COMING ATTRACTIONS AT THE BALTIMORE THEATERS

FORD'S

Cohan & Harris will present the original New York cast, with George Nash and Edward Abeles, in Officer 666, the greatest melodramatic farce success of the season, at Ford's, beginning tomorrow night, for an engagement of one week. No play in the history of the American stage has ever been accorded more enthusiastic approbation of the critical reviewers and dramatic writers in general. It is said to be funnier than Charley's Aunt, more interesting than Raffles and more mysterious than Sherlock Holmes. Mr. Augustin MacHugh, the author of Officer 666, in writing his dramatic surprise, has apparently shattered all the traditions of the stage, and the public seem to enjoy his work. This is true in spite of the fact that his farce has really been written in true dramatic form, yet he has interwoven many tense melodramatic moments of the most thrilling nature and accomplished all so skilfully that the result provides a novel source of keen enjoyment from the rise to the fall of every curtain.

Mr. MacHugh has made his characters fit the lightning-like rapidity of the play's action. The wealth of incident, comic, tragic, pathetic and melodramatic is scattered through the three acts with lavish prodigality by the hero, who loves at first sight, defends his home, foils the villain and wins the lovely girl, who is the booty coveted more than the priceless paintings the masquerader attempts to steal. These central figures are aided and abetted by loyal friends whose devotion not always judiciously shown, involves them in apparently hopeless tangles, which seem to be righted, only to be suddenly and unexpectedly thrown into still greater confusion than ever from act to act, until the final dramatic solution comes as the most startling surprise of all.

The play is now the biggest hit of the London season and the greatest American success of the English metropolis. It will be revealed to us by the original company of carefully chosen players, with George Nash and Edward Abeles in the two leading roles. The fact that it is another Cohan & Harris success gives assurance that its scenic setting will be in keeping with the thoroughness as to detail for which this firm is noted. The splendid original organization comes here direct from the Gaiety Theater, New York, with the Broadway cast and production complete in every detail.

The Master Mind, at Ford's.

Edmund Breese, so well remembered here for his powerful characterization in the Lion and the Mouse and the Third Degree, is to play the principal role of the Master Mind, which is to have its initial performance in Baltimore at Ford's the week of February 3. The Master Mind is by Daniel D. Carter, a well-known magazine writer of short stories, and is his first endeavor at dramatic writing. He has a play with a gripping plot and his method of unfolding his theme holds the auditor from the time that the curtain rises. Werba and Luescher are the managerial sponsors for the production and this in itself assures local theatergoers of a performance complete in every detail.

Frances Starr, at Ford's.

Frances Starr is said to have achieved the triumph of her career in Edward Abeles' new play, The Case of Becky, which will be presented at Ford's the week of February 10.

AUDITORIUM

George Primrose and Lew Dockstader, the veteran minstrels, are said to be respectively as nimble and as funny this season as in their palmiest days, and it is with no little anticipation that Baltimore theatergoers are looking forward to the coming of the reunited black-face stars to the Auditorium Theater tomorrow night to remain for the week. With their organization of 50 songsters, dancers, instrumentalists and funmakers, giving the customary Wednesday and Saturday matinee performances.

Messrs. Primrose and Dockstader's show this season opens with an original first part, styled The Temple of Mirth and Melody. In this portion of the entertainment Mr. Primrose demonstrates that he is still "America's most graceful dancer" as he glides about the stage singing When I Waltz With You, and Mr. Dockstader maintains his standing as a laugh provoker with a story of his experiences in automobiling.

Another feature of the first part is the introduction of Raymond Wylie, whose remarkable soprano voice has resulted in his becoming known as "the male Tetrazzina." The first part closes with the rendition of the sextet from Lucia di Lammermoor in ragtime, in which Mr. Wylie sings the notes of the original score.

Both Mr. Primrose and Mr. Dockstader are to be seen again in the olio, the former accompanied by Johnny Foley and Johnny Murphy, in a unique and entertaining dancing act, and the latter in an uproariously laughable impersoation of the Bull Moose chief, Theodore Roosevelt, making a speech to the suffragettes.

The Musical Brown Brothers, a sextet of instrumentalists and pantomimic comedians, of whom Tom Brown is the leading spirit; the Four Harmonists, a vocal organization giving a musical idea of camp life in the Philippines, and other vaudeville artists complete the olio.

In the after-piece, which is in four scenes—on the levee at New Orleans, the passage of the Robert E. Lee by moonlight, the darkies returning from the cotton fields and a plantation jubilee—various talented members of the Primrose and Dockstader organization contribute to the music and merriment.

There will be a parade each day of the minstrels' engagement here, led by Messrs. Primrose and Dockstader themselves.

Ready Money.

With but 25 cents in his pocket, Stephen Baird, the hero of Ready Money, the farce comedy, to be presented here for one week, beginning February 3, by H. H. Frazee, at the Auditorium Theater, sets himself to win a part of the $3,275,786,613 in circulation at the time in the United States. Baird tries to get this money to satisfy the demands of his sweetheart's mother, who wants a millionaire for her husband's daughter. While solving his problem of love and finance, although he remains honest, he becomes involved with the United States Secret Service men in a series of amusing situations.

ALBAUGH'S

Polk Miller, who is famous as a delineator of the old Southern plantation negro, will give his entertainment, Old Times Down South, in Albaugh's Theater on the evenings of February 3 and 4.

Mr. Miller is a favorite in Baltimore. He will be assisted by Col. Tom Booker and the Old South Quartet. Both Mr. Miller and Colonel Booker are Confederate veterans.

Their entertainment is made up of stories, songs, recitation of poems, banjo solos, anecdotes in dialect, etc.

An Equine Philosopher.

"I'll acknowledge that I skid worse than an automobile does," reflected the poor horse with the smooth, wornout shoes, making another vain effort to get up from the slushy pavement, "but I never explode a tire."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

GEORGE NASH AND DORIS OLSSON WITH "OFFICER 666" AT FORD'S.

MISS BILLIE BURKE IN "THE MIND THE PAINT GIRL" ACADEMY.

GEORGE PRIMROSE & LEW DOCKSTADER. AUDITORIUM.

ERNESTO SISTERS AT THE VICTORIA.

HATTIE WILLIAMS IN "THE GIRL FROM MONTMARTRE" ACADEMY.

GRACE TYSON AT THE MARYLAND.

ROSE SYDELL. GAYETY.

HELEN ARMSTRONG. EMPIRE.

CAPTAIN BRUNSWICK AT THE NEW THEATER.

LUISA TETRAZZINI IN "LUCIA" CHICAGO GRAND OPERA. LYRIC. FEB. 7TH. © TERLSELSON & HENRY

THE LYRIC

Mme. Luisa Tetrazzini, the world famous coloratura soprano, will make her first operatic appearance in Baltimore as a member of the Chicago Grand Opera Company on the evening of February 7, when she will be seen in the title role of Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor.

The Donizetti opera will mark the return of the company from its long Western season, and will be the first of the two remaining works of the season. The second and last performance will be of Puccini's tragic La Tosca, with Mary Garden in the title part, on the evening of February 14.

The unusual interest that is felt in these two performances, which promise to be among the notable, if not the most notable musical events of the year, is testified to by the large demand for seats for the two performances, which is now in progress. The sale of single seats will be opened at Albaugh's ticket office on January 31.

Tetrazzini is a magic name among present-day singers. Her success has been phenomenal, all the more so as she sprang into fame in a single night. She was almost entirely unknown until the eventful night six years ago, when she took an enormous audience at Covent Garden, London, by storm with her flawless voice in Traviata.

Cable messages the next day flashed the news of her sensational success all over the world, and from that day to this she has been the acknowledged leader of coloratura soprani. Lucia is considered her finest part, and as she is said to be in especially good voice this winter, a perfect performance of the role may be expected. She will be given notable support.

EMPIRE

The Queens of the Folies Bergeres will hold the boards this week at the Empire Theater, beginning with the usual matinee tomorrow afternoon. This organization has proven one of the real hits of the season throughout the Empire circuit and Messrs. Counihan and Shannon, the producers, have endeavored to put on a show that is different from the average burlesque. The opening burlesque shows Times Square at night, and is said to be a riot of fun. The second burlesque is entitled The Oriental Palace, and furnishes an opportunity for sumptuous staging, as well as costuming.

There is a strong company of principals and the chief funmaker is Joe Sullivan. There is a large assisting company, which includes the Four Armstrongs, Miss Irene Callihan, Dave Schaeffer and Miss Elizabeth Rogers.

A feature with the company is Kid Canfield, the well-known reformed gambler. In his lecture he exposes all the stunts of the famous gambling palaces of the West.

The Country Store feature will again be presented on Thursday night.

MARYLAND

Another program of Keith All-star feature attractions, which abounds in quality and quantity, is offered as next week's attraction at the popular Maryland Theater. The bill contains 14 feature acts, and is brimful of new faces, new specialties and new novelties. It includes the Travesty Stars—Arthur McWaters and Grace Tyson, presenting their 1912 Review; Jesse Lasky's tabloid musical comedy, The Antique Girl, an elaborate scenic production with a cast of 18; Hal Davis and Inez Macauley, presenting The Girl From Childs; Morgan, Bailey and Morgan, in a vocal and instrumental novelty; Kellar, Mack and Frank Orth, the popular song writers, in The Wrong Hero; Miss Linden Beckwith, the magnetic mistress of melody; Harless Reissner and Henrietta Gore, in It's Only a Show; the Three Keatons, fun's funniest family; Redford and Winchester, who have juggled around the world; the Du-For Trio, the vaudeville dancers; Leonard and Louis, comedy acrobats; Sprague and McNeale, novelty artists, and the Kinetograph Moving Pictures.

The usual daily matinee performances will be given, and on account of the length of the program the curtain will rise at 2 and 8 o'clock sharp.

HOLLIDAY STREET

A new play for the people that like the better style of melodrama is to be the offering of the Premier Stock Company at the Holliday Street next week entitled, Wanted By the Police.

This week marks the twenty-second week of the engagement of the Premier Stock Company at this house and the management has every reason to be proud of the record of success and at the request of the patrons of this theater, will follow Wanted By the Police with a play that will live forever, East Lynne.

Wonders of Science.

If Dr. Alexis Carrel has really discovered a method of healing a cutaneous wound in less than a day, his discovery will be a boon to football players and also to New Year's Eve revelers, who are unfortunate enough to become victims of hoodlums on the street.—Rochester Post Express.

VICTORIA

It's going to be a rich treat for patrons of The Victoria—this show planned for this week. From the rise to fall of final curtain there will be a host of good novelties—plenty of surprises and enough of the unusual to flavor the bill acceptably and palatably for each and everybody visiting this house.

The Girl Who Dropped In—a real playlet, with a sure-enough plot to it—will be offered by Minnie Victorson and company. The staging for this act is very elaborate and pleasing; the acting in the hands of people especially selected for their respective parts, and altogether, you can whet up your novelty appetite for a real good treat—and you'll not be disappointed at all. It's a thrill, to say the least, to see the girl aeronaut, who is away up in the air, making a descent in a parachute, come crashing right straight through the roof of the building on the stage.

The Ernesto Sisters, in a thrilling wire act, will surely prove a novelty, as it is rare indeed that women are seen in a feature of this sort, and these girls are certainly expert. They perform all the most difficult stunts attempted by men, doing this sort of an act, and likewise introduce several original ideas of their own.

Belmont and Company, in a playlet they call a singing, whistling, comedy affair, will get your attention, hold it to the last note and word and please every second of that time.

Princess Indita, a snake charmer and dancer, has solved a difficult problem. Most acts of this sort have always been objectionable to many people. Indita has found a way to handle snakes that doesn't give anyone that "creepy" sensation you've experienced before, but makes the entire act from start to finish one of the most pleasing, up-to-date, original features of its kind you have seen for a long time.

Maxine, a female ventriloquist, has won her reputation for excellence in the best houses in this country, and appears in Baltimore for the first time at The Victoria. There are plenty of men on the stage doing this sort of work—but very few women—and Maxine is absolutely the best of them.

The Carl Damon troupe of acrobats have the reputation of doing the loftiest work in vaudevile of this sort. You'll find their act, which includes seven people, just the finest of its kind you have ever seen, and they keep on the jump every second of the time, so you can look for plenty of action, and some of the most difficult stunts you have ever seen attempted on a vaudeville stage.

Phil Bennett, an Italian troubadour and Alpine singer, has a real novel way of offering his work, which is very refined and pleasing to the highest degree. There isn't anything dull about this portion of the program, but quite the opposite, each number being interesting and pleasing to the limit.

The Pathe Weekly, with world scenes from the world over, especially those made prominent by news events and incidents of the past few days, will be shown and prove to be unusually interesting.

POE

I.

By HENRY REED CONANT.

HIS fame shall live, in life though slender
The aid that death alone could render;
And time shall richer tributes tender,
As men regard
With awe, the weird and tragic splendor
Of Fordham's bard.

Hail, Poe, with thy fantastic rhyme!
Thy Bells, with wild and frantic chime,
And Raven's ghostly tale sublime,
Shall make men writhe
And daunt him till old Father Time
Hangs up his sythe!

Five Walnuts for a Penny.

[From the London Chronicle.]

From one of Steele's letters to his wife we learn the price of walnuts in Queen Anne's reign. "I send you seven pen'orth of wallnutts at five a penny, which is the greatest proof I can give you at present of my being with my whole Heart yrs."

Outside the letter Lady Steele has written, "There are but 29 Wallnutts," so apparently her "passionate lover and faithful husband" had given in to the temptation of eating a few before sending them. He made ample amends for this on the following day by a gift of "half a hundred more."

THE NEW THEATRE

A double feature bill has been prepared by the management of the New Theater, the first feature being Captain Brunswick's Wild West Company, presenting the new Western comedy sketch, The Tenderfoot's Troubles. Captain Brunswick, for several season's director general of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, is a former United States scout and Indian commissioner, and the company includes a Sioux chief and members of his Indian tribe, as well as numerous cowboys and cowgirls. Many of the sports and pastimes of the plains, such as fancy roping, whip manipulating, lariat throwing, rifle and pistol shooting, have their logical places in the specialty. The entire troupe will give a free demonstration of Western life and custom in front of the theater each day and on Saturday afternoon a public reception on the stage of the playhouse. The other feature will be Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thorne and company in their latest domestic farce-comedy, Bibs & Bibs, the legitimate successor of their perenially popular playlet, An Uptown Flat. Upon their last visit to this city they were the featured attraction of the famous Old Timers' Bill. A genuine novelty turn will be contributed to the bill by the Carrays, who dexterously juggle clubs, knives, plates, battle axes, swing clubs, spin batons and roll hoops. Thomas Eddie and Ethel Green will help hold up the comedy end of the program with a singing and talking skit in two scenes. An European novelty feature will be that of Thurber and Thurber, eccentric comedians, employing up-to-date travesty and their original freak dance when they appear with three heads and as many limbs. The Church City Quartet are four exceptionally clever harmonizers, who wisely mix plenty of characteristic fun with their pleasing vocalisms. On Tuesday night, promptly at 8:15, there will be a dancing contest, when handsome silver loving cups and cash prizes will be awarded to the best ballroom dancers, the bestowal of the prizes being left to the audience. Amateurs will be on hand to entertain Thursday night and many amusing stunts have been expressly arranged for this week. This will be concluded by the theaterscope, with a series of brand new laugh-compelling motion pictures.

GAYETY

Rose Sydell and her famous London Belles will come to the Gayety this week. After this season burlesque patrons will miss a familiar figure who has graced the stage for a number of years, rightfully earning the title of Queen of Burlesque, Rose Sydell, for the reason that her success has earned her a snug fortune. She will permanently retire at the conclusion of the present season to her home, a beautiful spot on the banks of the Hudson, and enjoy the fruits of her past labor. Her offering this season in the way of entertainment is designed to be a fitting farewell. The scenic, costume and electric environments are unusually attractive and elaborate, while fun is the predominating factor, W. S. Campbell and Johnnie Weber being the irresistible pair of fun-makers. Miss Sydell will lead the feminine contingent and will display a series of gorgeous Parisian gowns. Altogether the Rose Sydell Show will be the Gayety's most pretentious offering of the season. There will be a matinee every day.

Blind Georgian Studying Law.

[From the Savannah Press.]

A case of indomitable pluck is that of W. R. McDonald, of Augusta, who has entered the law school of the University of Georgia. Mr. McDonald has been totally blind since 14 years of age. Beginning with the State School for the Blind, at Macon, he acquired a good education, graduating last June from the Brown College Preparatory School, in Philadelphia.

His work in the university is gotten up from his roommate's reading, but he writes his own lecture notes in an embossed dot system. After a month he says he has no trouble with his studies and is keeping up with his long daily assignments. Mr. McDonald's class record is said to show no trace of his affliction and he is recognized as one of its keenest students. He intends to take the full two-year course preliminary to entering active practice and will probably locate in Augusta.

ACADEMY

Miss Billie Burke on her first visit to Baltimore and the newest Pinero comedy! There's richness! It's the bill at the Academy this week.

Charles Frohman presented Miss Burke first as a star just five years ago. Why she has never played in Baltimore no one seems to know exactly, but whatever the reason Baltimore playgoers are eager to see her now. That is evident from the way the seats for her engagement have been selling at the box office.

The Mind the Paint Girl is the curious title of the play in which Miss Burke will appear. Pinero drew one picture of stage life in Trelawney of the Wells. That was the stage of 30 or more years ago. In this new piece he has again gone "behind the scenes" for his characters and his story, but this time it is of the stage of today and the London musical comedy stage of today that he writes.

His heroine, Lily Parradell, is the principal girl at the Pandora Theater. Her friends—her aitchless old mother, the other girls in the company and the "johnnies"—make up the cast. The story is of Lily's one and only genuine love affair.

The character of Lily is one of the best Pinero has drawn and he has drawn very many fine ones. She's a pretty little thing, full of the joy of living. Born in a little room over a small grocer's shop over in Kennington, a poor suburb of London, she has grown up there—mostly in the streets. She has learned to dance and found a place, first in pantomime and then in the chorus at the Pandora. And then has come her chance, a song, Mind the Paint—and it has made her. She wants to share her good fortune with everyone, but she's still more than a trifle mercenary. She has put on a certain veneer of refinement, for, as she says herself, she's "a cunning little parrot." Scratch the veneer and the street girl is close beneath. It is Lil's birthday when the play begins.

Miss Burke has had no role that suits her so well as this one and the critics agree that she has realized the complex character drawn by the master playwright as no other actress on the American stage could have done it. In the support are Shelley Hull, H. E. Herbert, Morton Selten, J. Palmer Collins, Lydia Rachel, Ethel Intropidi, Katherine Manning, Edith Campbell, Mabel Frenyear, Hazel Leslie and a score of others.

Billie Burke matinees will be given on Wednesday and Saturday.

The Girl From Montmartre.

Charles Frohman will present Richard Carle and Hattie Williams at the New Academy of Music during the week beginning Monday evening, February 3, a double laughing bill—The Girl From Montmartre, a farce with music, and J. liams are both well known to local theatergoers. Mr. Carle is one of the most whimsical and entertaining comedians on the American stage, while Miss Williams has given frequent proof of her ability as a musical comedy star in such plays as The Little Cherub and Fluffy Ruffles.

The Girl From Montmartre has for its foundation a spicy French farce that made a great success in Paris a few years ago.

The novel feature of the production, of course, is the Barrie skit. This little play is interpolated in the second act of the farce and is given an amusing performance by Mr. Carle, Miss Williams and William Danforth. It is a bit of satire on the modern problem play. M. Barrie's skit on the problem play, A Slice of Life. Mr. Carle and Miss Wil-

Some brand-new dances by Joe Smith and a kinemacolor picture telling part of the story of the play are other features.

George Arliss.

Following Richard Carle and Hattie Williams at the New Academy of Music will be an important dramatic production—George Arliss, in the Liebler Company's production of D'Israeli, the successful play by Louis N. Parker.

Otis Skinner.

The appearance of Otis Skinner in Kismet at the New Academy of Music on February 17 will undoubtedly prove one of the most important dramatic happenings of the season here. The company numbers nearly 100 persons.

Travel Talks.

In no other country is so much of interest concentrated in so small an area as in Switzerland, which E. M. Newman, the travel-talker, has selected for the subject of his third lecture at the Academy of Music on Tuesday afternoon, January 28. Mr. Newman's new motion pictures and color views combine touches of human interest with the scenic grandeur of the country, they show life in the cities, in the resorts and in the mountain homes.

Population of Germany.

[From the London Standard.]

The population statistics, based on the imperial census of December 1, 1910, just published, show that the total population of Germany has increased by 15.18 per cent. in the space of 10 years. One of the most remarkable facts shown by the new statistical tables is the importance of the foreign element in the German Empire, and the extent to which the foreign and foreign-born population has recently increased. With a population of 63,925,993 subjects of the imperial throne, Germany also counts 1,259,873 foreigners within her frontiers. It is patent that Germany is importing brains and labor, for the increase in the foreign population has been four times as rapid as that of the native population—the increase, indeed, was nearly 20 per cent. in only five years, the total addition to the foreign population within this period being 231,313.

There is little fear that the character of the nation will be changed in consequence, as more than half the foreign element comes from German-speaking Austria, and the next largest element comes from Holland, a country which has more in common with Germany than most of the other nations. In all, there were 144,000 Dutchmen, 137,000 Russians, 104,000 Italians, and 68,000 Swiss. The Rhine provinces continue to be more international than any other part of the empire. The statistics as to religion show that the Protestants outnumber Roman Catholics in the proportion of three to two.

An Iowan's Long Beard.

[From the Kansas City Journal.]

J. W. Main, of Shenandoah, Iowa, the longest-bearded man in the United States, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. J. L. Paden, at Fowler.

If you should happen to meet Mr. Main on the street you wouldn't notice that his whiskers are any heavier than many other men wear, but by closely observing you will see that he has his beard tucked down the neck of his shirt. He has worn it thus for 40 years, only unsheathing it for the purpose of dressing and caring for it.

Mr. Main is about 74 years of age and slightly under six feet tall. When he stands on a common chair his beard sweeps the floor. It measures seven feet in length. He has used no hair tonic to produce such a growth, but merely let it grow. He treasures it very highly and seldom unsheaths it for exhibition, but the people of Fowler are clamoding for a glimpse of this wonderful chin appendage, and a public meeting is being planned where Mr. Main will allow all to have a look at it.

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