THEATRES

Academy of Music.
Monday night—Durno, Radcliffe attraction.
Tuesday night—"The Raven."
Wednesday and Thursday nights—"Who's Your Friend?"
Friday, Saturday, matinee and night—"A Knight for a Day."

Bijou Theatre.
Miss Cecil Spooner, in "The Girl From Texas," and "The Girl Raffles."

Lubin Theatre.
Continuous Vaudeville.

Colonial Theatre.
Vaudeville.

Durno, the Trickster.

There will be a "full house" at the Academy Monday night to greet the incomparable trickster, Durno and his

REUSCHLING & CO.,
"A Night in the Orient," at the Lubin.

company of mystery workers and fun-makers.

The Radcliffe Bureau claims this will be one of the strongest attractions to be presented in Richmond under its management this season, and a never-to-be-forgotten evening of fun and merriment is promised those who attend.

Known throughout the United States and Canada as the cleverest magician and ventriloquist now before the public, Durno is to-day at the very zenith of his wonderful career.

His program from beginning to end is a continual round of startling surprises and mirth-provoking features, which are enjoyed alike by young and old.

Seats are now on sale at the box-office of the Academy of Music.

DURNO, MAGICIAN.

Henry Ludlowe in "The Raven."

Edgar Allan Poe, whose love romances have provided the material for George Hazelton's new play, "The Raven," with Henry Ludlowe as the star, which will be seen here at the Academy on Tuesday night, was, beyond doubt, a most remarkable man. If his biographers are to be believed, and there is no reason why they should not, he was not only distinguished because of his great intellect and genius, but at the same time was remarkably striking in appearance—slight, but erect of figure, athletic and well molded, of middle height, but so proportioned as to seem every inch a man; his head finely modeled, with a forehead and temples large, and not unlike those of Bonaparte; his hand fair as a woman's—in all, a graceful and always a well-dressed gentleman. Handsome, intellectual face, the dark and clustering hair, the clear and sad gray-violet eyes—large, lustrous, glowing with expression—the mouth, whose smile, at least, was sweet and winning. To think of Poe is to imagine the soft musical voice (a delicate thing in man or woman), the easy, quiet movement, the bearing that no failure could humble—that he possessed not only the gift of beauty, but the passionate love of beauty, either of which may be as great a blessing or peril as can befall a human being stretched upon the rack of this tough world.

In assuming the character of Edgar Allan Poe in "The Raven," Henry Ludlowe will give to the part the ideal Poe, as he is best known to the millions of people who are familiar with his poems, and who are conversant with his life history. That he was of the romantic type—the ideal lover—a sentimentalist—in everything the poet—but in no way a dreamer.

Harry Beresford in "Who's Your Friend?"

"Who's Your Friend?" with that "odd comedian," Harry Beresford, supported by the same company and the same beautiful production as given in New York, will be given at the Academy Wednesday and Thursday.

The announcement that the authors of the comedy of "Who's Your Friend?" are Messrs. Harry and Edward Paulton, of "Erminie" and "Niobe" fame, should be in itself a guarantee of a masterpiece of drollery is without saying; and with the leading role in the hands of a comedian of the capabilities of Mr. Harry Beresford, whose past performances in "The Wrong Mr. Wright" and "The Woman Hater," have stamped him as one of America's leading lights of comedy, surrounded by New York's production and caste, the engagement should prove a particularly eventful one in the annals of 1908-'9 stagedom.

"A Knight for a Day."

Of the many laughable features of the big musical gaiety, "A Knight for a Day," which Manager B. C. Whitney sends to the Academy on New Year, matinee and night, and Saturday, matinee and night, there is probably none that has excited more comment and created more genuine laughter than the famous elopement scene. It comes just previous to the ending of the first act, when the "servant lady" and the "near-knight" decide to elope in the light of the harvest moon. The "servant lady" is lodging on the second floor of the dormitory of a young ladies' boarding school at Evanston, Ill., and on the same floor of the same dormitory is the French chef of the institution, who is a rival of the "near-knight" for the affection of the "servant lady." The "near-knight" enters with a ladder, places it at the window of the chef and ascends, only to find his rival, instead of his lady-love. He makes a quick slide down the ladder, and, undaunted, continues the search. His diligence is finally rewarded, and, after he has carried the belongings of the "servant lady" down the ladder—and they include a trunk, a parrot and several bundles—he returns for the lady herself. They have about completed the descent when she discovers that she has forgotten her powder puff, and the ascent is again made, a fresh peal of laughter from the audience greeting the progress of each rung. Then they are discovered by the other characters in the play, and mirth reigns supreme until the electrical see-saw finale.

Miss Spooner at the Bijou.

For the second and last week of her engagement at the Bijou Theatre, Miss Cecil Spooner will present two plays, one of them new to local play-goers, the other an established favorite. On Monday night, Tuesday, matinee and night, and on Wednesday night, Miss Spooner will present the new four-act comedy-drama by Charles T. Dazey, "The Girl from Texas." "The Girl from Texas" is full of action from the beginning. There is not a dull moment during the entire performance. Beginning on the Hudson, where May Percy, the girl from Texas, is sent by her uncle to his rich relatives to be educated and polished for her position in the social world, the scene shifts to Kenwood Manor, in Ireland, where a ball is given by Lord Kenwood in honor of the young lady, who has fallen in love with her against the wishes of his proud sister. Here the usual villain gets in his work, and succeeds in placing the innocent girl in an apparently compromising position. As a result Lord Kenwood takes sudden leave to join the army, but on his way to the village he is caught by the tenants, who have revolted against the overseer, and held a prisoner in the Witches' Cave. May Percy learns where he has gone, and arrives at the cave just in time to save him from death at the hands of the mob. The girl is disguised as a boy, and not recognized by Kenwood. With her uncle, the girl then returns to Texas, where hearts are big and natures loyal, and where one is not apt to believe wrong of one upon the word of another. Here she is followed by Lord Kenwood, who has since learned of her innocence. Cupid gets busy, and all is well with the lovers.

On Thursday afternoon and night, Friday, New Year's Day, matinee and night, and on Saturday, for two performances, Miss Spooner will present the play of love, mystery and adventure that created such a favorable impression here last season, "The Girl Raffles."

Week at Lubin's.

At the Lubin this week a bill that should please every one seeking amusement will be offered. It will be a unique contribution to the holiday amusement. Among the good things to be seen and heard is the Mysterious Reuschling Company, presenting for the first time in the South "A Night in the Orient." Among the mystifying illusions seen in "A Night in the Orient" will be "One, Two Three," "The Appearing Geisha Girl" and "Yoi Koi Ypi," the great Chinese immigration mystery.

The other two feature numbers are withheld that the patrons of the pretty little playhouse may be surprised. Needless to say they will be the very cream of the profession and top notchers in their respective lines. There will be music, comedy, mystery and art so blended as to make a visit to the Lubin during the New Year's week one to be remembered.

There will be the illustrated songs, which have become a feature attraction at the Lubin, and the ever-popular motion pictures, true to life, real nature, real entertaining as well as instructive.

Continuous performances are given daily, commencing at 2 each afternoon and running until 11 P. M.

THE CANDLE LIGHT GIRLS, IN "A KNIGHT FOR A DAY."

SCENE FROM "WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?" WITH HARRY BERESFORD.

MISS JANE FERRELL,
with Harry Beresford.

WHO IS KUBIAK?

Contrary Reports Shroud Fighter's Identity with Veil of Mystery.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., December 26.—Soldier, sailor, policeman, wrestler, boxer, with aspirations on the heavyweight championship, age 22 or 24, born somewhere in the vicinity of Grand Rapids, Mich., is a composite picture, according to reports, of the Ceasarean qualities of one Al Kubiak, heralded as Philadelphia's latest find in the fighting world.

New York, via James de Forest, not wireless, says Kubiak is a "ringer," having graced the roped enclosure in many fistic encounters in Charleston under the robust title of "John Daly, the butcher," and came to Philadelphia disguised as a novice in order to shine in easy bouts.

Kubiak's manager with great indignation denied all of the charges issuing from the great metropolis, and gave his version of Kubiak's career. He is now ably assisted, but by no means corroborated, by dispatches from Lynchburg, Va., and Detroit, Mich., which places have risen up in arms in defense of their favorite son. But, strange as it may appear, when viewed closely, none of these reports seem to fit at all with the other and make the latest Christmas puzzle on the market, "Who is Kubiak?"

Kubiak's manager claims that his youthful protege was born near Grand Rapids, and at a suitable age donned Uncle Sam's blue and served in the Florida coast artillery. When his term of enlistment expired by great exertion he worked his way into this city of Brotherly Love and timidly announced that he would like to take on a few fighters. This was obligingly granted, and the youthful newcomer proceeded to put them away with great eclat, ending up by beating Jim Stewart, of New York.

This fight was responsible for Jimmy de Forrest, who has more than a friendly interest in Stewart, sending forth his ultimatum to the world at large relating to the life and fighting career of "John Daly, the Butcher," of Charleston.

But what Mr. De Forrest says is not true, according to Detroit and Lynchburg. Detroit claims that two years ago Kubiak, who is now twenty-two years old, was a member of its police force, and after serving for a year went into the wrestling game and made good. Later he took up boxing, which he found to be a most pleasant pastime, and finally ended up in Philadelphia, where he was "discovered."

REUSCHLING & CO.,
"A Night in the Orient," at the Lubin.

Then, not to be outdone, Lynchburg comes along with a statement from Ed Adamson, the Boston wrestler, who "discovered" Kubiak, and who says the young man is twenty-four years old, had participated in seven bouts previously to coming to Philadelphia, served in the Navy three years and is a wrestler of merit, having had both of his ears bruised on the mat, and that Adamson put him on his first match at Charleston, S. C., only six months ago.

Now, such reports as these are naturally more or less misleading and result in only making lovers of the game in Philadelphia wonder which one is the only true and authentic account of the fighter. However, they should not be discouraged, for some day there will arise in the land one who can speak with authority and satisfy all skeptical minds whether or not Kubiak is an oldtimer passing himself off as a novice, or whether he really is a newcomer in the game of which he appears to be a pretty speedy exponent.

Time will tell.

HENRY LUDLOWE, IN "THE RAVEN."

CECIL SPOONER, BIJOU THEATRE.

Academy of Music,
MONDAY, DECEMBER 28TH.
The Great Holiday Attraction,
..DURNO..
The Mysterious and Company
in
The White House of Magic, Mystery and Fun.
This is a Radcliffe Attraction.
Reserved seats now on sale.
Best Seats, $1.00.

MAJESTIC
Zeda,
THE FIERY DRAGON.
ALL NEXT WEEK.
Greatest Vaudeville Bill in Richmond.
Vaudeville—Pictures—Music.
Admission, 10c; Ladies and Children 5c at matinees.

ACADEMY, Friday, and Saturday,
MATINEE EACH DAY.
Big Musical Event.
B. C. WHITNEY PRESENTS
A KNIGHT FOR A DAY
With B. C. Whitney's Merry Musical Sixty, Including
FRANK DESHON
The roar that won't subside! The tuneful tri-city triumph! The funniest musical show in years. Two surpassing spectacular sensations—the see-saw of a 1,000 lights; the giant falling star curtain. The wit of the town. The belles of a town. The airs of the town. Staged by Gus Sohlke.
PRICES: $1.50, $1.00, 75c, 50c.

ACADEMY---Wed. and Thurs.---Matinee Thurday
"THAT ODD COMEDIAN,"
Mr. HARRY BERESFORD
IN THE NEW YORK-CHICAGO-LONDON COMEDY SUCCESS,
"WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?"
BY HARRY AND EDWARD PAULTON.
DIRECTION OF EDGAR FORREST CO.
PRICES: Matinee, 25c to $1.00; Night, 25c to $1.50.

ACADEMY---Tuesday Night Only
HAZELTON & NORTH PRESENT
HENRY LUDLOWE
In "The Raven"
Founded upon the Life and Love Romance of EDGAR ALLAN POE.
A BEAUTIFUL ROMANTIC PLAY,
Portraying the life of a great man, in which there is much brilliant comedy.
By GEORGE HAZELTON, Author "Mistress Nell," Etc.
PRICES: 25c TO $1.50.

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LUBIN THEATRE
CREAM OF VAUDEVILLE
LATEST AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN LIFE MOTION PICTURES.
ILLUSTRATED SONGS
Continuous Performance from 2 P. M. to 11 P. M. No Intermission.
10c—GENERAL ADMISSION—10c.
5c—LADIES AND CHILDREN AT MATINEES—5c.
Surprises Galore — Get in the Push

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Matinee New Year's Day
THE SENSATION
THE SUCCESS
Second and Last Week December 28th
MISS CECIL
SPOONER
THE DAINTY COMEDIENNE IN
FIRST HALF: THE GIRL From Texas
SECOND HALF: THE GIRL RAFFLES
Souvenirs Tuesday and Thursday at Matinees.
MATINEES AS USUAL