



ACADEMY—Monday, "Vanity Fair," matinee and night. Wednesday, "McFadden's Flats." Friday, "Field's Minstrels." Saturday, "Alvin Joslin," matinee and night.

The theatrical season will be in full swing this week. Four plays the first week of the season is indeed a novelty. The theatres all over the country are opening much earlier than usual, and those who are posted predict a very profitable season.

VANITY FAIR.

What will be regarded by a great many people as one of the important stage matters of the current season is promised for matinee and evening performances at the Academy Monday in a dramatization of incidents from Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," made by J. H. Nozins, in which Becky Sharp is to be acted by Miss Coghlan and the balance of the characters by her excellent company. The season now has proved a memorable one as to a revelation of new talent in play-making and play-acting; it may be that this attempt to footlize the best-known of the Thackeray novels will prove to the liking of the folk to whom it is intended to appeal. As to Miss Coghlan, she has been a very familiar figure in the eyes of local playgoers for several years. Such acting as we have had from her during her visit to Richmond in "A Royal Box" has been of a kind to warrant her claim to recognition as a stellar player. Incidents utilized concern Becky at Miss Pinkerton's school, at "Queens Crawley," at the time of the "Waterloo" mode of life and living in the house in Curzon Street and the revelation of Osborne's infidelity by Becky to the tearful Amelia in Becky's retreat at Pumpernickle. The characters of the book utilized in the play are confined in many respects to what we have seen in the house in Curzon Street and the revelation of Osborne's infidelity by Becky to the tearful Amelia in Becky's retreat at Pumpernickle. The characters of the book utilized in the play are confined in many respects to what we have seen in the house in Curzon Street and the revelation of Osborne's infidelity by Becky to the tearful Amelia in Becky's retreat at Pumpernickle.

McFADDEN'S FLATS.

Another story has been added to "McFadden's Row of Flats," making the fifth, and it promises that this latest addition has all modern improvements. "The Flats" this season has been entirely rewritten, all new faces and musical numbers, new and elaborate scenery, painted by Gates & Moran and Moss & Hamilton, handsome and costly costumes designed by Miss Vanderheyden, and electrical effects by the Menching Electric Co. The organization is composed of thirty well-known farce-comedy artists, among whom are "Billy Barry, Jr., a son of the late "Billy Barry," who convulsed the negroes in "McKenna's Filtration," "The Rising Generation," and numerous other Irish comedies. Mr. George Yeoman, one of the best delineators of German characters on the American stage, is seen to advantage as the rival of McFadden, aldermanic honors, Miss Jennie Lamont, as "Mrs. Murphy," queen of the Flats, is retained from last season's cast. Her brogue would do credit to a native from Cork. Klein & Ott Bros. are seen in several small parts and incidentally introduce a musical turn that is very above the average. They bring several new instruments and are decidedly up to date. Miss Katie Rooney, who for several seasons has been at the head of her own company, will delight us with her newest dances and songs and also her inimitable imitation of her father, the late "Pat" Rooney. Mr. Harry Watson is retained for this season in the part of Weary Willie, and has several new "stunts" on his bicycle. Mr. John Gilroy, the clever acrobatic comedian and dancer, is a capital exponent of "Terrence McSwatt," the Poet of the Flats. The two mischievous "Yellow Kids" are interpreted by the same irresistibly funny fellows as last year, both by Reiston and Jerry Sullivan, and both have brand new specialties.

Besides this brilliant array of talent there are sixteen handsome young ladies who are shown in several charming musical numbers and ensembles, which are greatly enhanced by their own effects. The costuming is said to be magnificent and sets off the charms of the young ladies to perfection. With the beautiful scenery, clever performers, entrancing and up-to-date music and ensembles, it is one of the best farceal

YOU EAT LUSCIOUS BIVALVES TO-DAY

Violations of Oyster Laws Common as Breaking the Ten Commandments.

EVERY LOAD A VIOLATION.

A Lot of Facts About the Oyster Industry and the Laws That Govern It Taking Seed Oysters from the State Much Practiced.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., August 31.—The oyster season opens to-morrow. It lasts until July 25th. The announcement is doubtless more interesting to some communities than the Newport News for it must be confessed that the people have been eating oysters here more or less all summer, and they were caught not a thousand miles from the city. Violations of the oyster laws are about as common as violations of the Ten Commandments, and have come to be looked on almost equally as a matter of course.

To the average landsman there is something extremely complicated about the legal phases of the oyster business, but the situation is not so complex after all. Bearing in mind the fact that the oyster laws are chiefly designed to protect the fine oyster lands of the State, matters are considerably simplified.

The eastern part of the State is divided into oyster districts, over each of which is an inspector. Hon. E. C. Madison holds the job for this district. The oysterman applies to the inspector for a license. There are two kinds of licenses. He chooses his choice. The one used by the ordinary tonger, who catches oys-

reviews on the road. The engagement is for Wednesday only.

FIELD'S MINSTRELS.

The A. G. Field's Greater Minstrels will make their annual bow to their legions of admirers at the Academy on Friday night. For years this magnificent company has regularly paid us a visit and every recurring engagement it has gone into history as an event of the season's amusement. Mr. Field has come to us each year with an assertion that he has something better to offer than upon his preceding visit, and to the credit of the company he would find this promise has always been faithfully kept. The non-day parade has always been a potent attraction with its multi-colored flags and banners floating gaily to the breeze, the dashing and nautically-attired performers walking ahead to the inspiring strains of Burt M. Cutler's military band. Upon every occasion when Mr. Field and his company have appeared upon our streets, thousands have witnessed the gay cavalcade. Their parade the coming year will be larger than ever before. Two large and complete military bands keep the air resounding with the latest and most inspiring music. For the concert feature of the parade the two bands consolidate, making the largest and finest band of musicians ever with the company, under the efficient leadership of Burt M. Cutler. A concert of popular creations is rendered and it is safe to say no such music is heard save from the large concert bands where large admission fees are charged. As usual the big parade will appear upon our streets promptly at 11 o'clock and it goes without saying that all who can will take advantage of the pleasing spectacle and listen to the music of the band.

"ALVIN JOSLIN."

Mr. Charles L. Davis will visit the Academy on Saturday for two performances of his remarkable play "Alvin Joslin." Mr. Davis has not been seen in this city for four years, and his return will appeal to farce comedy lovers.

The medium in which Mrs. Davis appears is the same that he has played for years. With it he built the Alvin Joslin Theatre, in Pittsburgh, one of the finest play-houses in this country. He has bought thousands of dollars' worth of diamonds with the profits of this farce and has made two or three million dollars in the process. In fact of such an array of facts any description or opinion of the play would be superfluous.

AT THE CASINO.

The Casino will have a very attractive vaudeville bill this week. It will be one of the best of the season for the vaudeville theatre will have run its course by the third week in September, when the scene of action will be transferred to the Bijou.

Among the earliest of the big attractions will be the "Crazy Guy Company," and will consist of the vaudeville production of "Mazepa." This play will be brought here from its successful run in New York and will be given with all the elaborate scenery and effects and with a company of forty people.

This week and next really mark a hiatus in the affairs of the vaudeville theatre. Good features are as rare as a dodo bird, for the combinations are just starting out and the other players who have not been engaged by the vaudeville and farce comedy companies are at work in New York and are not working at all except at rehearsals for the new things with which they propose to startle the public.

The Richmond public has shown its appreciation of Mr. Wells' efforts in the past to provide the best that he could get for their entertainment. This season the manager has gone infinitely beyond anything that it was ever expected could be done in a vaudeville house. Already over thirty great comedy combinations have been booked for the season. They will employ the best elements of the headliners of vaudeville. They will scintillate with bright, new music and be filled with farcical situations and clever dialogue. They come full, on time, too, for the public taste turns now more than ever in the direction of light entertainment of this character and the change will undoubtedly be for the mutual benefit and advantage of the manager and his public.

This week at the Casino will introduce a very strong vaudeville bill. It will be the last opportunity for one that the public will have of enjoying this class of entertainment for some time to come. Mr. Wells has bent his energies towards the introduction of a very strong bill in order to maintain the record of the past two weeks. There will be no novelty, of course, for no vaudeville bill is sold without it. There will be a generous proportion of bright, clever comedy, both musical and farcical, and there will be wonderful feats of dexterity of hand and limb. It will be a typical Bijou bill, introducing the best talent available in New York. Mr. Wells spent three days in the metropolis arranging for this week's entertainment and the result of his efforts remains to be seen.

PLANTERS LICENSE.

The planter's license is applied upon weekly sales. The applicant pays the same fee as the other man and gets a certificate. Thereafter he must report every Saturday, under oath, to some magistrate the amount of bushels sold, rather, the number of bushels sold and the price thereof, and pay at the rate of 40 cents on every \$100. He takes the affidavit to the inspector, who gives him a receipt for it and this receipt constitutes his license for the week following. He is given three days of grace in which to get the receipt in.

The penalty for oystering without license, in either case, is a fine of from \$10 to \$100.

Under favorable conditions, with good weather and fairly good luck, a tonger with a boy to cull his catch, ought to get from 20 to 25 bushels of oysters a day. In the fall the price he gets ranges from 10 to 12 cents, going up to from 15 to 18 cents about Christmas time, and advancing to from 15 to 25 cents in the spring. Thus, the tonger ought to have no difficulty paying the small license required of him, though he is often unfortunate and unlucky, suffers much from bad weather and has an admittedly hard life of it generally.

When the oysterman provides himself with a license he finds himself restricted in the privileges granted him. Under no circumstances must an oysterman or the shucker that is under 2 1/2 inches long. For this contingency, cull laws are provided. If the tongers were allowed to send to market all the oysters brought up, irrespective of size, the bivalve would soon become distressingly scarce. The small oyster must be thrown back, replanted or sold to a planter for replanting. The oysterman is at liberty to get his catch anywhere within the Baylor survey, which is supposed to include all

the oyster rock in the James, but he must conform to the restrictions imposed by law.

AN IMAGINARY LINE.

From Day's Point, in Isle of Wight county, to the mouth of Deep creek, in Warwick county, there extends an imaginary line known as the "cull line." South of this the tonger is within the "clean cull line" and is entitled to keep anything above three inches in length. All oysters above three inches in length, all under this he must throw back. North of the "cull line" he is within the "rough cull line" and can hold on to anything that is an oyster.

In both cases he is charged absolutely to throw all shells back into the water and must not under any circumstances take them ashore; and though he may catch whatever size oyster he likes in the "rough cull" district he cannot market anything under 2 1/2 inches. The rest must be planted.

Violation of the cull law is punishable by a fine of from \$10 to \$100.

The law is a good one, but it is constantly violated. Expert authority declares that a boat load of oysters never

Realizing that later on prices would be considerably higher, we sent all our buyers to the market when it was dull to buy special supplies for a *Rousing Housefurnishing Sale*. September is the month when most people want to buy these goods, but few merchants are ready to show complete lines. We are ready

Autumn Housefurnishing Sale!

(To Begin To-Morrow, Monday, September 2d.)

With Big, Bright New Stocks

at much under usual prices. If you have moved, or are moving, or going to housekeeping, or remaining where you are—in either event you'll need some supplies that you can buy better and cheaper now during this sale than you can afterwards. Under no consideration can we promise to duplicate these low prices again.

We can only mention a few of the items in each department to-day—there are hundreds perhaps better, and it will be infinitely more satisfactory for you to see them.

Every Item in This Sale is an Extraordinary Offer.



Autumn Housefurnishing Sale.

Table Linens, Towels.

- Fringed Doilies, 25c per dozen. Red and blue checks, good value. Glass Doilies, blue and red checks, for 39c.
- A Damask Special for 25c a yard. Bleached, 58 inches wide, heavy. Bleached Damask, 66 inches wide, Irish linen, 39c.
- A Damask Bargain at 59c yard. 70 inches wide, all linen, heavy. Dinner Napkins, extra quality, at \$1.00 per dozen.
- Twiled Crash, great value, 3 1/2c. Bleached, 16 inches wide, heavy weight. Linen Finish Crash, blue border, for 5c.

- A Loosely Woven Crash, 8 1/2c. Absorbent, pure bleached, a good weave. Russia Crash, pure white, a bargain at 7c.
- Large Hemmed Huck Towels for 12 1/2c. This is a fine bleached Huck Towel with narrow woven red border—a towel especially suited for the toilet and excellent for hotel and boarding house use.
- All-Linear Crash for 10c. 19 inches wide, exceptionally cheap at 10c.
- Extra Large Towel for 5c. Red border, 20 inches wide by 40 inches long. Huck Towels, hemmed, red border, for 10c.
- A Special Bath Towel for 11c. Bleached, a great towel offering.

Our New Blankets.

- We claim for our Blankets superiority in both warp and filling—the best and cleanest wool—it will wash well (not "mill up" and harden), look well and wear well.
- California Blankets, a fine quality, 11-4 size, one-inch silk binding, with red, blue and pink borders, a \$5 value, per pair, \$3.98.
- Soft Fleece Wool Blankets, in white and sanitary gray, full 11-4 size, with white stripe borders, pink, blue and red, per pair, \$3.00.
- Home-made Scarlet Blankets, all pure wool warp and filling, zephyr stitched edge, fast colors, per pair \$2.98.
- Fleece Wool Blankets, with wide borders, one-inch silk binding, extra value, per pair, \$2.50.

Sheets and Sheeting.

- Pillow Cases for 8c. 45 inches wide by 36 inches long, cheap. Pillow Cases, large size, well made, for 12 1-2c.
- Heavy Sheets for 39c. Single-Size size 1 3-4 yards by 2 1-2 yards. Sheets for medium size bed for 50c.
- Sheets Torn and Ironed for 50c. Double-bed size 2 1-4 yards by 2 1-2 yards.
- A Casing Bargain at 10c. Good widths, fine quality, a wonder. Unbleached Sheeting, 2 1-4 yards wide, for 16c.
- A Sheeting Special at 19c. Unbleached, 2 1-2 yards wide, a good weaver. Bleached Sheeting 2 1-4 yards wide, for 19c.
- Exceptional Sheeting for 22c. Bleached, 2 1-2 yards wide, very cheap.

Draperies and Curtain Muslins.

- We have purchased a big stock of new Oriental and floral patterns in all kinds of draperies for Portieres, Window and Hall Curtains, Mantel Lambrequins, and Chair and Couch Covers. We bought this lot under price and they will find quick sale. We can only mention a few items—there are hundreds.
- 36-inch Denims for furniture covering, sofa pillows and curtains, all colors, in Oriental and floral designs, 17c value, per yard, 12 1/2c.
- Silkoline Draperies, full yard wide, large range of colorings, the 12-1-2 and 15c quality, per yard, 10c.
- Fine Curtain Muslin 36 inches wide, dots and figures, trimmed stitched edge, 25c quality, per yard, 12 1/2c.
- White Curtain Muslin, with colored dots and figures, full yard wide, 19c value, per yard, 10c.
- Silkoline Draperies, in Oriental and Persian designs, best quality, 12 1/2c.



Autumn Housefurnishing Sale.



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The New Silks

- To-day we tell of a few early arrivals in Silks, especially suited for Fall Waists.
- The New Striped Taffetas, 98c. Solid colored grounds, overcast with white lace, stripes between narrow stripes of black satin, giving them the effect of being striped with ribbon and lace. Nine different combinations to choose from.
- New Polka-Dot Stripes, \$1.00. Plain Taffeta grounds with woven Polka-dots of white and black, forming a decided stripe. Six different combinations.
- Guaranteed Black Taffeta, 79c. 21 inches wide, good lustrous black and guaranteed to wear well.
- Guaranteed Gros Grain, 75c. 19 inches wide, smooth even finish, elegant black and guaranteed to wear well.
- Guaranteed Peau de Soie, \$1.00. 20 inches wide, good heavy weight, rich and lustrous and guaranteed to wear well.

New Fall Dress Goods

- The new Fall Dress Goods are constantly arriving. The present indications are that plain colors will have the call for full dresses, and stripes, dots and figures, as well as the solid colors, for waists.
- All-Wool Cheviot, 39c. 36 inches wide, all pure wool and good weight, in navy, gray, tan, reseda, cardinal, and black. This is a most excellent value.
- All-Wool Venetians, 50c. 36 inches wide, all pure wool, smooth, even twill, in twenty different shades.
- Habit Cloths, 75c. 50 inches wide, all pure wool, fifteen fall shades to select from.
- New Corded Waist Cloths, 75c. 29 inches wide, all pure wool, with large and narrow cords, giving them a tucked effect, in light blue, cadet, old rose, cardinal gray, castor and black.
- All-Wool Plaids, 29c. 36 in. wide, all pure wool and specially suited for separate skirts and children's school dresses, original price 50c a yard, but we offer this lot to close at 29c a yard.

Two Specials in Black Dress Goods.

- All-Wool Storm Serge, 39c. 42 inches wide, a regular 50c value.
- Black Whipcord, 59c. 42 inches wide, all pure wool, a regular 75c value.
- New Clocks, Best Works. \$7.00 Clocks, large size, new designs, 8 day movements, strike every half-hour, Cathedral gong, works are guaranteed, special this week, \$4.89.
- \$10.00 Clocks, large size, fancy designs, 8 day movements, strike every half-hour, Cathedral gong, cases are black with porcelain trimming, special price, \$5.59.

MILLER & RHOADS.

oysters out of the State. It is to prevent for his seed and can get no benefit from them until they grow, he does not sell his "oyster seed" any more readily than a farmer sells his seed corn or seed potatoes. Dredging is emphatically discouraged in Virginia. One may still dredge here, but in order to do so he must go through with enough red tape to make him sick. One rarely, or never, sees a dredge now a days in Virginia waters.

These, in brief, are the laws and rules governing the oyster business. They are a very much-abused set of laws and rules, and it is a serious question whether they have adequately served their purpose, though it cannot be disputed that they are better than no laws at all. Revisions of the oyster laws would, it is generally believed, be advantageous. Some hold that it would be best to strike them from the books entirely, but their position is admitted to be untenable.

Miss Mattie S. Harris, who has been visiting friends in this city, left last night for her home, in Wilmington, N. C.