

tablished, the first winners being the O.A.A.C.

In 1898 the writer of this article succeeded to the presidency and the events of his two years of office are too recent to require any lengthy reference. Chief amongst them were the holding of the Canadian Boxing championships, the inauguration of the annual club dinner; the first annual road race; the sale of the Metropolitan grounds; the introduction of ladies' days and the increase in the privilege of lady members; the partial affiliation of the 43rd regiment; the active participation of the club in the fire relief work; the enrolment of a number of our members for service in South Africa, and lastly the retirement of Mr. Plunket Taylor after ten years of splendid service as secretary-treasurer. During these two years the attention of the executive has been concentrated on the financial affairs of the Club, which had fallen into a somewhat unsatisfactory condition but which may now be considered as being established once again on a proper basis, the report for last year shewing an excess of revenue over expenditure, and a reduction of the debt, chiefly through the sale of the grounds from some \$9,500 to about \$5,000. With good management, and the profits from the "20th century fair" the finances should soon be in a condition to warrant the club in securing new athletic grounds and taking the prominent place in field-sports to which its standing and influence and the ability of its members entitle it.

The position of president is now filled by Mr. Harry Morrison, one of the earliest, most capable, and most popular members and with him are associated the following directors, J. M. McDougall, Q. C., vice-president; Geo. P. Spittal, auditor; P. D. Ross chairman of finance; D. E. Johnson, bowling; Thos. Flett, billiards; Geo. Easdale, boxing and fencing; E. A. Olver, property and building; Dr. Armstrong, shooting gallery; H. Rosen; Thal, reading and club rooms; E. R. McNeil, gymnasium and H. Burbidge, entertainments.

In closing this necessarily imperfect sketch, it only remains for me to add that the membership of the club is now the largest in its history, viz: 650—every one of whom will enthusiastically echo this sentiment—The O.A.A.C., long may it flourish!

FRED. COLSON.

Ottawa, Dec. 10, 1900.

Members of the O.A.A.C. will find this an interesting number of
THE SENATOR.



MR. JOSEPH FRANK.

Manager Grand Opera House.

Ottawa theatre-goers will readily recognize in the above picture the genial countenance of Mr. Jos. Frank, Mr. J. B. Sparrow's popular representative at the Grand Opera House of this city. In selecting Mr. Frank as Manager of his Ottawa theatre, Mr. Sparrow made a wise choice, as the success of a theatre depends so much upon the management meeting the requirement of its patrons.

Mr. Frank brought with him long experience in the theatrical world and a ripe judgment which has enabled him to understand and cater to the amusement wants of the citizens of Ottawa. Before his advent to this city, he was manager of theatres in Chicago.



Mr. Joseph Frank.

Cleveland, New York City, Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Toronto, besides having managed some of the best "stars", namely, the brilliant but unfortunate John McCullough, that prince of sterling acting, Lawrence Barrett, and Charlotte Cushman, in her day the Queen of Tragedy. In his very successful management of the Grand, Mr. Frank has made many friends.

Mr. Sparrow, who controls all the theatres in Montreal, can furnish and has furnished the best attractions for his Ottawa play-house, and furthermore, at prices within the reach of all—these prices which at all times range from 10 cts. to 50 cts. and no higher, while the matinee prices are 10 cts. 15 cts. and reserved seats only 25 cts. When one comes to consider the many high price shows that have been presented at the

Grand at such small prices, he wonders how it can be done.

Last summer, Mr. Sparrow expended twelve thousand dollars in giving the popular Grand a most thorough overhauling thus transforming it into an up-to-date play-house second to none in Canada. The new seats are comfortable and commodious. Mr. Sparrow's wide experience having taught him that, after a good programme if not before it, the comfort of his patrons and the cleanliness of his theatres must be secured at all costs.

The present season at the Grand Opera House will be marked by a succession of excellent shows, including some of the best attractions on the road,—and at the lowest popular prices.

MR. CHARLES HOYT.

By the death of Mr. Charles H. Hoyt at the early age of forty, the American and indeed the Canadian stage which draws almost entirely from the former, may be said to have lost one of their very ablest dramatists. Few men on this continent have done so much to provide healthy amusement for the masses of theatre-goers.

In his own life despite of success there was in the later years more of sadness than of laughter, but his plays ever contained an irresistible appeal to the humorous side of nature. Those, and they are the many, who go to the play-house for the sake of the play are only too apt to overlook the author, content to laugh and weep without thought of him who by his genius has moved them.

Those who have had the pleasure of witnessing and enjoying such plays as "A Texas Steer," and "A Trip to Chinatown," will not fail to appreciate the regrettable significance of the loss the dramatic world has sustained by the death of the author of them.

Mr. Hoyt had by his genius made for himself a unique place in dramatic literature, having devised and carried to success a new and popular form of entertainment. With a spice of satire he combined the best features of vaudeville, a pleasing element of opera, a hint of burlesque and a most intimate knowledge of and power to display phases of human character familiar to the average American, yet previously unattempted on the American stage. In a word Mr. Hoyt's plays have been characterized as "distinct creations, possessing the inimitable jewel of originality that spoke unhampered by rules and customs." It is said that it was a favorite practice with him to stand where he could catch the warm criticism of his plays from the audience as they left the theatre, and that he used with consummate skill the hints and suggestions so obtained for the perfecting of his work. In 1894, having in the previous year lost his first wife, he married Caroline Miskel, who was looked upon as one of the most beautiful women in America, to whose death and that of her child is attributed his failure



Mr. Charles Hoyt.

in health and the decadence of humor evinced in his last plays. Since this sad event Mr. Hoyt spent most of his time in vain efforts to regain his strength. After being released from a private asylum at Hartford, Conn., to which he had been committed, he retired under the guardianship of a friend to his home where he died.

In his will Mr. Hoyt said:

"I have no nearer relative than cousins and distant relatives, and they have never shown any desire for my friendship or good will. I have, therefore, deemed it more consistent with fair dealing to dispose of my property to those who have been my constant companions and well-wishers."

"To my partner, Frank McKee, I give my diamond and sapphire ring. To T. Henry French my watch and chain and attachment and the locket with the miniature of my late wife; also my ruby and diamond scarf-pin as a souvenir of me, and my snakepin set with diamonds given to me by Mrs. Hoyt, as a souvenir of her. To my life long friend Elwood M. Dasher, I bequeath a 35 per cent interest in all my plays. Out of my insurance I desire that \$5,000 be paid to Isabella McKee, daughter of my partner."