********************************* AMUSEMENTS.

patrons of the local theaters were given an upon the Boyd as one of the finest selves of the privilege and the receipts of the play houses did not fatten the exchequers of either their managers or those Grand Opera company had failed to attract the people the week previous, so it was hardly expected to do much the closing performance, but the other attractions were looked upon to draw good houses.

"Tennessee's Pardner," a splendid melodrama, opened the week at Boyd's on Sunday and did only a fair business. Digby Bell followed with the "Hoosier Doctor" at the same house on Monday, closing Wednesday. The "Hoosier Doctor" is a comedy-drama of considerable merit. While Mr. Bell is one of the best known actors on the stage, yet the people did not seem to want to see either play or star. Willie Collier closed the week with a laughable farce of exceptional merit called "The Man from Mexico." It did better business than its predecessors, yet Collier and his managers were disappointed. The Creighton was dark during the greater part of the week, which left only one legitimate play house open. "Omaha people have either spent all of their money attending the exposition this summer or else are saving it up for Christmas. I don't know which," said Manager Burgess of Boyd's, "but we are going to give them some attractions after this week that they can't stay away from. We have had chances to fill all of our open dates with inferior attractions, but from now on the Boyd will be run as a strictly first class theater and when we can't get that class of attractions we will keep the house dark."

Those who attended the performance of the 'Hoosler Doctor' at Boyd's last week were surprised to see the strong part that Laura Joyce Bell had in the play and many remarked that she was really the star rather than Mr. Bell. In nearly all of the scenes Mrs. Bell's part of the old grandma who was a hater of all men stood out in bold relief, while Mr. Bell-Dr. Willow-was put in the background so to speak. It is very doubtful if Augustus Thomas wrote the part so strong and it looks very like the part had been "fattened" by Mrs. Bell. However it is all in the family and the piece has two stars which should only add to its drawing power.

"I find Omaha audiences more cold than those of any other town that I visit," said Willie Collier, who closed an engagement at Boyd's theater last evening. "I don't know whether it is because they do not want me and my play. Yet they seem to be pleased and amused in a measure, and I am going to fight it out with them by coming to your city every year until I can win their favor or else have them tell me that they don't want me any more. My play draws 'standing room only' houses nearly every place else we play, but can't do it in Omaha and I will see me every year until I find out. I am writing a new play myself, which I expect to pro uce next season, and I will see how it will go with them. The title will be 'Mr.

Charles W. Couldock, whose serious illness was announced in last week's paper, died at his home in New York Sunday evening of dropsy of the heart. His is the latest death during a period remarkable for the number of notable members of the theatrical who have passed away. Mr. Couldock was the oldest actor in America, having reached 83, and he has been upon the stage for more than half a century. This veteran of the theater left behind a record rich in achievement and a life respected by all who knew him. For some unknown cause his fame in the years of his maturity rested upon an impersonation hardly worthy of his powers as an actor, but theatrical history will set him down for what he was really worth. In other circumstances he might have left a deeper impression as an actor of the classic parts, for his career once promised eminence in such parts. It was, however, his fortune to be cast in other lines and the younger generation remembers him only for the work he performed in his later days. Within less than two years the American stage has also lost Mrs. John Drew, Thomas Keene, Joseph Proctor, Charles T. Parsloe, W. J. Scanlon, Harry Meredith, Charlotte Thompson, Margaret Mather, Fanny Davenport and others who adorned it.

The securing, last Tuesday, of the control of the Columbia theater, St. Louis, and the Great Northern theater, Chicago, by the colossal vaudeville organization of which Morris Meyerfeld, president of the Walter Orpheum company, is the head, has entirely changed the complexion of the vaudeville business of this country. Where formerly there were seven great vaudeville organizations operating, there are now but twothe Walter Orpheum company and the Keith & Proctor company. Everything in the country outside of New York, Philadelphia, Albany and one or two other cities in the east is controlled by the Walter Orpheum company. Their circuit of theaters numbers thirty-nine and extend from Chicago and New Orleans to the Pacific coast. Of this number of theaters the Walter Orpheum company personally own eight. The vaude ville companies who were welded into one mighty and powerful organization, whose powers are dictatorial, are the Great Northern company, controlling the theater of that name in Chicago; the Columbia theater, St. Louis; the John Hopkins company, with theaters in New Orleans, Memphis, Atlanta, Louisville and the Hopkins theater, Chicago; the Kohl & Castle company, controlling the Haymarket, Chicago Opera House and Olympic theater, Chicago, and the Walter Orpheum company, with theaters in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Denver, Cincinnati, M lwaukee and Omaha.

Between this giant combine and the two companies controlling New York and the several eastern cities there is no ill feeling. They will work in conjunction and trade acts. There are rumors that the big organization will some day in the near future invade the far eastern territory. The organization as at present constituted is beneficial for the vaudeville performer in that it gives him a booking for every week in the Into Court" with May Irwin, and later with year if he so desires, as vaudeville the- Marie Dressler? Then the Rice-Irwin kiss, aters do not close in the summer season. Every theater on this circuit will be given the same people. Omaha in its turn will witness the same shows as do the theater goers of all the big cities of the country. The bookings for this concern are done in the people could not get enough, are the Chicago. San Francisco, New York and all Rossow midgets, the smallest men on earth. the larger European cities.

The passing of the Creighton theater from brings to mind the fact that Paxton & Bur- of all kinds, such as head balancing, feats the first and only managers of the of strength, boxing and tumbling. Creighton, originally intended it to be a out. It was while on a trip to New York | Held, the famous French chanteuse. during the first month of the Creighton's exas many first-class plays and players for it ity are perfectly formed and a bushel basket as he wanted and it was this fact that in- could easily accommodate them. George get the best attractions I. W. Miner, who | "coon" song "I'll Be True to My Honey

Three plays considerably above the aver- was then managing the Boyd theater for L. age, one night of grand opera and a week of | M. Crawford, decided to turn it into a popuvaudeville performance as good as any pre- lar-priced house, much to the regret of many sented here during the season were what local theater goers who had always looked opportunity of seeing the past week, yet houses in the west. In less than a year comparatively few of them availed them. Paxton & Burgess became the lessess of this house also and at once transferred their brought to America by Hammerstein fast first-class attractions to it and putting the season and their importation at the time Woodward company into the Creighton, and was the subject of much newspaper gossip of the companies to any great extent. The again reducing it to a popular-priced house, where it remained until the Orpheum company leased it for vanteville. In the opinion of many popular-priced attractions at both of these houses have had the effect of | balls. injuring the theatrical business of the city, \$1.50 to see the average companies that come at the present day and it is for this reason that Manager Burgess of Boyd's theater has decided to book only the very best attrac- ments tions for his house.

Coming Events.

"On the Suwance River" will be seen at Boyd's theater for three days, commencing matinee today, December 4, with a special ladies' matince Tuesday. The action of the story is laid near the little village of Suwanee in Florida, and hinges on the Clayton family, one of the oldest in the district. Colonel Clayton, an old planter, has given a mortgage on his estate; the day the mortgage is due Colonel Clayton and old Caleb Croc, a hard-hearted miser who made the loan, quarrel. The old planter is murdered in the mixup by the miser. Dora Clayton, the colonel's adopted daughter, returns from the north on the day of the quarrel, whither she has been to consult optic experts regarding her sight, and the excitement attending the struggle and her foster father's murder before her very eyes Europe. She has several offers to appear cause the complete less of her sight. In in London in the spring. the struggle the murderer is compelled to strike the colonel's son a blow on the head. leaving him in a comotore or imbecilic state. After the murder the assassin manages to make away with the money which was to have discharged the mortgage. One of the strongest scenes shows

forest picture on the banks of the famous stream. Dora, being left alone, is wandering aimicssly about, in the course of which she starts to cross a high wooden bridge, fr m which several planks have been removed known aimicesly about, in the course of which she hurriedly by the villain of the story in the hope that the blind girl will fall through the bridge into the ravine below. Just as it seems positive that she is to step into this trap the old refrain of "Way Down Upon the Suwanee River" comes floating through the woods from a band of plantation singers near by. Dora, hearing the song, stops, listens for a moment, and, turning, goes in the direction of the singers. During the third act in the course of ar attempted abduction of the blind girl by the villains, who want to get her out of the way, a struggle ensues during which her foster brother, intervening, receives another blow on the head, the effect of which is to would like to know why. Therefore, you bring back his reason from the state it has so long been. He, thinking that it is the same struggle in which his father was killed, denounces Caleb Croc as the real assassin. thus clearing the mystery of his father's murder. Of course, the old familiar theme of the mortgage is happily disposed of and all ends peacefully "On the Suwanee River."

Beginning with the matinee Sunday after-

noon Manager Cole of the popular Trocadero will present a bill of unprecedented merit which must add materially to the coular favor in which this excellent amusement resort is held and more than sustain its past acknowledged reputation for premier merit. The chief feature of the week's bill will be the troupe of royal Japanese acrobatic equilibrists, eight in number, two of them being feminine Japanese. They are under the leadership of Prince Akimoto, the possessor of wizard-like powers as a balancer and perch performer. This company of performers has absolutely no equals and will put on a number of acts of startling interest. Next in interest will be the schievements of Pearl Andrews, the queen of mimicry, in her impersonations of Yvette Guilbert and other noted characters, and her presentation of the "Inanimate Music Sheet," a travesty on Anna Held's famous "Animate Music Sheet." The sisters Leon. two astonishingly clever lady acrobats; Kenno and Wayne, two refined burlesque artists in inimitable sketches; Lewis and Evans, operatic travesty artists, and Leon and Miller, comedy horizontal bar performers; Misses Stevens and O'Byron, a gifted vocal duo, and finally the two Paolis, eccentric European acrobatic clowns, accompanied by their intelligent and accomplished bag-punching and foot ball dog. Patrons of this ever popular resort can rest assured that there will be no interludes for yawning in this bill, but that it will be a catchy and intensely entertaining program the week and matinees Sunday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons. In deference to terprise has been a marked favorite since its opening, no refreshments will be served Manager Cole is confident that the bill for the week is one which will engage the interest of lovers of refined vaudeville and afford them an entertainment that will commend itself to every one of them, and about which they will be enthusiastically talking for many days to come. The past record of crowded houses is not destined to suffer from this week's menu of art and wit.

Today marks the debut of the Creighton theater as a high class vaudeville house. day. The name to be borne by it in the future will be the Creighton-Orpheum.

The latter half of the hyphenated title has expression to the following thoughts: become synonymous of success when applied to theaters of the vaudeville class. A most meritorious introductory bill has been se-lected. John C. Rice and Sallie C hen head it. Both have entertained Omaha audiences before on several occasions. They

were farce comedy stars then. Now they scintillate in the vaudeville heavens. What theatergoer does not remember Rice's nimble feet, funny arch writhings and his humorous nasal speech in "Courted

since popularized by the biograph. The vehicle chosen for the display of this couple's talents is entitled "Our Honeymoon." Another couple who need no introduction to the Omaha public, and of whom They visited Omaha with the Hopkins Transoceanic company several seasons ago. Since that visit they have entirely changed their a legitimate play house to that of vaudeville act. They are now seen in athletic feats

In addition to this, the midgets display popular-priced house but for only a trifle their talents as comedians and dancers. over a month were their intentions carried Charles Rossow gives imitations of Anna

Frank Rossow is but 2 feet 114 inches in istence that Manager Burgess learned that height and his brother Charles in three he would have little or no trouble in booking inches shorter. Both these atoms of humanduced him to change the policy of the house. Evans, known as the "Honey Boy" because Shortly after the Creighton commenced to of his being the creator and singer of that

that have outlived the brief period of life the average song of the sort is allotted, is another of the offerings. Evans is blessed with a most melodious voice. He has three new ones that have already become popular wherever sung. In the introduction of his songs he uses some very clever monologue that is an appreciable addition to his act. The high class European vaudeville is represented by the Carl Dammon troupe of acrobats, consisting of two male and two female performers. These are the people who created a furore in New York at Hammerstein's Olympia theater. They were because of the large salary that had to be offered them to cross the pond, In their work they set at variance all the laws of nature. They are said to be human rubber

In a musical way the Tobins, Mr. and as once in the habit of seeing fairly good Mrs., are sure to be favorites with this plays for 25 to 75 cents, theater goers were week's audiences. None of the horse play hard to re-educate into paying 75 cents to and subterfuge seen in the average musical this city and it is only the very best at- the act in the supposed belief that it entractions that will draw them to any extent | hances it. They mingle the highly classic with the popular music of the day on a most varied assortment of unique instru-

> A knowledged premiers in their line are Zazelle and Vernon, the triple horizontal bar athletes. Some seemingly impossible feats are performed by them. These gentlemen do all their work, it is said, with a graceful dexterity. They inject considerable comedy throughout their act.

> Plays and Players. Emma Nevada is singing opera in Italy. "Cyrano de Bergerac" has been translated into Russian, German, Italian and Portuguese.

> Denman Thompson is playing "The Ole Homestead" still McKee Rankin has taken Nance O'Neill and a dramatic company to Honolulu. Della Fox and Hugh Chilvers, it is said, vill be married this week in St. Louis. There is little likelihood that Georgia Cayvan will resume work on the stage. Lillian Russell arrived last Saturday from

Lottie Collins' attempt at suicide is said to have been caused by grieving over the illness of her little son. Camille D'Arville may go to Germany

soon to Join a stock opera company under management of Gustav Amberg. James K. Hackett is the first male star whom Daniel Frohman has managed since he brought out E. H. Sothern a dozen years

Tim Murphy has a new play called "The Carpetbagger," with which he is doing splendid business in the west. He will be seen here in January.

MUSIC.

CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF The all-absorbing question which is being asked daily by the musicians of the country is "What shall be done to interest the people in the advancement and cause of music?" Various means and methods have been suggested and clubs have been formed in the nature of social musicales and card games, in which one uses pieces of pasteboard on which are printed the names of composers, operas, etc., instead of the more familiar faces of the king of spades and the queen of hearts. Recitals are given for nothing but pleasure. Concerts are played without any suggestion to the attender that a small admission fee is to be charged. Houses are filled with a respectable audience and the momentous query is ever present, "How much of it is paper?" And still the people will not come. Now be it understood that this is not a wholesale assortlaw-abiding citizens of the very proper city of Omaha. The same conditions exist almost

everywhere else. The people want something new. Take for instance, the encore question. Conductors, planists, singers and organists will play a heavy concerto, a treacherous fugue. sing an intricate aria or a ballad on the order of Stephen Crane's poetical mysteries. set to music which is decidedly a la Beardsley, and the audience will applaud vigorously. Whereupon the artist makes his most thrilling bow, which he has carefully practiced beforehand, and, smiling in his conscious superiority, he will thus address himself: "See what a great interpreter am have struggled on year after year and done . I! Behold these persons are susceptible to the highest mission of art, when shown to them by a master." Be not deceived, O great master, neither be greatly puffed up. That applause was prolonged, not because of the fact that the audience enjoyed your phenomenal ability, but because the listeners were probably besieged to buy tickets and, being anxious to "get their money's worth," they will still continue to recall you, in the hope that you will then play something that can be understood and en-

Now, of course, artists cannot be induced | The mass of the Catholic church is a giorito step off the pedestal which they have ous and ennobling ritual and the music of from prelude to finish every night during attained after years of hard study, self- the mass, if well sung and well played on denial and discouragement. True, and yet, a decent instrument, is inspiring. The if art wears a repulsive aspect, what then? the ladics, with whom this amusement en- Must the audience, must the great American people, be driven to those things which they do not care for? Shall art remain at the matinees Thursday and Saturday. frowning and expect the people to come and adore? Or shall art come down a little, not necessarily leave the pedestal, but just smile and lend a belping hand to those who fain would penetrate the mysteries of the unknown regions of idealism. For there are always a few who possess that desire and there is always the charmed circle at a concert, which comes because it wants to come, and which is anxious to learn all.

Hall to them! Mr. Sigmund Landsberg, a local planist, The day also is the theater's christening has written a paper on the subject of learning how to appreciate the great tone masters and amongst other good things has given has been procured for the work and the con-

It is highly improbable that the average listener will submit to any exertion on the those who attend high grade concerts, expecting to hear popular airs, medleys, light overtures and shallow vocal numbers.

How are these differences in the respect-

ive arguing points of performer and con-cert goer to be adjusted? Will not the simple and hopeful remedy of having descriptive programs at high grade concerts be successful? With their introduction they not only will average introduction they not only will be average on a concert program, of comprehension, but will also have a tendency to educate the concert attending church by Madame Fannie Bloomfield church by their explanatory notes, commasses by their explanatory notes, commasses by their explanatory notes, commasses by their explanatory notes, comting as accompanist. It will be remembered that Madame Zeisler played a recital to an immense audience at the Boyd last season. at all the more important musical events. The reople listen with the most intense interest to, for instance, Beethoven's C minor

Why is their interest aroused ordinary pitch? Not because to an extraordinary pitch? an orchestra is playing the Symphony for them, merely to let the sounds of the different instruments reach their ears, but because the listener's interest is awakened scriptive program containing a full synopsis of Heethoven's greatest symphony, (that wonderfully suggestive tone drama), giving the various "motifs" in music print for the benefit of the students and the detailed text for the benefit of those who consider the notes merely hieroglyphics.

To understand the works of more modern

Solenelle" (St. Cecelia) for the 10:36 o'clock listed with an English text and is service on Christmas morning at St. John's s by the fact that he has procured a de-

as these startle the buyers and merchants alike-Never have we bought goods as cheap as this year-Never in the history of Omaha has Jewelry been sold so cheap as we offer it now. and never again will you have such a Christmas giving opportunity as you have in this sale. We back up every price we make with the goods.

A quadruple plated \$4-piece teaset, made specially for us,

A genuine Gorham chafing spoon and fork, at each.....

A set of six genuine Rogers silver tea spoons, only.....

Large size sterling silver back hair brush. only.....

Genuine Gorham sterling silver backed combs.....

of the celebrated

composers since Beethoven, Schubert, Men-

delssohn, be it for the professional or ama-teur, such programs are not only neces

sary, but indispensable. Here reference made to Wagner, Berlicz, Liszt, St. Sacra

Bruch and others. Soloists will often in-troduce sonatas, concertos, rhapsodies, etc. of intricate structure to western concert

and appreciated by the masses with the aid of descriptive programs. Mr. Landsberg then goes on to consider the stand-

point of the singer, who cannot be under stood, but if a singer is properly trained has the right principle of tone production-

her pronunciation must be good. If it i not, she and not the audience should re

ceive the condemnation of the critic, and justly would she deserve it. Imagine an actor mumbling the Hamlet soliloquy, or

stammering through the lines of Mercutlo concerning Queen Mab.

However, it would be an excellent idea to have an English translation of Italian.

French and German arias or songs, when either of these languages is sung. Oc-casionally one likes to get an idea of what

is going on, and one does get so tired, at a concert, of looking at people.

Mr. Landsberg's appeal is worthy of the

onsideration of all who are engaged

in concert work and it is not unlikely that

this idea faithfully and constantly carried

out will be fruitful of good results and may

give some assistance in the answering of that

The Catholic choirs of the city are be-

stirring themselves in good earnest. Im-

agine, in one month, the Messe Solennelle

ritual and ceremony of the mass makes

possible, nav demands, the introduction of

much music, which shall be sung in the

most musical of all languages; second, be-

cause of the fact that the greatest masters

And yet it is to be deplored that the

Catholic churches of the city have not been

up to the mark when compared with their

sister churches, whose rituals admit of little

music. This is not intended as a disparage-

ment of the magnificent services which have

been rendered by those faithful people who

the best that could be done. But the thought

naturally presents itself that with some of

our very richest men in the fold of this

church that there has not been for years, in

the writer's memory, a single professional

musician, whose art is his bread, employed

in any of the Catholic churches, meaning

by that any musician who has high stand-

ing in the musical world of Omaha, as a

eader in its musical affairs, be it soprano

alto, tenor or bass, conductor or organist.

With the advent of Mr. Watterson, who is

laboring earnestly for the cause of the best

music, things have taken on a lively air.

Catholic church has all the advantages as

May the Catholic choirs take on a new

energy and inspire those who are watching

with earnest eyes and warm sympathy for

the full development of their magnificent

musical resources. THOMAS J. KELLY.

Musical Notes

The Rossini setting of the celebrated Latin

hymn, "Stabat Mater Polorosa," or as it is usually called, "Rossini's Stabat Mater," will

be presented tonight at St. John's Collegiate

church, Twenty-fifth and California streets. The soldists engaged for this production are

Mme. Clementine Devere. Miss Eleanore Broadfoot, Mr. Mitchell and Signor Dado. Mr. John Schenk, of favorable local reputa-

ductor will be Signor Saple. A fine chorus

cert will be one of the features of the sea-

The Festival Choral society, under the

direction of Miss Julia Officer, held a very successful rehearsal on last Monday evening

recitative and aria from "The Messiah, "The People that Walked in Darkness,

which is particularly adapted to his rich

bass voice. At the next rehearsal on Mon-day evening, December 5, Mr. George Man-

chester will sing the recitative and aria "But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming," from "The Messiah."

As announced last Sunday in these

from the "Queen of Sheba," and a triplet of songs which will include the compositions of Loge, Schubert and Cowen. Mme.

Zeisler will play a Beethoven sonata and a transcription for the plane by Schumann, of Paganini's "Caprice," also a series of chorter

The rehearsals of Gounod's "Messe

Solenelle" (St. Cecelia) for the 10:36 o'clock

artist by Moszkowski.

dedicated to this remarkable

before mentioned and with them the re-

sponsibilities.

musical world ought to turn for th

the church in question.

question which opens this column.

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Leather Goods.

Our line of card case pocket books, letter books, etc., is the largest ever brought to Omaha. What do you think of this sample?

A genuine monkey skin \$150 ladies pocket book and card case combined, only

You can't duplicate it where they raise monkeys and make them.

Engraved Stationery.

Wedding invitations equal to any from New York.

\$10 for 1st hundred, \$3 after that. 100 visiting cards and plate ... \$1.50 100 cards from your own plate \$1.00 Set of silver plated child's knife. fork and spoon.

only..... \$6.50 Dresden handle, sterling mount. ed silk umbrella.

3-piece silver handled carving set, in case,

A sterling silver nail file, button hook, paper kife or seal,

Large size 4-blade sterling silver pocket knife,

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SUNDAYS-THURSDAYS-SATURDAYS Always the Best Show in Omaha.

The world's greatest acrobatic equilibrists Akimoto's ROYAL JAPANESE TROUPE, headed by Prince Akimoto, king of ballancers and perch performers..

Pearl Andrews, the Queen of Mimicry.
The Sisters Leon, America's astonishing lady screens. ady acrobats. The Faolis, European Eccentric Comiques

Misses Stevens and O'Byron, superlative singing duo. Kenn and Wayne, refined burlesque art-Lewis & Evans, operatic travesty artists. Leon and Miller, comedy horizontal bar

REFRESHMENTS. Prices 25c, 35c 50c. Reserved Sents,

ROSSINI'S

Sunday Evening, Dec. 4.

of Gounod, the Twelfth Mass of Mozart and the Stabat Mater of Rossini. Verily, these good people are making up for lost time. To the Catholic church the eyes of the Catholic church the eyes of the Mr. John A. Schenk. Organist in music. For two reasons—first, that the

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John's Church have contributed immortal compositions to 25th and California Sts.

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***** of the Trans-Mississippi

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Mr. John R. Key Will be given at Room 3, Bee Build-

ing, entrance through the court. Monday, Tuesday, Dec. 5-6. from 2 until 10 p. m. Under the auspices of the Visiting Nurses' Association. The public is invited to attend. Admission Free.

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of the Catholic church in Europe and America. Of the six numbers which make up the complete work, the third, "Sanctus, up the complete work, the third, "Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Sonctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth" is familiar to many of the Protestant churches, as it has been arranged and published with an English text and is extensively sung in churches of numerous denominations. It is one of the most sublime numbers of the work and has done much toward making the name of the illustrious composer immortal. Mr. John A. Schenk will preside at the organ.

Omaha's Society Vandeville Theater. Matinee Today

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TODAY'S MATINEE-25c any seat-Children, any seat 10c-Gallery 10c.

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In Their Marvelous and Dextrous Acrobatic Performances.

GOTHAM'S FAVORITES- Newsboys' Quintette

0 0 0 0 Zazelle and Vernon AMERICA'S GREATEST COMIC TRIPLE-BAR ACT.

0 0 0 0 THE OLEVER DUO In their reduced Musical Specialty

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25c of the House Gallery 10c CHILDREN 10c

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