

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE NEW BOY."

Certainly the most enjoyable drama that has been put before the local public for a long time is *The New Boy* (by Arthur Law) which was placed on the boards of the Theatre Royal last night by Mr Weedon Grossmith's Company, and will be repeated this evening and Wednesday. There was a very good house, and we have little doubt, judging by the way in which the play was received, that the attendance for the remainder of the brief engagement will be larger still. From beginning to end it kept the house in roars of laughter, and it is well to point out that the humour with which the piece abounds has nothing in it that could in any way be termed coarse, but, on the contrary, is polished and refined, while the wit and playful satire that are indulged in at the expense of *fin de siècle* notions and present day cleverness, need only to be heard to be appreciated. The situations in the drama are simply ludicrous in the extreme, and the plot is something like this: The blandishments of a matronly-looking widow have captured the heart of a thoroughly up to date young spark, who, unluckily like his better half, is desperately hard up for cash. "Dr Candy, L.L.D.," a good natured and well to do schoolmaster, invites "Mrs Rennick" (for that is the lady's newly married name) with her boy to his house, and having an old affection for Mrs R, who is a relative of his, he offers her the post of matron in the establishment, and believing, of course, that she is still a widow, he announces that he has made a will leaving her everything, but should she marry she loses all. This puts Mrs Rennick into a terrible plight, but a way is found out of the difficulty. The juvenile appearance of her "Arche" leads Dr Candy to the erroneous supposition that he is the widow's son, "Freddie," and accordingly, to make the deception complete, A has got to assume henceforward the role of the "New Boy" at the school. Stripped of his swell outfit, he dons the orthodox school dress, and is obliged, entirely against his will, and with a full sense of the loss of dignity, to go through the ordinary forms of school life. Not alone that, but not being of a particularly courageous disposition, he is made sport of all round by the boys, is the victim of every tantalising form of horse play, and to crown all, is finally compelled by the leading bully to break into an orchard and steal apples, with the result that he is arrested and taken before the magistrates. To conceal his identity any longer is impossible, and so the real state of affairs comes out. Fortunately, in the meantime he has done "Dr Candy" an appreciable turn by warning him to hold on to his shares in a Champagne Company, and so the curtain drops on a scene where the doctor and Mrs and Mr E are thoroughly united and everything forgiven—Mr W. Besley, Beitran, as "Archibald Rennick," supplied an exceedingly clever and realistic performance of the unfortunate husband playing the role of the schoolboy, and he most successfully presented the situation in all its absurdities and intricacies. As "Dr Candy, L.L.D." Mr Frederick Meyer's fine presence and genial, comely manner were admirably suited to the part of the opulent schoolmaster, while a very good character was that of "Felix Roach," a designing speculator, who leaves nothing undone to become possessor of Dr Candy's means. Mr T.C. Bowman admirably sustained this part, while Mr Guy Drury, as "Bullock Major," or the bullying school lad, was also very amusing. Miss Jessie Robertson took the role of "Mrs Rennick" with great dramatic skill, and Miss Grace Massay made a very winsome "Nancy Roach." All the other parts were placed in good hands. The play is preceded by a screaming farce, *He, She, and It*, a matrimonial scene in which the better half pours forth the vials of her wrath at a simply terrific pace, until at last the unfortunate husband who has never been able to get a word in, brings about a wonderful change by meekly presenting the hysterical lady with a bangle as a wedding anniversary present. The only drawback last night was the orchestra, the music of which put the patience of the house to a severe test.

"THE SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY."

A. W. Pinero's well known play, "The Second Mrs Tanqueray," will be produced by Mr Fred G Latham's Company, at the Theatre Royal, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday next, and should attract crowded houses. A contemporary writes— "It is a play to be seen again and again, a play to study and think deeply over. It has un-

DEATH OF MR. M. J. CLERY, J.P.

We deeply regret to record the wholly unexpected demise of a gentleman whose name occupies a very conspicuous position in the commercial life of Ireland. We refer to Mr Michael J Clery, J.P. Chairman of Messrs Cannock and Company, Limited, who passed away very suddenly early yesterday morning at his residence, Roehuck, Dundrum, County Dublin. By Limerick people both of the city and county where he was so well-known and so intimately connected by family ties, the sad news has been received with sincere regret and none the less so by the staff of the splendid firm in this city of which Mr Clery has been for so many years the head. In the end of February he presided, as was his custom, over the annual meeting of the company, and he then seemed in his usual health and spirits; and not alone that, but it was no later than Saturday last that Mr David Tidmarsh was with him in Dublin, and so far from giving any cause for anxiety, he looked in excellent health. He was in the metropolis attending to his usual business engagements, and on Sunday last spent some hours driving with Mrs Clery. During the night he was seized with a sudden illness, and was given some medicine ordered by Dr Little for a cardiac affection from which he had been suffering. His condition, however, rapidly became serious, and in about twenty minutes later he breathed his last. Mr Clery, who was in his sixty-second year, was born in Bulgaden, in this county, and his career has been one of great activity and no ordinary success in business undertakings. He served his apprenticeship at Fitzgibbon's, now Cash and Company, Cork, and from that he went to Arnott and Company, of Dublin. After this he purchased a business in Galway, which he made most remunerative, and after a time sold his interest in it. In 1870, with the late Mr James Tidmarsh, J.P., he purchased the large drapery concern of Cannock, Tait and Company, and which in 1877 was converted into a Limited Liability Company under the name it now bears—Cannock and Company. Since its formation Mr Clery has been chairman, and though for several years past he has resided in the Metropolis he has always taken a lively interest in the progress of the business. He has seen the trade of this excellently managed house steadily increase from year to year, and extensive structural alterations and additions carried out which have made it one of the finest and most graceful concerns of the kind in Ireland. So far as its financial status is concerned reference need only be made to the payment of a dividend of 9 per cent in addition to a gradual reduction of the debentures, as a proof of the splendid administrative capacity for which Cannock and Co has always been characteristic. Mr Clery's interest in the concern was always practical, and his succinct and pithy speeches at the half yearly meetings proved that whenever his sound judgment and wide experience were required they were always at the disposal of the Directors and Shareholders. Leaving Limerick he became one of the leading commercial men in Dublin, for in 1883, in conjunction with Mr J.F. Lombard, J.P., and Mr Wm Murphy, J.P., he purchased the fine concern the Dublin Drapery Warehouse, on the failure of that firm, and it has since been known as Clery and Company, Sackville street. In stock exchange transactions Mr Clery was largely concerned and in which, like the other branches of his business, he was most successful. Some twelve or fifteen years ago he purchased for £23,000 an extensive property at Athlaca, Co. Limerick, where his only surviving son, Mr R.W. Clery, resides. Mr Clery paid occasional visits to this property, and was very fond of hunting and horses in general. He was a magistrate and ex-officio guardian of the Kilmallock Union. All the Dublin papers to-day refer in sympathetic terms to his death, and the loss of a gentleman so largely connected with one of the principal trades of Ireland. To his widow and family we tender our sympathy in the great affliction which has so unexpectedly visited them. The remains will be conveyed to Limerick for interment in the family vault at Mount St Lawrence Cemetery. Funeral leaves St Michael's R.C. Church at 12.30 to-morrow (Wednesday).

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

FISHERY INQUIRY IN LIMERICK.

To-day, Mr Alan Hornsby (Chairman), Cecil Roche, and the Rev Mr Green, Fish Commissioners, sat in the County Court house for the purpose of inquiring into the fishing at the mouth of the R. Maigue and Bunratty, and to consider the necessity of making such bye laws, as may be deemed expedient for the more effectual management and protection of the fisheries of these rivers.

Mr T.H. Kenny appeared in the interests of the fishermen, and Mr Wm Beauchamp represented the owner. Mr E.H. Poe Horsford, and Inspector Hall were present on behalf of the Fish Board.

At the opening of the inquiry, Mr Kenny stated they were met there, understood, for the purpose of confirming an arrangement come to at the previous inquiry. That time they defined by agreement, portion of the mouths of the Rivers Maigue and Bunratty, which they were prohibited from fishing in, if that would be carried out, referred them to maps which he had sent up. He suggested that certain portions of the river need not be prohibited, but could be protected and they (the fishermen) were quite satisfied to adhere to that arrangement.

Mr Beauchamp, solicitor, said that arrangement would affect not only the salmon fish but also fishing for fluke and other coarse fish. Continuing, Mr Beauchamp said the Maigue in its widest part low water was 28 yards wide, and of this was prepared to give evidence. The men actually fishing with nets forty five yards, there being no prohibition as to the length of the nets. Two convictions had been obtained within the past few months for using net fixed engines—using them from bank to bank and large penalties were inflicted.

The Chairman—What do you ask the Commissioners to do?

Mr Beauchamp—To put a restriction on length of the nets used on the Maigue, and the snap net fishermen lower down.

The Chairman—What should be the limit?

Mr Beauchamp—Such limit as that could not possibly use a net as a fixed engine.

Mr Kenny—What do you propose to do?

Mr Beauchamp—To limit its length.

Mr Peter Fitzgerald, J.P.—There is no limit present.

Mr Beauchamp said they wanted to have restriction not to allow snap net fishing betwixt Ballycasey and the railway bridge. In places the river was so narrow that a brook would touch the banks at both sides and in consequence of this there was scarcely any fish in the upper water. This was one of the causes of the deterioration of the fish in the river, and they wished to have a restriction as to the length of the nets, so as to make it impossible for any fisherman to use a net as a fixed engine and that they should fish lower down.

Some discussion took place as regards fishing on the Bunratty river.

Mr Peter Fitzgerald said he had no interest in this river except as a member of the Fish Board, and there were no other members of Board present.

Mr Kenny said the notice as regards the inquiry was very wide.

Mr Beauchamp proposed to examine Mr Croker as regards the fishing on the Maigue.

Mr Kenny said there was no-one present on behalf of the Adare fishermen to cross-examine Mr Croker.

Mr Croker said he could not possibly attend the inquiry at Adare on Thursday.

Mr Roche said it was merely a matter of fact evidence, and he did not see why they could not take Mr Croker's evidence now.

Mr Kenny—Very well.

Mr H.S. Croker stated that he was well acquainted with the river from near Bunratty Adare, and his experience was that fishing was getting worse every year, with the exception of 1885, when a large number of salmon came the river.

The Chairman—What reason could you give for that?

Witness—None, except this, that the fishermen were not allowed to fish until they had paid their licenses; in that year witness had 84 fish in play, and killed 44; Lord Charles Carr killed 82, and Sir David Roche killed 42.

Mr Beauchamp—Do you think it would be a benefit to the river if a restriction were put on the limits of the snap net men.

Witness—Most decidedly.

Mr Kenny—I suppose what Mr Croker