic contemporary GRIP, of Toronto, has reduced its price again to \$2 per annum, or 5 cts. a copy. The paper, however, suffers no deterioration, either in illustration or reading matter. It is most amusing, and it is capable of doing the state a service.—*The St. John's (Quebec) News*.