

AT THE THEATRE.

Mrs. Kittie Baldwin, the original White Mahatma, and her superb company of entertainers will play a three night engagement at the Academy...

via had fallen in love with Courtney Kane, a prominent actor. Kane, however, is not to be followed, and so follows in the train of the rest-seekers...

James O'Neill announces that he is making a farewell tour in "Monte Cristo," and that after the present engagement he will never be seen in this city again as Edmund Dantes...

Mrs. Kittie Baldwin.

the aid of any one except the questioner, who merely has to think of what they desire to have answered. This is the privilege of Mrs. Baldwin's work...

WHEN NEW "STARS" SHINE

"AMATEUR NIGHT" AT MINOR'S

How the West-Siders With Theatrical Aspiration Make Their Debut at Minor's English Avenue Theatre. Described by the New York Correspondent—A Free and Easy Disapproval of the Aspiring Amateurs in No Uncertain Way.

New York, Feb. 8.—Last Friday night was "Amateur Night" at Minor's English Avenue Theatre, and that meant that the whole West Side and his girl was out. Every pleasing cell brought new arrivals to push into the already packed little theatre.

described as a broad farce—it was very broad.

"Amateur Night" was originated several years ago by the Clay Minors of this theatre. Clay Minors, proprietor of the theatre, in response to unending requests from those who were convinced by their friends that they had real stage talent...

PRIZES OFFERED.

A man in a brown suit and a Van Dyke beard came to the front and announced that there would be 12 acts to-night, with three prizes: \$10 to go to the most popular, as selected by the audience, \$5 to the second in favor, and \$3 to the third.

After the course of the preceding performers, went straight to the hearts of the rough, howling audience, and each member instantly became quiet and began to sing "Making Eyes." In the time she reached the chorus, she had won her hearers, and they joined heartily in the well-known song.

MISS MARTIN DOES STUNTS.

The announcer now came forward, and scratched his head doubtfully as he contemplated the paper in his hand. "I have an apology to make," he said. "It seems I have made a mistake. Miss Lily Wilson was the tramp. We will now have Miss Annie Martin, who begs pardon for a solo, she will either sing or dance, as you like."

"Annie" made her appearance, a burlesque with female garments put on hind part before. She wore a hay skirt, a red and white striped apron, and a tin bucket. She started out with a jig. "Ye'd better dance," yelled out a voice.

LET HIM SING THE SECOND FIRST!

"Go get a pint, den come back, Annie of Twenty-five for Charities." But Annie continued to jig, then began a sort of skirt dance exposing great lengths of white stocking, and finally going into a sort of imitation house-cooching paper in her hand. She made a hit with the audience and coins began to fall on the stage, which she picked up eagerly. She was a hideous object but she pleased her crowd.

WINTER-GROWING CROPS.

The State Department of Agriculture has Samples of Sand Vetch, Alfalfa and Crimson Clover for Distribution.

The value of crimson clover as a winter-growing crop is pretty well known to North Carolina farmers. But, on new soils, it does not yield well the first year unless the soil has been inoculated with the nitrogen-catching germ. Sand vetch is the best of all winter growing, green manural crops, more especially for orchards and vineyards. This also requires inoculating on new soils.

There has been much recent discussion of the great value of alfalfa or lucerne for the Southern States. This crop has been experimented with before in the cotton region but has not, outside of the very limited area of limestone soils, given the great results its advocates predicted.

Recently, however, it has been found that most upland soils in the cotton region are acid or at least not sufficiently alkaline for growing alfalfa, or even good wheat and oat crops. It is therefore desirable to try this crop again on dry, upland soils which have been recently limed.

Good stone lime, unslacked, can be bought in car load lots, at from \$6.15 to \$6.50 per ton delivered at nearest railroad station in North Carolina. Five hundred pounds of this lime per acre, will make the average upland soil sufficiently alkaline for alfalfa and all the other clovers, and also for the best results with wheat and oats.

Recently there has been placed upon the market, at a right smart price, a substance called "nitro-culture." This is recommended for inoculating the seeds of alfalfa and other leguminous with the nitrogen-catching germ. The commercial nitro-culture has been scientifically examined and found not to contain the nitrogen-fixing germ at all. We recommend that farmers let the commercial nitro-culture, alone. We also advise against the purchase of ready inoculated seeds, offered by some seedmen.

The North Carolina department of agriculture is now sending out to farmers in the State samples of sand vetch, alfalfa and crimson clover seeds with sufficient soil from old fields of these crops to inoculate the seed with the nodule-forming, nitrogen-catching germ. Each lot of seed will now cost one-fourth of an acre. The seed, if sown before March 1st, on recently limed soil, will make a good stand.

The department makes a charge of 20 cents, in stamps, for each sample of seed sent out, and will deliver the seed and inoculating soil, postpaid, at any postoffice in North Carolina.

The supply of seed is small, and farmers who want them must apply before February 20th.

Biologist, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, Feb. 6, 1906.

Pointing Out a Distinction.

Baltimore Sun. The following anecdote recently brought to Richmond by a Georgia woman is a true story.

A Boston couple were recreating near Augusta and met an old negro woman to whom they took a fancy. They invited her to pay them a visit and the black woman accepted, especially as her expenses were paid. In due time she arrived in Boston and was installed in the house of the white folks. She occupied one of the best rooms and ate at the same table with her host and hostess. At one of the meals the hostess said:

"Mrs. Jones, you were a slave weren't you?" "Yes, marm," replied Mrs. Jones. "I belonged to Mar's Robert Howell."

"I suppose he never invited you to eat at his table," remarked the Boston woman.

"No, honey, dat he ain't," replied the old woman. "He ain't never eat no bigger eat at de table 'ong er him."

And in making this speech she meant no disrespect to her hostess. She meant merely to point out a natural distinction.

Scrub yourself daily, you're not clean inside. This means clean stomach, bowels, blood, liver, clean, healthy tissue in every organ. Moral: Take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents. Tea or Tablets. R. H. Jordan & Co.

ARBOR DAY FOR CHARLOTTE. Woman's Club Plans a Progressive Step—The Ultimate Object to Beautify the City.

To the Editor of The Observer: Plans and preparations are being made for an Arbor Day in Charlotte. No definite day has yet been decided upon, but it will be held between the 12th and 15th of March.

The Woman's Club is to assist in the work and has committed in its efforts to beautify the city. For Arbor Day an interesting programme will be arranged. The exercises will probably be held in Forsyth Park, and the Presbyterian College and the graded schools are in hearty sympathy with the movement and will assist in observing the day. It is hoped that the keenest interest of the citizens in general will be manifested in this movement, for it means much for the city. The object is to replace all trees that are decayed or otherwise destroyed, and thereby greatly improve the appearance of our city. There is nothing that adds more to the appearance of a place than its shade trees.

CLUB WOMAN.

One Way to Cook a Quail.

Forest and Stream. A quail, as every one knows, is naturally one of the driest of birds, and it is always a question with cooks how best to preserve its juices.

To take off the skin is to take away the greatest part of the juices, and, with a quail broiled or roasted, would be little better eating than cotton-wood chips. In North Carolina they cook a quail in the middle of a big potato. This little recipe is worth a column on skinning quail.

Poisons in Food. Perhaps you don't realize that many pain poisons originate in your food, but some day you may feel a twinge of dyspepsia that will convince you. Dr. King's New Life Pills are guaranteed to cure all sickness due to poisons in undigested food—or money back. 25c at R. H. Jordan & Co.'s drug store. Try

PAYNE'S New Discovery. Best Cure for CATARRH, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, HOARSENESS, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, RHEUMATISM, NERVOUSNESS, HEADACHE, AND ALL BLOOD DISEASES. 50 CENTS. PAYNE'S Quick Relief. Best for ALL AGES AND ALL PAINING-FITTING. PATENT MEDICATED SOAP—10c. DRUGGISTS. FOR SALE BY W. L. HAND & CO.

Lock of Hair in Dickens' Watch. Toronto Globe. Mr. E. S. Williamson of the Crown Lands Department, president of the Dickens Fellowship, has discovered another interesting relic of the great author, and one which curiously enough he has been carrying around for years without knowing it.

Oldest Baptist in the World. New York Tribune. The Baptists and temperance people of Windham, Conn., are preparing a grand celebration for the one hundredth birthday of Miss Caroline Brown, who is said to be the oldest Baptist in the world and the oldest White Ribboner in the United States.

People Disagree. They have to. There are differences of opinion among the best and will be so long as Knowledge is Incomplete—but there is one subject—on which all people are completely in accord and that is the Value and cup quality of the Delicious White House Coffee on sale at every first class grocery everywhere.

Woman's Nightmare. No woman's happiness can be complete without children; it is her nature to love and want them as much as it is to love the beautiful and pure. The critical ordeal through which the expectant mother must pass, however, is so fraught with dread, pain, suffering and danger, that the very thought of it fills her with apprehension and horror. There is no necessity for the reproduction of life to be either painful or dangerous. The use of Mother's Friend so prepares the system for the coming event that it is safely passed without any danger. This great and wonderful remedy is always applied externally, and has carried thousands of women through the trying crisis without suffering. Send for free booklet containing information of priceless value to all expectant mothers. The Bradford Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Increase Your Yields Per Acre. The BEST of everything. and the greatest quantities of every growing thing can be readily produced with the liberal use of Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers together with careful cultivation. The materials of which they are made, cause them to enrich the land, and the plants to come up rapidly and more prolifically. Do your Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers on your fruits and fruit-trees of all kinds, corn, wheat and all crops. For at harvest time you will have the largest and best crops you ever raised in any of your farms. Don't let any of your neighbors persuade you to put on your land.

THE HEAVY BLOND APPEARS.

Miss Hamilton, a large, heavy, blond young woman appears and casts down her eyes modestly. She starts to open her mouth to sing, and some one yells "atrawberries!" Miss Hamilton immediately quits the stage, and faces the audience, which screams in delight. She says something to the announcer, who comes to the front and says: "Miss Hamilton wants to know if any of you know a song entitled—"

"Where'd ye git the boiler-maker?" yells a voice. Miss Hamilton looks offended and then makes more faces, defying the whole audience, which continues its cat-calls and yells. Miss Hamilton switches off the stage in disgust, and the announcer says: "She says you people can't appreciate art," which statement is greeted with a loud yell.

Richards and Williams, dancers, are then announced. They are two rather well dressed boys, who really give a clever exhibition of clog-dancing. They keep time well and rival many vaudeville productions. They leave the stage followed by hearty applause.

"Happy Joe is the next one on the program," said the announcer. "He says he didn't get a fair show last time and wants to try again. Says let him know when you get enough of it."

Happy Joe came out and made a boy's life in a Italian suit and about three feet high with the large, lustrous black eyes peculiar to his people. He wore the corduroy clothing of a boot-black and his face shown a red glow. He bowed, and with his cap, smiled engagingly, and began to toss three balls in the air. There were cries of approval and Joe became encouraged and more confident. From three balls he proceeded to four, then five, and finally to six, and he made one bad fumble, and his face fell, but he had the sympathy of the audience now, and they shouted encouragement. He began again and did some very pretty work for so small a boy. He then discarded his balls and threw a succession of somersaults. There was something about the way in which he went so eagerly and anxiously to please, and he finished amid applause and a small shower of pennies, which he picked up thankfully and smiled with a flush of his white teeth.

A SIGHT FOR THE GODS.

"We will now have Miss Annie Martin," said the announcer—"A female impersonator. She announced that she will give an imitation of Hap Ward, of Ward & Vokes." The lady's appearance was greeted with a prolonged and mighty yell that echoed and re-echoed through the building. She was in a personatorial right, as far as clothing was concerned, but there were shouts of pity for the unfortunate male she thought she resembled. She wore a beard attached with a wire which permitted in slipping off to one side of her face while the audience pounded the seats and shrieked louder. "She was truly a sight for the gods."

But now the curtain goes up. The audience begins to straighten up and the newboys up in the gallery give a whistle of applause. A Dutch comedian stands on the stage talking to himself. He leans over to pick up something. Some one runs out from a side door and whacks him with a slip-stick. The Dutchman wheels and receives a bang over the head with a football attached to a string in the hands of some one else who immediately darts through a side door. An invalid with a foot well wrapped up in bandages comes in. The Dutchman accuses him of being the party who has just assaulted him, and thereupon stamps up on the invalid's rusty foot. The audience howls appreciatively.

Then an array of damsels called "The Amateur Beauties" come out and disappear—but what's the next? Perhaps it will be enough to say that the performance was what is commonly

JAMES O'NEILL in "Monte Cristo."

not often associated with a melodramatic role. Where others shout and leap a passion to utter, he commands respect by forceful reserve and that impression of genuine feeling so difficult to achieve in theatrical plays of this nature.

Since James O'Neill was last seen here in "Monte Cristo," three seasons ago, he has been the leading man in the all-star "The Two Orphans" Co., that made such a great hit upon its recent revival. A constant and persistent demand, however, on the part of the public and the managers of the country, have been the means of recalling this greatest of all romantic actors to a revival of the famous old Dumas play "Monte Cristo." Mr. O'Neill will be seen at the Academy next Friday in a new and elaborate production of the play and with a strong supporting company that includes on its roster his son James O'Neill, Jr., and C. H. Stevens, Richard Allen, J. W. Dillon, J. L. Green, B. Wallace, H. Edwards, W. McKessey, A. Lane, J. Parks, A. O. Meyers, J. L. Green, Ed. Short, E. Lane, J. Hall, Ed. Smith, J. Benjamin, H. Lauer, Abigail Marshall, Kate Fletcher, Sara Leigh and Louisa Miller.

It is alleged that the originality of some authors is due to their facilities for misquoting others.



dears are under the impression that the melodramatic artists give the whole show. But it is not the case, as Manager Arnold has put together a very entertaining programme, among them being Louis Granat, the king of all whistling artists, Miss Florence Tyler, soprano vocalist, Burt Southern, versatile singing and dancing comedian, and a society sketch offered by Miss Glover and Mr. Southern, making in all a very neat offering. This company has appeared in every English-speaking country on the globe, playing the large cities, and as a rule it creates a sensation everywhere visited.