

were two deaths.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—“That beautiful wretch,” which has been produced here this week, is an adaptation from the French. It deals chiefly with the efforts of a French adventuress, the widow of the keeper of a gambling house, to obtain money and gain admittance to society in Rome by means of an English family into which her deceased son has married whilst under age without his parents’ consent, and which marriage she has the power of making valid or otherwise as she sees fit. Anxious to avoid the scandal, “the beautiful wretch” is allowed to take up her residence with the family, but before she has time to carry out her plans she is opposed by a Capt. Clinton, who knows her past career. He has earned the gratitude of a member of the secret police of Rome, who is a certain Signor Ronceni, who has escaped from the French galleys, where he was sent for murdering the husband of the ‘beautiful wretch,’ whose life he also attempted to take, and against whom he still cherishes an undying hatred, as she was the means of his being beaten like a cur after she and her husband had ruined him financially. Clinton is acquainted with the story, and Ronceni making himself known to him, he, after first appealing to the woman’s cupidity and then to her better nature in vain, makes use of him in such manner as to drive her away discomfited and cowed by physical fear, first, however, obtaining from her the necessary consent to legalise the marriage of her son. Miss Adeline Stanhope most ably and artistically played the title rôle, and elicited enthusiastic applause for her thoroughly forcible and natural impersonation of the character of the woman of the world. Miss Stanhope was more especially successful in the last scene, in which she portrayed the terror-stricken adventuress with remarkable fidelity, although in the earlier scenes she gave evidence of the versatility of her powers. Mr. Nelson **Wheatcroft** was particularly effective as Capt. Clinton, and he and Miss Stanhope were called at the close. Miss Dunmore was pleasing as Violet Courtney, but lacked power. Mr. J. Young Stewart, Mr. A. W. Dalby, and Miss Ashford contributed to the success of the piece, which was mounted in excellent taste. “The Spitalfields Weavers” was the afterpiece. Miss Stanhope takes a benefit on Saturday night, when she will appear in “The Adventuress” and “Lady Audley’s Secret.” Next week Mr. Galer will put on a new drama, “For Gold,” written by himself.