



# The Theatrical

## THE WEEK'S PLAYBILLS.

The New National—Last Week of Summer Opera.

The last week of summer opera will begin to-morrow at the New National Theater, where the Aborn Company will close their season with Giuseppe Verdi's grand opera, "Il Trovatore." The management claim for this coming event the most worthy production of grand opera ever staged at the popular scale of prices now prevailing. However this may be, in point of popularity and previous success here, it would be hard to make a more discriminating selection of singers than those announced for the four most exacting roles. These are Estelle Wentworth, Harry Luckstone, Joseph Fredericks, and Edith Bradford. The first three have already won the plaudits of press and public in their respective roles in former presentations of "Il Trovatore." Miss Wentworth has surprised even her most sanguine admirers this summer by her achievements in the field of grand opera, dating from her first essay in "Cavalleria Rusticana" several weeks ago. Those who have heard Miss Luckstone's barytone or Mr. Fredericks' tenor need no assurance of their adequate rendition of the roles of the Count di Luna and Mariccio, respectively, in "Il Trovatore." Equally well placed will Miss Bradford's contralto be as Azucena, the Gypsy, while the character is an intensely dramatic one, allowing full play to the histrionic ability that has stood her in such good stead in the wide range of parts she has assumed during the Aborn summer opera series here.

The other roles will all be judiciously placed, with Arthur Woolley, as Ferrando, Nella Shayne, as Inez, William Loughran, as Ruiz, and C. W. Phillips, as the Gypsy. A doubtless feature of the closing week will be the album to be provided by the press department of the theater and autographed photographs of Miss Wentworth, to celebrate the 10th performance to-morrow night. The souvenirs, containing over twenty-seven pictures of principals and chorus, together with the complete casts of all operas, will be on hand at each night and matinee performance this week.

### Closing Week at the Belasco—"The Marriage of Kitty."

Miss Charlotte Walker enters upon the last week of her summer season at the Belasco Theater to-morrow night, when she will be seen in "The Marriage of Kitty," a comedy adapted from the French by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, in which Miss Marie Tempest starred on her last visit to America. The announcement that this will be Miss Walker's last week at the Belasco Theater is final. She will end the most remarkable summer season ever played by any star in Washington on Saturday night, when she will have concluded a season of nine weeks, during which time she has played eight performances a week, and has never been out of the bill a single time, although presenting a new play each week. In point of duration alone, Miss Walker's season exceeds, by two weeks, the longest summer season ever scored by any other organization in Washington. "The Marriage of Kitty" will be an appropriate farewell bill, as it will show her in the best comedy role she has ever essayed. She appears as Miss Katherine Silverton, fresh from the country, who comes to London penniless and in search of a situation. She calls upon a family lawyer for advice, and his advice is matrimony. At almost at the same time, Sir Reginald Belzise, a wealthy baronet, calls for advice. He wishes to marry a Peruvian widow, Mme. de Semiano, but his father's will had left him a fortune on the sole condition that he must marry some one who is neither a Peruvian nor a widow, by September 1, this clause being aimed at Mme. de Semiano, in the hope of breaking off the match. The lawyer advises Sir Reginald to marry some one else, collect the money, and then get a divorce, so that he can marry the widow. He introduces Miss Katherine Silverton as a likely person, who, for a cash consideration, will enter upon a temporary marriage. Kitty makes herself temporarily engaged to arouse the jealousy of Mme. de Semiano, and the bargain is struck. A year later, Kitty is living at a handsome villa near the Lake of Geneva, when Sir Reginald calls to discuss the terms of a divorce. For the first time Sir Reginald learns that the woman he married is really a beautiful and charming creature, and he promptly proceeds to fall in love with her. When Mme. de Semiano arrives on the scene, to make an explosion at losing her fiance, Sir Reginald and Kitty contrive to escape her jealous wrath. The play is an amusing comedy, full of bright lines and clever situations.

### The New Lyceum—"The Americans" Burlesque Company.

The burlesque company to be seen at the New Lyceum next week with the customary matinees is called "The Americans," and its principal feature is a musical comedy entitled "Mixed Pickles." There is also an attractive olio of vaudeville, in which appear Will H. Ward, "The Happy Dutchman," Clarence Wilber, the funmaker; the World Comedy Four; Mile. Mozelle, a dancer; the Sisters La Tour, and a score of show girls.

### Opening of the Gayety.

The new Gayety Theater, under the management of William S. Clark, has fixed its opening date for Monday, August 26, when the first attraction will be "The Bowers Burlesquers," with the popular Broadway comedian, Ben Jansen, at the head. The new theater will be devoted to burlesque and vaudeville, and the list of bookings includes many of the best-known burlesque shows on the road. The box office opens for the advance sale on Wednesday, August 21.

### One Hundredth Performance.

Elaborate plans are being made for the celebration of the 100th performance of the summer opera season at the New National, to-morrow night. Messrs. Milton and Sargent Aborn will both be in the city, and will likely remain here throughout the closing week. They will bring with them to Washington over 1,000 autographed photographs of Estelle Wentworth for free distribution to all ladies that attend the 100th performance. This week marks the thirteenth consecutive week of the season, a summer opera record that has never been equaled in the history of the Washington stage. It is estimated that prior to the 100th performance to-morrow night over 14,000 people have attended since the opening. This would mean an average weekly attendance of about 12,000—a record that both the theater management and the opera producers may well be proud of.

### Brady Meets Rider Haggard.

One of the various stories of William A. Brady's encounter with the English during Grace George's conquest in London are coming to the surface. Among other celebrities the American manager met was Rider Haggard, whose attitude showed clearly that he had never before heard of Brady. "You're on now, old top," replied Brady. "And I've caught you before somewhere. At least, I know you you are, because I once dramatized you. It was back in '81. I starred in 'She,' made my own dramatization, and managed myself." "Why, damme," exclaimed Haggard, "I don't recall getting any royalties."

### Plans of Elsie Janis.

When Miss Elsie Janis returns from Shelter Island this week she will immediately start rehearsals under Charles Frohman's direction. Mr. Dillingham meanwhile has postponed the production he had arranged for Miss Janis, who will appear instead in "The Hoyden." This new musical comedy was written for Mr. Frohman, who holds both the English and American rights. The play is by Cosmo Hamilton and Tristan Bernard, who is at present the leading comedy writer of Paris; the music is by Paul A. Rubens and Frank Tours, and lyrics by Mr. Rubens and Mr. Hamilton.

## DRAMAS ABOUT THE STAGE.

### Many Already Written, and More Promised This Season.

To the large number of plays dealing with theatrical life that are now on the stage, George M. Cohan promises to add another in which theatrical conditions of to-day will be explained from the inside. Cohan's first attempt to do this failed. Thomas W. Ross played in the unsuccessful attempt, which was called "Popularity," and over which Cohan and Goodwin quarreled. It had not been for the vaudeville sketch called "Change Your Act," in which Victor Moore played a vaudeville actor and his wife, Emma Littlefield, played an actress, George M. Cohan would not have selected Moore to play Kid Burns in "Forty-five Minutes from Broadway." In "Change Your Act" the stage of a vaudeville theater is shown. Richard Harding Davis dramatized a dramatist and an actress in "The Taming of Helen," and the short story by Davis, called "Her First Appearance," when "The Little Girl" appears in the drama under the name, "Her First Appearance." Robert Hilliard has played in it for a long time.

### Opening of the Majestic—Kathryn Purnell Stock Company.

Everything is in readiness for the opening performance to-morrow afternoon, when the season of 1907-08 will be ushered in at Washington's home of a permanent stock company. Manager Fitzgerald promises the theatergoers of Washington that a company of which they may well feel proud has been installed at the Majestic, and the same standard of excellence will be maintained throughout the entire season. Suggestions for the welfare of the Kathryn Purnell players will be gladly received by the management, and given courteous consideration. It is intended that patrons of this family playhouse will take a personal interest in the production of high-class royalty plays, and everything for the comfort and safety of visitors will be found.

### Miss Purnell will appear to advantage in the role of Glory Quayle, in the opening offering, "The Christian."

Franklyn Munroe, the leading man, is cast for the strong part of John Storm. Both principals in the large company will be surrounded by supporting players of excellence, assuring playgoers of an evenly balanced company. Arthur J. Piekens has been cast as Lord Robert Ure, and W. Jeff Murphy, a favorite at the Majestic last season, will appear as Horatio Drake. Others in the cast are Jack F. Goodwin as Lord Storm; H. C. Bewley, as Archdeacon Wealthy; Edwin Redding, as Brother Paul; W. S. James, as Father Lamp-lough; George W. Elwood, as Parson Quayle; Al Roberts, as the manager of the made hall; Miss Rosalind Allen, as Polly Love; Miss Anna E. La Snelie, as Mrs. Callender; Miss Madeline Delmar, Miss Edith Hall Smith, and Miss Jennie Stanley, as Betty, Nettie, and Letty, the three graces of the music hall.

## ABOUT VAUDEVILLE PLAYERS

### Their Lives Differ from the Legitimate.

The Messrs. Milton and Sargent Aborn will come to Washington to witness the close of their summer opera season at the New National, Saturday night, August 24. At the close of the performance they will give a supper to all of their company as well as the members of the New National executive staff. Brandon Hurst, one of the few English leading men who have made a reputation in America, has been engaged for the leading male role in John Cort's production of "The Stronger Sex," in which Maude Fealy will begin her second year as a star. The premiere is scheduled for Columbus, Ohio, September 23.

### Well-known Press Agent.

Wright Lorimer has engaged Ernest Shuter as general press representative for "The Shepherd King" company, which goes on the road next season with Carl Eckstrom in the role of David. Although one of the youngest representatives in the theatrical business in this country, Mr. Shuter is well known, and has a wide and varied experience with first-class attractions. He has been connected with Ernest Shipman ever since that manager started on his successful launching of plays and players, and has represented organizations headed by such well-known stars as Mary Shaw, Rose Coghlan, Mr. Shuter is a graduate of McGill University, and is a member of a well-known Southern family, his mother being a granddaughter of the famous Gov. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, and he is a direct descendant of Joseph Shuter, the celebrated English actor, the favorite confidant of King George, and a steel engraving of whom hangs in the rooms of the Actors' Society.

### Manager John Lyons, of the Academy of Music, reports that the chairs have arrived for installation and everything is now progressing most favorably for the opening of the new playhouse Monday.

The interior decorations, which have just been ordered, are of excellent taste, and when finished, will make the Academy one of Washington's most beautiful theaters.

### Sarah Truax, who has been spending her summer vacation at Lake Minnetonka, just outside of St. Paul, Minn., returns to New York the latter part of this month to begin rehearsals of "The Spider's Web," the new play by John Hutchins, in which she will inaugurate her first starring tour at Ithaca, N. Y., September 16, under the direction of John Cort.

### Charleworth Meakin, a barytone well known on Broadway, and last seen in New York in "The Belle of Mayfair," has been engaged by Henry W. Savage for the role of St. Brice, in Franz Lehár's European success, "The Merry Widow."

Mr. Meakin studied music in London, under Alberto Randegger, and in Paris under William Haslam. His voice is clear and powerful, and he is an actor of merit.

### If the plans of the Shuberts do not go astray they will have no less than six musical attractions all new in New York at one time. They are: "The Great White Way," at the Casino; "The Motor Girl," at Weber's; "The Girl Behind the Snow-er," at the Herald Square; "The Snow-World," at the Lyric; "The Top of the World," at the Majestic, and Louise Gunling, in "The Paradise of Mohammed," at another house.

### Lulu Glaser will open her second season under the direction of Klaw & Erlanger at the Lyceum Theater, in Rochester, Monday, the 24th instant, and, after four performances there, and a week in Atlantic City, she will open the Liberty Theater Monday evening, September 2.

Her vehicle will be a new music play, the seventeen years of their married life they have never separated. One son has been born to the Drews, and when he is out of school he is always with his mother and father on their travels. Mr. Drew resembles his brother John very much, and both of them strongly suggest the features of their lamented mother. Unlike John, however, Sidney has never gone in for social affairs, and, successful as he has been, he has never gained the wide fame that has come to the elder brother. At one time, some ten or twelve years ago, the entire Drew family, including the mother, the sons, and their wives, and some cousins of the same name, were together for a summer season, playing at resorts, such as Newport, Long Branch, Lenox, and other fashionable spas. "Billy's Tombstones," the play in which Mr. and Mrs. Drew and their company appear at Chase's this week, has been described as the most humorous farce that has been turned out in vaudeville in years. It is entirely different from anything the Drews have done, and is thoroughly original in character.

### Father and the Boys.

The title of W. H. Crane's new play, of which George Ade is the author, is "Father and the Boys." It is in four acts, and Mr. Ade is said to have taken the comedian's measurements to a nicety. There were several conferences last spring between the author and the actor at the Lambs Club, so while at work on the drama Mr. Ade practically carried out many suggestions offered by Mr. Crane.

## NOTES OF THE STAGE.

George Arliss has been re-engaged for Mrs. Fiske's company.

Phil Beckman, of this city, is now in his eighth year with Gentry Brothers' big show.

Annabelle Whitford is at the head of "The Gibson Bathing Girls," now a feature at the Jardin de Paris.

Jake Johnston, stage manager of the New Lyceum, has gone to Norfolk to attend the convention of the Eagles.

The Lyceum Trio, composed of local boys, has just closed a remunerative summer season on the Southern circuit.

Emma Calve will arrive in New York on September 17, and her season will begin with a concert at the Portland (Me.) annual festival.

Haley's Washington Concert Band is making a decided success at Wildwood Park, Philadelphia, where it is performing nightly.

William Donnelly, Agnes Merrill, Taylor Williams, and Maud Morris will be in the cast of "The Honey-mooners," to be sent out by Hope & Welch.

Hills and Wilson, two locals, will make their first appearance in this city with the Bowers Burlesquers, at the New Gayety, on August 26.

The vacancy in the treasurership of the Majestic Theater here has been filled by the appointment of Gilbert Proctor. The position was formerly filled by Joe Shanberger, now in Philadelphia.

Billy Cullison, a Washingtonian, has met with great success in New York, where he is running a booking office for all branches of the theatrical business. His office is located in the Knickerbocker Theater building.

Mr. Gerald Grattan, a young Irish actor, who is said to be uncommonly clever, replaced Mr. Richard Bennett as Adhemar in Miss Grace George's London revival of "Divorçons," when Mr. Bennett left to come home for his season in "The Left-Comers."

Miss Tricie Cadiz, known to the patrons of the National Theater as "The Whirlwind Chorus Girl," will, at the close of the summer opera season, leave Washington to begin her season in an important ingenue role with "The Rogers Brothers in Panama."

Dorothy Donnelly has been engaged by Henry B. Harris to play the leading role in "The Movers," in the place of Grace Elliott, who was to have been starred in the play. Miss Elliott is said to be ill at Bar Harbor, Me., and unable to appear for rehearsals.

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## CORINNE IN VAUDEVILLE.

Corinne has signed contracts for forty weeks in vaudeville, opening at Shea's, Buffalo, N. Y., the first week in September. Her feature song number will be a Mexican serenade, "My Chiquita," which has been written for her by Alfred G. Robyn and Howard Herrick. Mr. Robyn, who is the composer of Raymond Hitchcock's new piece, "The Yankee Tourist," his former big success, "The Yankee Consul," and "The Princess Beggar," wrote some years ago a characteristic Mexican dance, entitled "Mazzanillo," a number which in Mexico is almost recognized as a national air. No other composer has ever so fully entered into the spirit of Mexican music. The writer of the lyric is the business manager of Broadhurst & Currier's production, "The Lady from Lane's." It is an interesting fact that Theodore Bendix, who will publish the song, is the musical director of the Corinne Opera Company, who she was starring in Arcadia, at the age of fourteen years.

## PLANS OF MANAGER HARRIS.

Mr. Henry B. Harris announces his plans for the season as far as made. Mr. Robert Edeson will open at the Hudson Theater, New York, in a new play by Mr. William C. de Mille and Miss Margaret Turnbull, called "Classmates." Miss Rose Stahl will begin a tour of the United States in "The Chorus Lady" on September 2. A new comedy by Mrs. Martha Morton, called "The Movers," will be produced at the Hackley Theater on September 3, with Miss Bijou Fernandez in the leading part. Mr. Edgar Selwyn and Mr. Ralph Stuart will star in two companies of "Strongheart." Miss Henrietta Crossman will be seen in a dramatization of "Pilgrim's Progress." A new play by Mr. Edwin Milton Royle will be produced in Boston, and four companies will be out in "The Lion and the Mouse."

## A FAMOUS LILAC TREE.

Chief among the many objects of interest in the gardens of Easton Lodge, Dunmore, the residence of the Earl and Countess of Warwick, is the magnificent lilac tree which occupies a conspicuous position on the terrace. This flower tree is the finest specimen of its kind in the United Kingdom. It has a circumference of 120 feet and height of 15 feet, and it has so dense a growth and blooms so profusely that when in flower it forms a huge bouquet of lilac blossoms. The lilac is that commonly known as the Persian, and described by the botanists as the Chinese; but it is not a native of either Persia or China, but was raised in the Rouse Botanic Garden in 1795 by the hybridization of the true Persian lilac and the common lilac of British gardens. It was of noble proportions at the middle of the last century, and produced such a magnificent display of blossoms that in the following season Viscountess Maynard, Lady Warwick's grandmother, used to make a special journey from London to enjoy the beauty and fragrance of the flowers.

## SIS HOPKINS' SAYINGS.

By ROSE MELVILLE.

A watermelon is like a dentist—both filling.

Many a pure love has been adulterated with money.

There are other high-tides than those in the ocean.

Pa says that when you touch a man you sometimes scratch his acquaintance.

Ma says that a bathhouse looks as good as a houseboat to her.

A man has few grounds for complaint when his wife grinds her own coffee.

Because a man uses a sandbag in Chicago is no sign that he is an aeronaut.

Pa says playing tennis about as near as some folks get to having a racket.

When a woman loses her voice it is a pity that she doesn't stop trying to find it.

Ma says many a man who was the architect of his own fortune was a bungling builder.

Some women are so hard to please that they have a dozen servants—one after another.

Ma says that it takes a woman as long to dry her hair in a prohibition State as anywhere else.

Pa says the artistic temperament and a dislike for soap and water are usually the same thing.

The boy who is ashamed to follow the plow isn't likely to make headway turning up soil in any other useful occupation.

## Journalist's Son a Player.

Phillip Smalley, who plays the role of Capt. Anstruther in "A Yankee Tourist," is a son of the well-known London correspondent and grandson of Wendell Phillips. Mr. Smalley is a graduate of Oxford University and later graduated from the Harvard Law School in this country. He practiced law at the New York bar for a time, but finally yielded to the lure of the footlights. Mr. Smalley learned the art of "make-up" from Sir Henry Irving when a boy. In addition he studied painting under Alma Tadema, and acquired the German tongue with James Russell Lowell, while the latter was Minister to England, devoted seven years to the study of music, and was a friend of Prince George, self-apparent to the throne of England. In his youth he met many of the celebrities in the world of art and letters at the 5-o'clock teas of his mother, whom the poet Browning refers to as the "Queen of House Charming."

## Washington's Popular Family Playhouse.

DIRECTION LAFAYETTE AMUSEMENT COMPANY.

DAILY MATINEES, 2:15-1:50 and 2:50.

PRICES, EVENINGS, 8:15; Orchestra, 50c. Entire Balcony, 25c. Gallery, 15c.

## W. D. FITZGERALD PRESENTS THE KATHRYN PURNELL STOCK COMPANY

(Sure to Become the Pride of Washington)

## "THE CHRISTIAN"

WITH ALL SPECIAL SCENERY AND EFFECTS

NEXT WEEK—"THE CHERRY PICKERS,"

SUNDAY CONCERTS BEGIN NEXT SUNDAY.

## BELASCO Theatre and Roof Garden.

Eves., 25c to 75c. Mat. Wed., All Seats 25c. Mat. Sat., 25c and 50c.

## LAST WEEK—LAST WEEK

Farewell appearance of the best loved and most popular star who ever acted with a Washington Stock Company.

## TO-MORROW NIGHT—WILLIAM A. PAGE Presents

## CHARLOTTE WALKER

In a Comedy Adapted from the French, by Cosmo Gordon Lennox,

## "The Marriage of Kitty"

Positively last appearances of Miss Walker prior to becoming the star of David Belasco's new autumn production in New York.

EVERY THEATER-GOER IN WASHINGTON, THE CITY THAT FIRST RECOGNIZED HER GREAT TALENTS, SHOULD WISH HER "BON VOYAGE" AND GOOD LUCK, NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT, WHEN SHE SAYS FAREWELL ON THE EVE OF ATTEMPTING THE GREATEST UNDERTAKING OF HER ENTIRE CAREER.

## AMUSEMENTS.

### POPULAR WITH THE PEOPLE

### NEW LYCEUM

DIRECTION EMPIRE CIRCUIT COMPANY.

Matinee Daily

WEEK COMMENCING TO-MORROW MATINEE.

## THE AMERICANS

IN A TWO-ACT BURLETTA, ENTITLED

## MIXED PICKLES

The Fun Makers:

Will H. Ward, Clarence Wilbur, Wilbur Dobb, Marty Ward, Wm. J. Conlan, Joe F. Hayes, Mile. Mozelle, Sisters La Tour, and

20 Real Show Girls.

Next Week The Dreamland Burlesquers

## AMUSEMENTS.

### FAREWELL WEEK.

### OPERA

NIGHTS AT 8:15. MATINEES AT 2:15, 2:50, 5:00, 7:50. 25c and 50c.

### NEW NATIONAL THEATER

LAST WEEK ABORN OPERA CO.

Presenting Giuseppe Verdi's Five-act Grand Opera,

## IL TROVATORE

Cast includes ESTELLE WENTWORTH and 50 Others.

SOUVENIRS AT EVERY PERFORMANCE, School Children's Matinee Wednesday, ALL SEATS—25c—RESERVED.

100th PERFORMANCE MONDAY NIGHT. Free Photographs of Estelle Wentworth.

## GALA NIGHT—SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, AULD LANG SYNE.

BUNG BY THE ENTIRE COMPANY.

## AMUSEMENTS.

### CHASE'S

The finest, largest, and most popular theater, with weekly bills surpassing the \$1.50 and \$2.00 theater attractions.

DAILY MATINEES, 2:15. EVENINGS 7:30 and 9:30.

A Two Dollar Star Every Week at Chase's.

### The Famous Chief of Deceit, Signor Origiato!

## AERIAL BALLET

A Gorgeous Spectacle.

The Famous Flying Italian Sixteen Artists in the Presentation of Europe's Latest Sensation.

Surpassing Luminous Effects.

WALTER DANIELS, Mirroring Footlight Favorites.

The Drill Double Duo.

## AMERICUS 4-COMEDY-4

The Humorous Vocal Quartet.

POULTON & DOOLEY, "The Tramp and the Tourist."

The Believing Beauty, MILE. CLARA

## BALLERINI

Thrilling and Fascinating Empress Bar Feats.