

# POLK MILLER...

ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE  
THE ONLY ENTERTAINMENT OF ITS  
KIND BEFORE THE PUBLIC.



Stories, Sketches,  
Songs. ☺ ☺ ☺

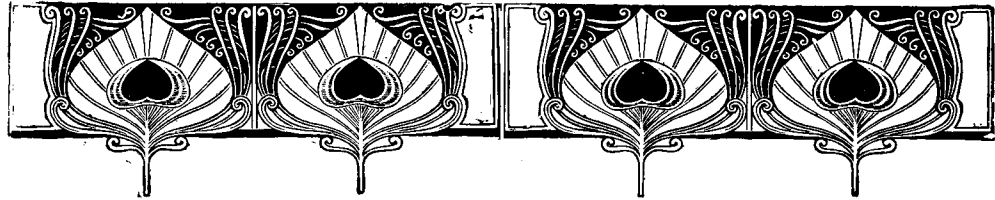


THE ENTERTAINMENT IS IN NO SENSE A LECTURE, BUT IS AN EVENING OF STORY AND SONG ON

“Old Times Down South.”

Under the Sole Management of

Southern Lyceum Bureau, Louisville, Atlanta, Dallas.



## ◎ ◎ Announcement ◎ ◎



We have the pleasure of announcing the engagement of Mr. Polk Miller, who will give his Dialect Recital, consisting of Stories, Sketches, and Songs, illustrative of old times in the South, with the Old Virginia Plantation Negro as a central figure. Mr. Miller is the best delineator of the Old Southern Plantation Negro that has ever appeared on the public stage, and in his description of his "boyhood's happy days down on the farm" he introduces the most *side-splitting stories*, and reproduces in a realistic manner, those old plantation melodies *accompanied by the banjo*, which carry the old-time Southerners back to the days of their childhood; and gives to those who are not familiar with the negro, the very best opportunity of hearing the *Pure Negro Dialect* from one who knows it, not from study nor from reading it, but from having been in contact with that race all his life.

The Entertainment is in no sense a Lecture, but is rather "An Evening of Story and Song." If you would enjoy a hearty laugh, Mr. Miller comes prepared to furnish the incentive.

It is a rare treat we thus afford our people by bringing so distinguished an Entertainer to our city, and we do this with the confident belief that we will be accorded a large audience and a hearty reception for Mr. Polk Miller.

THE LOCAL MANAGEMENT.

(See advertisements for further particulars.)



### *Prominent Points Visited.*

NEW YORK, N. Y.  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
PITTSBURG, PA.  
BALTIMORE, MD.  
WILMINGTON, DEL.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
RICHMOND, VA.  
NORFOLK, VA.  
LYNCHBURG, VA.  
RALEIGH, N. C.  
WILMINGTON, N. C.  
COLUMBIA, S. C.  
CHARLESTON, S. C.  
ATLANTA, GA.  
SAVANNAH, GA.  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.  
SELMA, ALA.

NASHVILLE, TENN.  
LOUISVILLE, KY.  
CHARLESTON, W. VA.  
ST. LOUIS, MO.  
JACKSON, MISS.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.  
HOUSTON, TEX.  
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

### *Some of Our Auspices.*

UNIVERSITY CLUB,  
N. Y. City.  
SOUTHERN SOCIETY,  
N. Y. City.  
ALDINE, CLUB,  
N. Y. City.  
TEACHERS' ASSEMBLIES,  
Virginia, N. C.  
ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY,  
N. Y. City.

NEW CENTURY CLUB,  
Wilmington, Del.  
HAMILTON CLUB,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.  
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA,  
Charlottesville, Va.  
TRINITY COLLEGE COURSE,  
Durham, N. C.  
CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLIES,  
New York, Pennsylvania,  
Maryland,  
Kentucky, Tennessee,  
Georgia, Alabama.  
AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION,  
Asheville, N. C., '94.  
DAVIDSON COLLEGE,  
Davidson, N. C.



## Personal Commendations of Mr. Miller's Recitals.



"Polk Miller, you have the best one-man show in America."—HENRY WATTERSON, *Ed. Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal.*

"I take pleasure in certifying to the ability of Mr. Polk Miller and the excellence of his recitals."—CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, ESQ.

"Polk Miller is a great success, for he knows the negro, can tell a negro story and give the true negro dialect better than any man living."—THOMAS NELSON PAGE, "*Mars Chan,*" etc.

"What I like in Polk Miller is, that though he is not my wife, I can stand his lectures twice."—HOWARD SAXBY, *Cincinnati, O.*

"What James Whitcomb Riley is to the Hoosier dialect, Polk Miller is to the negro dialect; both perfect in their line."—HON. C. U. McELROY, *Bowling Green, Ky.*

"Polk Miller and his banjo reproduce the negro of the happy days before the war, and his entertainments give the highest pleasure and satisfaction to all who hear him. I do not hesitate to say that it is inimitably done."—REV. J. WILLIAM JONES, *Chaplain University of Virginia.*

"I know Polk Miller well. When he is sketching the 'fo' de war' negro, if you did not know that he was Polk Miller you would think he was a darkey of olden time, and if you did not know he was an old-time darkey you would think he was Polk Miller."—EX-GOVERNOR FITZHUGH LEE.

"Polk Miller is a wonder. I have heard him several times, and could listen to him every night in the year. He is never tiring, for he is always original and sparkling. He is undoubtedly the platform success of the nineteenth century."—PROF. J. U. LLOYD, *Cincinnati, O.*

"Mark Twain, in his introduction of Mr. Miller at the Madison Square Garden Concert Hall, in New York City, said: "Mr. Miller is thoroughly compe-

tent to entertain you with his sketches of the old-time negro, and I not only commend him to your intelligent notice, but I personally indorse him. The stories I have heard him tell are the best I have ever heard."—MARK TWAIN.

"Polk Miller is the humorist the country has been looking for. I know of no one who can more aptly depict the real negro character or more faithfully render the true negro dialect. *There is a live 'nigger' hidden somewhere in Polk Miller's banjo,* and you look for him to jump out and go to dancing when Miller strikes a string."—JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS, "*Uncle Remus,*" etc.

"Polk Miller is one of the best delineators of the negro character that I have ever seen. An evening with him is an *absolute pleasure.* First, his quaint imitations of the old-time darkey bring side-splitting *laughter,* and then almost in the same breath, he moves his audience to *tears.* *He is a genius* in his line, and what renders his entertainments more delightful is the fact that his anecdotes are *pure,* and replete with humor."—CHAS. T. O'FERRALL, *Governor of Virginia.*

"Polk Miller does not advertise goods he can not deliver. He says he will describe and illustrate the Old Virginia Plantation Negro, and I am free to say that he does it. After hearing the negro dialect given by a *Canadian,* and the folk song and dialect of the negro given in *Cork and Cockney* at St. James Hall, London, I am glad to hear Mr. Miller correct this misconception with the *real thing.*"—BILL NYE.

"It affords me pleasure to commend Mr. Miller, of Richmond, Virginia, as a refined and cultured gentleman. His name is a household word in his native State of Virginia, whose people always welcome him, not only as a citizen of the best Southern type, but as the best living delineator of the old-time negro character. His 'recitals' are entertaining in the highest degree, and no one will regret hearing him. Mr. Miller is a successful business man in Richmond, as well as a genius in his line. In all respects he is worthy of the highest esteem and confidence."—W. D. BLOXHAM, *Governor of Florida.*

# Reportorial Remarks.

"The new genius of the South."—*Richmond (Va.) Times*.

"As an artist in his line he has no equal."—*Charleston (S. C.) Sun*.

"Mr. Miller knows the negro."—*Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution*.

"Mr. Miller is a genius as an entertainer."—*Nashville (Tenn.) American*.

"Mr. Miller has no equal as a negro dialect delineator."—*Charleston (W. Va.) Evening Mail*.

"His entertainment is entirely out of the usual run."—*Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser*.

"Polk Miller is all that he is said to be."—*Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle*.

"Polk Miller kept his audience in a constant exercise of its risibles."—*Washington (D. C.) Post*.

"Polk Miller kept his audience convulsed with laughter for a full hour."—*New York Tribune*.

"It was a well-pleased audience that left the Auditorium at 10.30 last night."—*Cincinnati (O.) Commercial-Gazette*.

"A better delineator of the true negro dialect and character than this charming Virginia gentleman never graced the stage."—*Richmond (Va.) Dispatch*.

"Mr. Miller does n't lecture, he just talks, plays the banjo to perfection, and sings negro songs in a way that beats a negro himself."—*Houston (Tex.) Post*.

"A Virginia gentleman of the old school, a versatile writer, and last night proved him without a doubt a success in his chosen avocation."—*Wilmington (N. C.) Star*.

"His entertainment was entirely new here. . . . The audience was convulsed with laughter at the ludicrous situations pictured."—*Bowling Green (Ky.) Park City Times*.

"The best commentary that can be made on his novel entertainment is to say that nobody should neglect to attend his recital this afternoon."—*Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal*.

"The listener found it only necessary to close his eyes and imagine that he was enjoying the peculiar prattle of an old-time darkey."—*New Orleans (La.) Times Democrat*.

"Mr. Miller's imitations of the old-time darkey are inimitable, and it is useless to undertake to describe it. His work on the banjo and plantation melodies were highly enjoyed."—*Wilmington (Del.) Morning News*.

"The gentleman had scarcely spoken ten minutes before his audience felt as if they were seated around the hearthstone of their own home, and that the speaker was one of their own home circle."—*Selma (Ala.) Journal*.

"The St. Nicholas Society last evening celebrated the Dutch Eastertide festival, the Paas, with a dinner at the Waldorf. The president, Chauncey M. Depew, presiding. . . . Polk Miller, of Richmond, entertained the Society with a recital on 'The Old Virginia Plantation Negro.'"—*New York World*.

"Mr. Miller appeared on Thursday evening at the Hamilton Club, under the auspices of the Art and Literature Committee, and the members were charmed both by his personality and wit."—*Brooklyn (N. Y.) Life*.

"Mr. Miller is an excellent mimic, and his dialect stories of negro life in Virginia before the war were enjoyed by a large audience. Besides his stories, Mr. Miller sang a number of plantation melodies to his own accompaniment on the banjo."—*Baltimore (Md.) Sun*.

"Polk Miller, of Virginia, an entertainer who has a happy, colloquial way with him that proves none the less effective because it is so unassuming, put himself thoroughly *en rapport* with the goodly audience at the New Century drawing-room last evening. He gave 'a dialect recital,' which proved an agreeable departure from the ordinary run of platform performances."—*Philadelphia (Pa.) Ledger*.

"Mr. Polk Miller, of Virginia, was the show at Oddfellows' Hall last night. His lecture, or concert, whichever his hearers may choose to call it, is one of the *most unique of all* that have ever been heard in this city. . . . The people seemed unwilling to let Mr. Miller stop."—*New Orleans (La.) Daily Picayune*.

"The evening of story and song for the benefit of the Methodist Orphans' Home, given at the Germania Theater last night, was one of the greatest—it might be said with truth—'howling successes' St. Louis has had for a long time, if the shouts of laughter that greeted Mr. Polk Miller's inimitable negro imitations were any criterion."—*St. Louis (Mo.) Republic*.

## Chautauqua Notes.

"An immense audience filled the Amphitheatre with shouts of laughter at Polk Miller's pictures of negro life and manners in the old times before the war, last night. Mr. Miller's songs and imitations of typical negro characters were evidently true to life. Mr. Miller's stories were entertaining, and seemed to amuse the people greatly."—*New York Chautauqua*.

"Mr. Miller is one of the finest men in his line known to the South. He can fairly make a banjo talk, and as for imitating the negro of olden time, he can not be surpassed. It is needless to say he will have a packed house to-night."—*Alabama Chautauqua*.

"Mr. Polk Miller delighted the audience with plantation stories, dialect recitations, and negro songs. His banjo-playing was a rare treat, and the great audience went wild with enthusiasm. Nobody ever saw a more delighted crowd than the smiling one of last evening. It elicited much applause when Dr. Davidson announced that Mr. Miller would appear again to-day."—*Kentucky Chautauqua*.