

SUMMER AMUSEMENTS

OUT-OF-DOOR ENTERTAINMENTS VIE WITH OTHER ATTRACTIONS IN DRAWING WASHINGTONIANS.

'Charley's Aunt,' as was expected, played to great business at the Columbia Theater last week. At no time during the season the Columbia Players have spent here a play presented with such a uniformly intelligent cast, and with such brilliancy of interpretation. Unhappily the actors of a farce such as this—'Charley's Aunt' is all of twenty years old—work with a conviction and unanimity, the effect would be entirely lost. The whole company played with finesse, and a paramount appreciation for all the niceties and delicacies of the piece. A trifling old-fashioned, if you will, but that should not be a fault to criticize. Everything grows old, including people, and many of us who flourished twenty years ago would be indignant at the suggestion that the show was the place for us. Indeed, revivals of these pleasant old comedies are part of the business of a stock company such as the Columbia Players. The up-to-date plays are well received, and usually have a drawing power, owing to their association in the

public memory, but the less recent plays, such as 'Charley's Aunt,' 'Lady Urrula,' and the like, are equally, if not more attractive, to the patrons. There was an abundance of horseplay in last week's bill, and the trio of young men who carried the heaviest part of the fun-making overlooked nothing that would bring the laughs from the audience; and, though low comedy may not be the pinnacle of art in the sense of its appeal to the intellect, it certainly puts the actor to the supreme test. To-morrow night we are to be furnished with one of the most interesting attempts the Players have made. 'A Poor Relation' has been in preparation for some time, and it is a well-deserved reward for Frederick A. Thomson, who has been the guiding genius for many successful productions, should occupy the top light for at least one week. The fact that Manager Berger was with the late Sol Smith Russell for years assures the public of a performance that will at least violate none of the traditions of the play.

THIS WEEK'S PLAYBILLS

The Columbia—'A Poor Relation.' With Frederick A. Thomson literally stepping into the boots of the lamented artist, Sol Smith Russell, the curtain of the Columbia Theater will rise to-morrow night on a revival of Edward E. Kilder's masterful comedy, 'A Poor Relation,' that promises to make theatrical history. If the expectations of Managers Mazerott and Berger are realized, the production will mean the discovery in the theatrical firmament of another luminary. For twelve seasons this comedy toured the country as the foremost exponent of what a clean and wholesome farce should be, ever gaining a stronger hold upon the public, until to-day it is recognized as one of the standard plays—almost a dramatic classic. Comparable with it are such plays as 'The Old Homestead' and 'Shore Acres.'

CHASE'S TWELFTH SEASON.

Opening of Popular Home of Vaudeville Next Week. Chase's twelfth season of polite vaudeville is on the eve of opening and as a preliminary to the formal event, occurring Monday week, August 23, the management calls attention to some of the engagements for the coming season. It is stated that the recollection of the oldest veteran among the votaries of polite vaudeville, and their number is legion, does not call up a season in the past that can be compared with the coming one. The riot, judging from the list of stars that will shine hereabouts. Never in the history of Chase's regime, the management says, has there been such an influx of foreign stars, the number far surpassing the American headmen to go abroad. Fortunately, too, it is pointed out, the majority of those deserting their native land are novelties from which the new season has been rubbed off by several successive seasons of performances without change. They come the unassailable change of repertoire, monologue, or musical comedy. Among those fresh importations and unfamiliar domestic surprises are Annette Kellerman, the diving drama devoid of objectionable features, the Cadette de Gascoigne from Paris; Oakley Silvers, the internationally famous clown comedian; the Pissinis, the Curzon sisters, the Kellines, 'At the Waldorf,' August von Biene and company, Alfred Whelan, Adelaide Dunlop and company, Zinka Fanna, Sibson's company, Arcadia, Nance O'Neill, De Ota and Gade, 'Top of the World,' &c.

OPEN-AIR ATTRACTIONS.

Luna Park. Lovers of good instrumental music are reminded that the American Regimental Band will be heard in two sacred concerts at Luna Park this afternoon and to-night. A specially prepared programme has been arranged by Conductor R. L. Weaver, and the park management has provided ample seating accommodation for all patrons desiring to listen to these admirable concerts with absolute ease. To-night in the air dome a special range of moving pictures will be exhibited, and Miss Irene Gallagher, the lady barytone, will make her farewell appearance, rendering the illustrated drama devoid of objectionable features, absolute entertainment for the week, absolutely free to all park patrons, includes a varied course of entertainment, with subjects such as 'The Chemist's Mistake,' a farce comedy, depicting a chemist's complications in giving poison to the pet dog of a lady he very much admires; 'The Stage Rustlers,' a Western drama of prairie life, and 'The Mystery of the Bride in White,' an interesting heart drama devoid of objectionable features. The illustrated songs will be rendered by Mr. Frank H. Hammond, a prominent singer of the operatic stage. The success of the gentlemen's prize dance last week has induced Manager Goodfellow to set aside Friday night for a repetition of this unusual contest. Not the least interesting factor of this masculine nibble-footed competition is the eager assistance rendered the contestants by their fair partners. That Luna Park will be the mecca of unusual crowds of amusement seekers this week can be gathered in the announcement of three special big excursion days. To-morrow will be the special day for the clerks of the Treasury Department, Wednesday, August 18, for the Agricultural Department, and Friday, August 20, for the employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Additional arrangements for the comfort and amusement of these government patrons will be prepared by the park management.

COMING ATTRACTIONS. LOCAL STAGE NOTES.

Chase's—Opening Bill of Polite Vaudeville. Chase's business staff is assembled in readiness for the opening of the polite vaudeville season. The date is set for the 23d instant, one week from to-morrow, a week earlier than last year, but not too early to please Chase's patrons, the majority of whom incline to the belief that their favorite amusement should run on continuously and perennially.

One of the interesting additions to Fred Niblo's course of travel talks for the coming season will be the Spain of today. Orma Caldara and his charming wife, Julia Dean, called for London yesterday. They will be gone until early in October and will visit Paris.

C. J. Harris, treasurer of the Belasco Theater, returned to town last week from his vacation to assist in preparations for the opening of the coming season.

Frederick A. Thomson will wear in the Columbia production of 'A Poor Relation' the original costume worn in the part of Noah Vale by Sol Smith Russell.

Violette Kimball, one of Washington's foremost representatives in the dramatic field, will this week appear as a member of the Columbia Players in 'A Poor Relation.'

Fred G. Berger, the popular manager of the Columbia Theater, will leave the city in the course of a few days for a trip to points in Michigan and New York.

Little Helen Brown, who charmed Columbia patrons with her work in 'A Royal Family' and 'Prince Chap,' returned to the city this week as Patch in 'A Poor Relation.'

The Columbia Theater will open its doors to-night with Lyman H. Howe's wonderful travel festival from the New York Hippodrome as the attraction. This is the entertainment that has all New York talking.

George Cooper and William Zettler, the two dancing comedians that made such a favorable impression with 'The Rollickers' at the New Lyceum Theater last week, are Washington boys on their first professional road tour.

Charles J. Goodfellow, manager of Luna Park, received a very handsome solid gold watch, engraved with his monogram, last week on the anniversary of his birthday as a token of esteem from several admirers on the park staff.

Sidney Grundy's masterful farce comedy, 'The Circus Girl,' is announced as the offering of the Columbia Players for the seventeenth and closing week of the season of summer comedy, following 'A Poor Relation' at the Columbia Theater. It is without doubt the best of the Grundy shows, and one that invariably is greeted with capacity business. It has provoked heads of the Columbia Players, and with a view to reserving the best for the regular season, and the coming week to the summer season. Such a thing, though unprecedented in the history of Washington playhouses, promises to be the most profitable investment on the part of the wide-spread market of the intervening fortnight, between the closing of the summer season and the opening of the regular season, will be required to complete the rehearsal previously contracted for the exterior of the theater, and continuous work night and day throughout the entire period of time in order to have the house ready. 'The Circus Girl' is considered admirably suited to the requirements for this week, and with a view to reserving the best for the original plans, which were, however, altered in deference to the wishes of Julia Dean and Orma Caldara. The entire strength of the company will be called for, with an unusual array of beautiful girls, including Louise Reed, Edith Luckett, and Ruth Chatterton. Everett Butterfield will have an excellent part as a one-act play, 'The Ringmaster,' which will be a worthy culmination to a season of phenomenal offerings.

L. Stoddard Taylor, manager of the Belasco Theater, will return to the city this week from his summer home, 'Meadow Mist,' in Massachusetts, to return out spick and span the 'Playhouse Beautiful' for its early opening.

Academy—'The Queen of the Outlaw's Camp.'

At the Academy 'The Queen of the Outlaw's Camp' will be seen for the first time in this city on Monday, August 23, and the ensuing week, following most successful conquests in other cities, where the critics have been profuse in their praise of the offering. A play of the type that has been the success of the past has been the verdict elsewhere. 'Best' of romance, heart interest and bright, clean, original comedy, its men and women are the less picturesque because they are true to life and its conditions. The people would do under the same exciting and intensely dramatic circumstances which make up its romantic story. The scenes are laid in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and are said to present a truthful and faithful depiction of life and the great divide.

'THE DRESS REHEARSAL.'

Preparation for Amateur Show at Ocean City by Washingtonians. 'The Dress Rehearsal,' a musical burlesque with book and lyrics by Bentley and music by H. Kirks Dugdale, all of this city, will be given as the annual charity performance at Ocean City, Md., this year, and the first production will occur at the Phippinian Casino next Thursday evening, August 19.

The play, with the exception of the musical numbers, is said to be a realistic reproduction of the last dress rehearsal of a famous comic opera, and it is the opinion of those who have witnessed the rehearsals that it will be the most pretentious and successful performance ever given at Ocean City. The cast of the play contains a number of names well known in Washington and Baltimore, and will be as follows:

- CAST OF CHARACTERS. The author-director-manager (in the audience) also author and actor—George A. Bentley. The composer-director-planoist (at the piano)—H. Kirks Dugdale. Lieut. Romeo, a balcony lover—Thomas J. Millburn. Count de Bordeaux, the boardwalk braggart—King Kastle, a soap promoter. The queen of the beach—Claude R. Zeppone, Jr. The beauty spot—Miss Alice. The ballet master, hostler of the zoo, baller—Newton Fox. The manager of the amusement—Anthony. The queen of the beach—Miss Anne Thomas. The beauty spot—Miss Margaret. The Polly, the scoubrette—Miss Christine. The lady, the chorus lady—Miss Marie. The wardrobe mistress, custodian of the bath—Miss Dorothy Fox. The pugy ballet—Miss Rose. Miss Jennie Applegate. Miss Mary. Miss Malby. Miss Dapple. Miss Sidney Riley. Miss Black. Miss Mabel Irwin.

'THE RINGMASTER.'

Play Produced as 'The Son of His Father' Now in New York. The Shuberts, who produced 'The Ringmaster' Monday evening at the Maxine Elliott Theater, New York, deny that the cast of that play will be drawn from the troupe that is to be produced at the Shuberts. Miss Oza Waldrop, who was seen last spring in 'Going Some,' resigned from that company because she did not like the part of Helen Blake. Accordingly, she will not be seen again in the Armstrong-Beach comedy. Miss Lauretta Taylor, late leading woman with George Fawcett, 'The Great John Galt,' will remain with 'The Ringmaster.' So also will Mr. Frederick Burton. The only change contemplated which was in advance was that of William Rosell. Previous to the opening of 'The Ringmaster' he had been rehearsing with Sam Bernard, the idea being to place him with the comedian within two weeks. Mr. Rosell, who plays the part of a 'cub' reporter, did his work so well that he will not be spared, arrangements having been immediately made to replace him in the Bernard show with Robert Dempster, of 'The Road to Yesterday' fame.

'THE COAST OF CHANCE.'

Miss Lucia Chamberlain has arranged to visit New York late this month to assist at the rehearsal of her dramatized novel, 'The Coast of Chance.' The San Francisco authoress then will meet for the first time Mr. Hamilton Revelle and Miss Jane Ocker, who are to embody the characters of her favorite brain children, Flora Gilsey and Lord Crow. She will also add Eugene W. Presbrey, the adapter and stage director, in making the scenes and situations vivid pictures of California life. Manager George H. Brennan has invited the clever author of 'The Coast of Chance' to accompany the play on its short preliminary tour before going into New York next autumn.

Blanche Ring in New Role.

In 'The Yankee Girl,' Blanche Ring's new piece, in which she will start her season in September, under Lew Fields' direction, the comedienne will originate the role of a bright, self-reliant New England girl who finds herself pitted against a band of South American conspirators. Ex-President Castro, of Venezuela, will be caricatured in one of the leading characters. George V. Hobart and Sylvia Heston, who are responsible for the libretto and score.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE.

'The Hawk' from the German, is announced for early production.

'Girls,' the Fitch comedy, began its third season Sunday night at Toledo.

The Shuberts have taken over the Winthrop Theater, Winthrop. The house was formerly devoted to stock.

'The Air King,' a new opera by Harry B. Smith and Raymond Hubbell, will be produced by Klaw & Erlanger early next fall.

Charles McCuen, formerly of the Garrick Theater, Chicago, has been appointed manager of the Auditorium Theater, Des Moines.

Mary Mannering has withdrawn her suit for divorce against James K. Hackett. No reason is assigned for this change in Mrs. Hackett's feelings toward her husband.

Carrie A. Erless Woodward will resume the roles of Mimi and Feathers in 'The Dawn of a Tomorrow,' when Eleanor Robson's starring tour in the Burnet play reopens.

Rehearsals of 'Ben-Hur,' which will be seen next season, only in the larger cities of the East, will not begin until next month. The play does not open until October 4 in Utica.

Miss Ruth Mayhew has recovered from the effects of an operation and will be ready to begin her tour with 'The Bachelor' when that comedy takes to the road in September.

Ned Wayburn, who staged 'The Mid-night Sons' for Lew Fields, has been engaged by Mr. Fields to produce Blanche Ring's new musical comedy, 'The Yankee Girl,' by Hobart and Hein.

'The Round-Up' is in rehearsal, with Ripley Holmes in the part of 'Slim' Hoover. The season opens in Boston. After touring New England the play will go South and to the Pacific Coast.

Lillian Russell will arrive in New York next week. She spent the summer in London and Paris. Her company is already in rehearsal for 'The Widow's Might,' a comedy by Edmund Day.

Miss Mary Boland, leading woman with John Drew last season, will succeed herself in the same position this year, playing the part of Mabeline, a young French girl to whom every year is leap year in 'Inconceivable George.'

'Havana,' with James T. Powers and the original cast, resumed its run at the Casino last Monday. A 'counter company' with many of the Casino favorites will go on tour in 'Havana' September 6.

Louise Gunning, who summers at Atlantic City, prefers the seashore to Broadway for rehearsals, with the result that the final rehearsal of 'Marcelle' will be held at the Savoy Theater, which overlooks the sea.

Henrietta Crossman is spending her summer at her country house in Center Moriches, Long Island. The house is directly on the water and much of the time is spent on her sailing yacht, the Seacock.

On account of her repertoire of plays this season, Mrs. Leslie Carter will carry an unusually large company, and she will have, heading the masculine portion of her support, Mr. E. J. Ratcliffe and Mr. Eugene Ormonde.

Mr. E. J. Ratcliffe, who is to play a prominent part in the support of Mrs. Leslie Carter this season, is a well-known English actor. He is best known here, perhaps, for the good work he did in the heavy role of 'The Man from Home.'

Poor babies always appeal to Henrietta Crossman, and in order to appear at a benefit for them at Arverne a few days ago she came into New York and rehearsed in the city for four days and played one performance of a one-act play.

'The Beauty Spot' has been crowding the Savoy Theater at Atlantic City all during the past week. The Comstock and Gest musical comedy has been a wonderful money-maker since it was first produced here in Washington at the Belasco Theater.

L. F. Behmeyer, manager of the Auditorium Theater, Los Angeles, has secured backing for a season of opera in the far West. Recently he met Hammerstein in Chicago and made that impresario an offer for the Manhattan Opera House Company.

Some wonderful costumes have been produced for Mrs. Leslie Carter's new production of 'Camille.' There was some thought of getting her more elaborate gowns from Paris, but Mrs. Carter insisted upon American work people.

Alice Parks Butler, who will be prominent in the support of Mrs. Leslie Carter this season, played character parts with Nat C. Goodwin last year. She has been well and popularly known for excellent work with stock companies in Washington and Baltimore.

An important announcement is to the effect that Manager Brady is to star Nat C. Goodwin in a new comedy by George Broadhurst. Mr. Goodwin has long been missed from the ranks of the stars, and should be roundly welcomed back on Broadway and in the Eastern cities.

In the cast of 'Going Some,' which the Shuberts will shortly send to the Coast, will be seen James Spottswood, Eugene O'Rourke, Frank Wunderlee, George Pierce, Frank X. Bushman, Agnes Marc, Genevieve Cliff, Bertha Krieger, and Frank T. Charlton, and twenty others.

'Sham,' Henrietta Crossman's play that was so popular at Wallack's in New York last year, will begin the regular season at Bower's Theater, Chicago, August 29. After a limited stay there Miss Crossman will go as far west as Denver and come back to New York on the first of the year.

One of the most conspicuous members in support of Francis Wilson when he appears this season in his own comedy, 'The Bachelor's Baby,' will be Miss Adelaide Wilson, the actor's daughter, who is comparatively new to the stage, but of an apparently decided turn of mind, as far as her career is concerned.

Mrs. Carter's general stage director this season will be Mr. Frank McCormack, who will also play a strong character part in the new People play. He was for seven years stage manager for Mrs. Fiske, and will be remembered as an actor for his clever work as the burglar in 'Raffles' with Mr. Kyrle Bellow.

William Faversham will shortly be coming back to these shores loaded down with armor, jewels, and other stage paraphernalia for his forthcoming production of Stephen Phillips' 'Herod.' While Faversham is supposed to have been resting all summer at his beautiful summer home at Chiddingfold, Surrey, England, he has, in point of fact, been actively engaged preparing this play for the stage. He has had with him, most of the time,

AMUSEMENTS. AMUSEMENTS.

Columbia. This Week. Matinees Thursday and Saturday. THE COLUMBIA PLAYERS. Sol Smith Russell's Greatest Success. 'A Poor Relation' 25c. Frederick A. Thomson as Noah Vale. Next (17th) Week—'The Circus Girl' 75c. TO-NIGHT AT 8:20. LYMAN H. HOWE. N. Y. HIPPODROME. TRAVEL FESTIVAL. 20 BIG FEATURES—ALL ANIMATED SCENES. PRICES . . . 25c, 35c, 50c. RIDE ON THE RUNAWAY TRAIN. Be There When the Autos Crash.

ACADEMY. A. H. WOODS PRESENTS. The Sensational Melodramatic Novelty, QUEEN OF THE SECRET SEVEN. IN 4 ACTS AND 9 SCENES. SOMETHING NEVER BEFORE SEEN IN A POPULAR PRICE THEATER. Next Week - QUEEN OF THE OUTLAW CAMP. Matinees, Tues., Thurs., and Sat.

GAYETY THEATRE. NINTH STREET, NEAR F. Opening of the Regular Season, Monday Matinee, AUGUST 23. MATINEE EVERY DAY. DIRECT FROM BROADWAY, VANITY FAIR CO. The Laughing Hit of the Year. Everything New and Up-to-date. BOX OFFICE FOR SALE OF TICKETS WILL OPEN THURSDAY, AUGUST 19.

LUNA PARK. FREE GATE-WEEK DAYS. THIS AFTERNOON AND TO-NIGHT SACRED BAND CONCERT. FREE MOTION PICTURE PRIZE DANCES, FRIDAY. Another Valuable Prize Given to the Best GENTLEMAN DANCER. FRANK H. HAMMOND will render the ILLUSTRATED SONGS in connection with the FREE MOTION PICTURE. SPECIAL EXCURSIONS: Aug. 16—Treasure Dept. Aug. 18—Agricultural Dept. Aug. 20—Engraving and Printing.

CHASE'S. The Largest Handmade and Most Popular Theater with weekly matinees, 25c, 35c, 50c. DAILY MATINEES, 25c and 35c. EVENINGS, 25c, 35c and 50c. The Twelfth Consecutive GRAND OPENING at the Daily Matinee MONDAY, AUG. 23. and as usual the ADVANCE SALE TO-MORROW Opens at the theater box office at 7:30 a. m., continuing until 7 p. m. every day this week. USUAL SCALE OF PRICES. Daily matinee, every seat, 25c only. All reserved, 35c, 50c, and 75c. All reserved, Chase's is the only theater never raised prices at holiday matinees or for special attractions.

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