

THEATRICALS.

"The Hottest Coon in Dixie" company is composed of two or three very good dancers two or three good solo singers, an excellent, unusually excellent, chorus whose voices are ringing and sweet and they sing with admirable zest and appreciation of effect. Among the company is one actor, a man who enunciates clearly and takes time to make his points and succeeds every time. His clear enunciation was emphasized by the very rapid and incomprehensible reading of his partner Fred T. Carey who had all the faults Mr. Crawford has eliminated from his enunciation. Miss Neale G. Hawkins, the soprano has a remarkably sweet voice, in the upper and lower register peculiarly sweet and clear. The middle tones, quite unusually, are not of such pleasing quality. She has allowed herself to cultivate the tremolo habit too extensively. Taken altogether the company is composed of extremely intelligent and talented comedians, dancers and soloists.

THE FUNKE.

There are thirty members in "The Hottest Coon in Dixie" Company. Miss Neale G. Hawkins, who was with Miller's Tennesseans that played the Epworth League Assembly last year, is a remarkable soprano and made many friends who will be glad of this opportunity to see and hear her again. The company gives a matinee this afternoon and a performance this evening. The chorus is well trained.

Matinee prices, 10 and 25 cents; evening, 15, 25, 35, and 50 cents.

Manager Zehring announces that next Friday and Saturday, October 6th and 7th, and Saturday matinee, will be the big laughing hit of the theatrical season of 1899-1900, when that merry jingling comedy, "The Two Merry Tramps," will be presented at The Funke. This play has made more people forget their troubles for an evening, and created more genuine laughter than any other. The author claims a plot for the play, but when asked to define it explains it to be a plot upon the part of the comedians to convulse the audience with laughter. An unusually large and capable company of comedians, singers, dancers and musicians have been engaged for this season. New songs, musical numbers, etc., will be introduced in quick succession during each act, and as the company carries a fine band and orchestra, also a splendid male quartette, the musical features will be much in evidence.

Prices 15, 25, 35 and 50 cents. Matinee 10 and 25 cents. Seats on sale Wednesday 9 A. M.

VAUDEVILLE.

The Vaudeville Theatre is an American invention. There is nothing like it anywhere else in the world. It is neither the Cafe Chantant, the English music-hall, nor the German garden. What has been called by a variety of names, but has remained always and everywhere pretty much the same—reeky with smoke, damp with libations, gay with the informalities of the half-world—is now doing business with us under the patronage of the royal American family.

Having expurgated and rehabilitated the tawdry thing, the American invites in the family and neighbors, hands over to them beautiful theatres, lavishly decorated and appointed, nails up everywhere church and army regulations, and in the exuberance of his gayety passes around ice-water. He hasn't painted out the French name, but that is because he has been, as usual, in a hurry. Fourteen years ago this may have been a dream in a Yankee's brain;

now it is a part of us. The strictly professional world has been looking for the balloon to come down, for the fad to die out, for the impossible thing to stop, but year by year these theatres increase and multiply, till now they flourish the country over.

Not over two per cent of an audience remains longer than to see the performance through once, but there are persons who secrete campaign rations about them, and camp there from 9:30 a. m. to 10:30 p. m., thereby surviving all of the acts twice and most of them four or five times. The management calculates to sell out the house two and a half times on ordinary days and four times on holidays, and it is this system that makes such enormous receipts possible.

Sometimes the Vaudeville theatre is an individual and independent enterprise; more often it belongs to a circuit. The patronage, expenses, and receipts are enormous. One circuit will speak for all. It has a theatre in New York, one in Philadelphia, one in Boston, and one in Providence, and they give no Sunday performances; and yet these four theatres entertain over 5,000,000 people every year, give employment to 350 attaches and to 3500 actors. Four thousand people pass in and out of each one of these theatres daily. Ten thousand dollars are distributed each week in salaries to the actors and \$3,500 to the attaches. Take one theatre for example, the house in Boston. It is open the year round and it costs \$7,000 a week to keep it open, while its patrons will average 25,000 every week. On a holiday it will play to from ten to twelve thousand people.—From "The Vaudeville Theatre," by Edwin Milton Royle, in the October Scribner's.

LETTERS TO "GREENBOY."

II

You complain that so-called political issues are so numerous and diversified that it is difficult to draw the line between old and new ones. To your mind they are not sharply defined, shading off into one another like the colors of the rainbow.

In the main you are correct. It is apparently quite as difficult for political parties to shelve worn-out issues as to introduce new ones. Look at the money question for instance. As a matter of fact the last presidential election settled that question in favor of the gold standard with or without the consent of any other nation. I say as a matter of fact. Nevertheless we behold the silver issue, ratio and all, bobbing up serenely as the one overshadowing plank of the next democratic platform. The reason for this is not far to seek. The gold dollar is now the unit of value. It is the standard and measure of all values in the United States. In your opinion this should settle matters. So it does. But it does not and cannot prevent a certain percentage of our population from cheering for and swearing by the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

"Free" and "unlimited" are two very seductive words. They convey to the average mind a promise of "something for nothing and plenty of it." You will probably hasten to say that a settled question cannot be vitalized by mere talk and propaganda. No amount of galvanization or other form of electricity will put life into either a dead issue or a non-essential one. But I beg you to remember that we of the republican party have been burying the silver question once a month for the last three years and still its whiskers grow. They have not been shaved off frequently enough to remain out of sight permanently.

Some supporting facts can be brought forward for the grossest errors and the wildest theories. A vast majority of people do not and never can understand the financial question, try as they may

What they want is more money and they are not concerned about the actual fundamental value of the same. They accept sophistical explanations with the utmost credulity, being chiefly animated by a burning desire to get more of the good things of this world. So long as any one promises them a share in the accumulations of economical and thrifty people, they look upon the man who makes the offer as a liberator of the people. Something for nothing and plenty of it.

You will have mastered the first great lesson of usefulness to society at large when you cheerfully admit to yourself that the other man has as much right to his opinion as you have to yours, however much you may suspect him of insincerity. The chances are that he thinks the same thing of you.

Indeed it is quite as wholesome and instructive occasionally to look at our-

selves from the exaggerated standpoint of our opponents, as it is to inspect a well-drawn caricature of ourselves in one of the comic papers.

All I wish you to remember at this time is that the final establishment of the gold standard is simply a legal recognition of a commercial fact. Also that it will only be a comparatively short time before all the arguments brought forward to back up the free and unlimited coinage will be what the Hon. John J. Ingalls felicitously designates as "oratorical shelf goods."

The so-called silver question, however, will be sewed up at the next presidential election for the second and last time, not because it is a live issue, but because the glamour of the question, the temptation to be mildly dishonest, has not quite exhausted itself. It will last about long enough for a "second battle."

J. H. TYNDALE.

THE FUNKE

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
L. M. CRAWFORD AND F. C. ZEHRING
COR. O AND TWELFTH. PHONE 355.

This Afternoon and Evening
The Hottest Coon in Dixie

THE LARGEST AND BEST CHORUS SINGERS IN THE WORLD
AS WELL AS THE

Most Gorgeously Costumed.

MATINEE—10 and 25 cents.

EVENING—15, 25, 30, and 50 cents.



FRIDAY and SATURDAY
October 6-7

Bargain Matinee Saturday afternoon 10 and 25 cents.

The Monarchs of Comedy
WOOD AND WARD

In their Jolly Jingling Farce

“TWO MERRY TRAMPS”

Usual Funke Prices—15, 25, 35, 50 cents.

Seats on sale Wednesday 9 a.m.