

## Music and the Drama.

**GRAND OPERA HOUSE.**—The patrons of the Grand had a rarefest of comedy last week. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings "Pan's Tribulations" drew good audiences, and was thoroughly enjoyed. The play is irresistibly funny, and was produced by a good company.

On Thursday evening the amateur Christy minstrels occupied the boards. The theatre was filled to overflowing, many being compelled to stand in the aisles and passages during the entire performance. The audience was composed of the elite and fashion of the city, and was most appreciative, as the number and frequency of the encores fully demonstrated. A great many of the songs were new, and the local hits and jokes of the end men abounded with true and original wit. There were between thirty and forty people upon the stage and where all did so well it would be impossible to mention names without appearing partial. As a minstrel performance it was in many respects much ahead of professional troupes, and only occasionally was it possible to discover that the performers were amateurs.

"A Cold Day when we get Left," produced Friday and Saturday, is a new comedy of the ridiculous very funny order. Some of the comedians are very talented, and make the most of the humorous situations with which the piece abounds.

**MULLOON'S MUSICAL.**—The "Muldoon's Musical" company closed a six night's engagement on Saturday. The company was a good one, and Muldoon and Mulcahey, the witty Irishmen, were more than ordinarily funny. This week, Mr. Montford, by way of variety, has brought in "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

## Exchange Department.

Advertisements under this head are inserted at the rate of twenty-five cents for five lines. All actual advertisements in Truth may advertise one time, any longer they may wish to exchange, free of charge. It is to be distinctly understood that the publisher reserves to himself the right of deciding whether an exchange shall appear or not. He does not undertake any responsibility with regard to transactions effected by means of this department of the paper, nor does he guarantee the responsibility of correspondents or the accuracy of the descriptions of goods offered for exchange. To avoid any misunderstanding or disappointment, therefore, he advises Exchanges to write for particulars to the address given before sending the articles called for.

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topaz, Amazon stone, moss agate, garnet, petrified wood, chalcedony, pink satin spar, solonite, jasper, and other specimens all properly labelled, from mines in New Mexico and Colorado. A. A. WYLLIE, Dealing, New Mexico.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MRS. E. A. O., City.—Thanks; hope you will be successful.

MRS. A. E. D., Kettleby.—Thanks for story. Trust it will find favour with committee.

G. A. G., London.—Many, many thanks for your favours. They will always be appreciated.

FORTUNE CARDS, Stratford.—Thanks; we could, perhaps, find a place for the MS. sent, if you so desire.

L. L. CHAPMAN.—The Bible questions you suggest are good, and we may yet use them, but cannot do so just now.

E. P., Dixon, Ill.—Thanks for your suggestions and offer. Just now our engagements are such that no new ones can be entered into. We may be glad to do so at some time.

ART PUB. Co., Warren, Pa.—The lists you refer to would not be of any service to us. Will be glad to advertise for you on a regular business basis. Possibly your art supplies could be utilized.

H. D. J., Vandalia, Ill.—It is not possible to keep track of the prize stories after they pass into the hands of the committee. The fortunate ones are handed in for publication, but the rest are not kept.

E. M.—The evils of the practice you refer to are of a very serious character, and lead to many cases of insanity, as well as other diseases. You had better consult a good reliable physician, and lay your case plainly before him.

M. E. W., Florence.—We have more literature on hand of the kinds you refer to than we can make use of for some time to come. Thanks for your offer, but it is not worth the while to send them here, under the circumstances.

Mrs. C., Coldwater.—If I send another tid-bit and another fifty cents will it be open for competition and my own time extended beyond the three months for which the enclosed will pay? Yes; anyone can send any number in competition, provided the necessary half dollar for extending term is enclosed.

S., Pinkerton, Ont.—Please tell me in your correspondents' column in Truth how twelve oz. of beautiful dark brown hair, fine quality, twenty-six inches long, and cut from the head when in perfect health, is worth? How much should I get for it, to send it to the manufacturers in hair goods in Toronto? About \$4.50, or more still if it is of uniform length.

Mrs. J. E. W., Guelph.—Our story received all right, and much regret that your "Winning Card" did not win. The Committee use their best judgment, but cannot manage to please all. The book you refer to is familiar to us, and would do good service for temperance if we could use it, but it is so large as to require much more space than can be given for some months to come.

SUBSCRIBER.—The people of the country have just as good a chance to obtain any of all of the prizes as those of the city. So far as the first prizes are concerned, the questions are first published in the papers at a distance, and Truth itself is mailed to country subscribers a day or two in advance of its distribution in the city. The fact is the Toronto people complain a good deal that they hardly get a fair chance with those at a distance. The middle and after rewards are open to all on equally fair terms.

D. B. G. "Kindly let me know through Truth how to make French cream candies." Ans.—A leading confectioner in Toronto supplies us with the following recipe:—"Mix the finest powdered sugar with glucose and a little extract of vanilla in a bowl, and working them together in the same manner you would mix the whites of eggs and sugar for making icing, only these must be worked in sufficient to form a softish paste or dough that can be rolled into small balls with the hands. These are to be afterwards dipped in melted chocolate and laid on paper until the chocolate concentrates."

It is impossible, however, to make really good candies of any kind without a good deal of actual experience.

J. H. A. asks:—I am a subscriber to your valuable magazine, Truth, and I have also received a prize in No. 11 Bible Competition, for which I return many thanks. I feel a great interest in reading your valuable magazine, as I think it has improved very much since I became a subscriber, and I think one of the best improvements in Truth is the correspondents' column. I see people asking questions from time to time, and I have one also to ask, which I trust will receive your consideration: To whom should application be made by a young man wishing to get position as letter-carrier in Toronto, and what pay do they get? State if reference would be required.—Apply to T. C. Patterson, Postmaster. Your application would be of no avail, we are afraid, unless endorsed by one or more of the city members of Parliament.

## The Dominion Alliance.

To the Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—Your readers may by this time be convinced that I feel no sluggish interest in the prohibition movement, and though I have neither money or votes wherewith to oppose it, I am not without hope that my words may stir up to a more active opposition those who have both. The report in your column of the proceedings of the Dominion Alliance gathering in Toronto lately suggests some reflections, which I present for the consideration of all who are concerned in this matter one way or the other. I will candidly confess that I was not drawn to reading the report by observing the presence of a personality which will be sufficiently described as the embodiment of "sweetness and light," and who failed not in his accustomed charities of speech towards those who have the great comfort at not being on his side. The alliance meeting may convince the public that the prohibitionists are animated by a fanaticism that will not easily be foiled. This fanaticism has sprung apparently from the religious conviction that alcohol is, in se, "a veritable diabolical devil." The belief has been produced and strengthened by the lying literature of this party, retailed as it is through the country by reckless and ignorant speakers. But whatever the origin, let the public remember that religious fanaticism is not a power to be despised. It is in itself most potent, and for this subsidiary reason too, that its strong current gathers the unenthusiastic, the indolent, the ignorant, the goody-goody, who think it nice to go in with a vaunted philanthropic movement—till the momentum of this social conglomerate becomes irresistible. But those who care for freedom, reason, morality will have to beatir themselves if they would anticipate such a result. It won't do to say, Oh, it is a fight between the crazy prohibitionists and the Licensed Victuallers; who cares for it! Nor will it do for easy-going people to say, It is a craze; it will wear itself out. It may, but it is likely to do no small mischief in many directions ere that consummation be reached; and on the other hand, it is no matter of conjecture that fanaticism, once it is hallowed by religious conviction, does not so readily die out. The most perverse and fantastic beliefs live on, are clung to tenaciously, and long work a full measure of mischief. After 30 years, for example, prohibition is made a part of the constitution of Maine, in spite of ample reason against, as we shall presently see. No, if a prohibitionist saw drunkards in our streets as thick as paving stones in spite of a prohibitory law, he would still religiously believe in prohibition. I expect no hearing from such; but one may hope to warn those who are not yet caught in that true maelstrom of intoxication—the Dominion Alliance. Surely there never was a country with the least tincture of enlightened freedom where such a barefaced attempt at tyranny was made on the liberty of reasonable human beings. Were it successful in this, my adopted country, I protest before all the world I should feel it an indignity to live in it, and

were I a younger man would abandon it with scorn. I say, then, to my fellows, do not heedlessly abandon this conflict to the prohibitionists and the trade. It is your battle—the battle of your freedom; the resistance to an ignominious yoke. The trade may be easily enough crushed between the upper mill-stone of aggressive prohibition and the neither mill-stone of non prohibitionist inertia, and many of the retailers, the tail-end of the trade, well deserve it. It is their evil arts and their disorderly houses that have provoked this determined assault. This must be admitted, while fair people regret the unjust and unmitigated reproaches heaped on the whole class, many of whom are as worthy as any other class, and yet have been along told in the most charitable way and by the most charitable people, to go to the devil. It is no great wonder if some of them have been influenced by the exhortation or the command. I think it ought seriously to be considered that the grievous disorders of many licensed houses should not be all laid on the publicans' shoulders. In honest truth the whole community must share the blame. Petitioners, electors, magistrates, councillors, have cared too little for the characters of persons licensed; and the temperance people have thought it too insignificant a matter to put the existing laws in force, flaunting their bold motto—*Aut Caesar aut nihil!* But any rate Professor Foster, the prohibitionist Mercurius, has laid all parties under obligation by his plain and honest speech. He tells prohibitionists they must, if successful, propose to make up the deficit of the revenue by direct taxation—that is, as Sir Leonard Tilley calculates, \$15,000,000. But Mr. Foster omits other items which even a poor country priest can see; for example, the municipal licenses, and, above all, the cost of an immensely increased machinery for the execution of a law, should it pass, to which a large portion of the country will be irreconcilably hostile, and to which the best citizens will yield but to the mearest passive obedience.

I would add, on my own private conviction, to the costs, a larger amount of food consumed, and much harder work for many a poor stomach. Well, the cost, if fairly stated, will become a test of sincerity. We have heard of the Carleton armers as ready to withdraw their names from the Scott Act petition when the brewers refused to buy their barley. If they were really in earnest would they sell it? Would they grow it? Is not prohibition very much in their own power? Another reflection has been suggested by the late successes of the Scott Act. How can this be considered a drunken country when m.j.-rites, some of them so large, can be obtained for a prohibitory law? Were the sentiment and practice of the majority in these cases quite inefficacious without mechanical restraint? But this point needs elucidation, which I fancy it will have before long. Already it may be guessed what a mere handful of votes have usurped the power of a most despotic rule, and when it is clearly perceived I am of opinion there will be some serious revulsion of feeling. I end now with the promise of a shorter letter the next time, but one which will have cost me more trouble than any I have written, and one which it will cost the alliance more trouble to answer than usual, for they systematically evade any answer to facts and figures, and of such my letter will mainly consist.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN CARRY.

Port Perry, Jan. 24.

**DOMINION SHOW CASE M'F'G. CO.**



63 ADELAIDE ST., WEST, TORONTO.

225 SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

**WILSON.**

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• Toronto, Ont.

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