

.... SEASON OF 1896-'97. ....

A SOUTHERN AGENCY FOR THE BEST SOUTHERN TALENT.  
SOLE MANAGER FOR THE FOLLOWING ATTRACTIONS:

**POLK MILLER,**

Dialect Recital on "Old Times Down South."

**JUDGE F. R. FARRAR,**

Virginia's Favorite Lecturer, "Old Johnny Reb."

**MAC. JONES,**

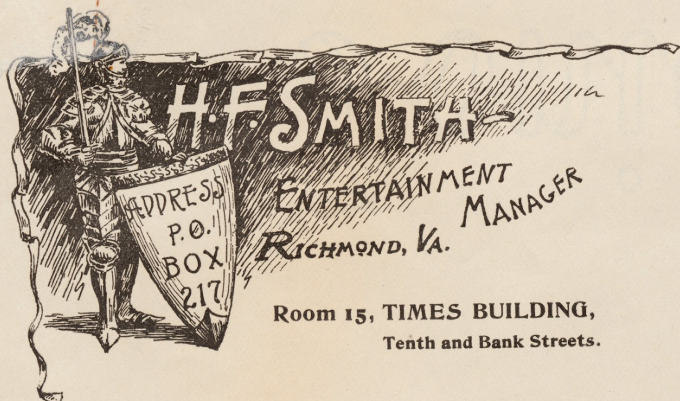
Humorous "Chalk Talks" and Character Impersonations.

**LEO. WHEAT,**

Virginia's Pianistic Pride.

**IMPERIAL QUARTETTE,**

Southern Plantation Melodies.



Room 15, TIMES BUILDING,  
Tenth and Bank Streets.

**Manager of Local Entertainments.**

Talent Secured, Etc.

Jan. 25th, 1896.

Gov. Elias Carr,

Raleigh, N. C.

My dear Sir:-

Your valued favor of Jan. 24th regarding Polk Miller & Leo Wheat's prospective tour of North Carolina under the auspices of the Vance Memorial Association received. Before ~~making you~~ <sup>Signing</sup> contract I think it advisable to have a thorough understanding regarding the ~~number~~ <sup>matter</sup> of details. Before going into these points permit me to say that I have arranged to have Messrs Miller & Wheat give their joint entertainment at Concord and Charlotte, N. C. on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 7th and 8th, respectively. I have a double object in view in thus placing the combination.

FIRST: To test them before North Carolina audiences, their drawing-power and the intrinsic merit of their entertainment.

SECOND: To get North Carolina press notices of actual entertainment in North Carolina.

These notices will be used by the local committees should we make a further tour under the auspices of the Vance Memorial Association. Now in reference to the details above referred to. I suggest that the tour begin Monday March 9th, also that the route be arranged by the Executive Committee of the Vance Memorial Association, for the reason that the local committees will take far more interest in the idea by having the arrangement come directly from the committee, than they would if I were to address them on the sub-

\*Gov:E.C.#2.\*

ject. After the committee has outlined the route with due consideration for R. R. facilities, placing the towns consecutively as to dates and availability, <sup>of</sup> R. R. connection, then I will take the matter up as X representative of Messrs Wheat & Miller and will assist in every possible way, by furnishing advance press matter, advertising matter, in the shape of specially prepared posters and circulars, etc., and keep closely in touch with the movement at all points. I understand that all expenses, R. R., hotel, advertising matter newspaper advertising, tickets, bill posting, distributing, rent for halls and Opera Houses, in fact all expenses necessary to first-class presentation of Messrs Miller & Wheat in every town selected by you, shall first come from the gross receipts, the net to be divided equally. In other words our contract is to be made on a 50% net basis and in event of loss which is an almost improbable supposition, but, however, one to be well understood, that in event of loss or failure of the gross receipts to pay expenses, that the Vance Memorial Association and I, as representative of Messrs Miller & Wheat, will become responsible for such loss upon the same basis, that is to say each to share one-half. I suggest that the first entertainment be given at Raleigh. I suggest that at once an article be written and sent to the newspapers throughout the State, notifying the public of the prospective tour, that the committee meet at once and select twenty or twenty-five of the best cities and towns, arrange them in consecutive order and send an official letter to the local committees in each of these towns setting forth the plan, terms and naming a definite date inaugurate at once the detail plans for working, giving the entertainment proper notice at once. When this is accomplished I suggest that the route with the name of the chairman and members of the local committees and other addresses in each town be forwarded at once to me. I will then take the matter up and manage the entire tour, co-operating of-course with the Executive Committee at Raleigh. I deem it proper to advise you that I have had an arrangement with Durham, N. C. for some time past for

\*Gov. E. C. #3.\*

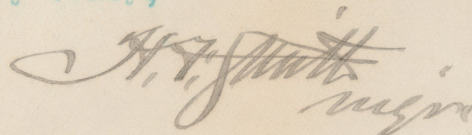
a date for Mr. Miller's appearance there and of course in this one case my present contract will have to be considered and Durham cut from the list. I will play Durham before March 9th, and although my contract does not call for it, I will place Mr. Wheat with Mr. Miller and so get extra advertising which will be brought to bear on the regular tour. I enclose contract which if satisfactory when considered in connection with this letter, copy of which I have retained and <sup>which</sup> will be part of said contract. Please sign and return duplicate copy. I am thoroughly convinced that Messrs Miller & Wheat if properly presented, and of course they will be presented in the best possible manner under the auspices of the Vance Memorial Association; I believe, I say, they will draw packed houses at every point. I desire to get all details such as,

- |                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Name of Town,                     | 5 Price of admission ticket child |
| 2 Date,                             | 6 " " Reserved seat. (dram        |
| 3 Name of Hall or Theatre,          | 7 Place where tickets to be sold. |
| 4 Price of admission ticket, adult. | 8 and all local details.          |

As soon as supplied with these I will then have all the printing done in Richmond at my printers, where I think I can get the lowest terms and by having all the printing done at once can reduce this expense to a minimum. If the tour begins March 9th, we have six weeks intervening time and all details should be completed, the advertising matter in the hands of the local committees within the next two weeks, this will then give abundant time for thorough advertising upon which largely depends the greatest success.

Trusting to be advised promptly and promising speedy and thorough attention to this matter on my part, I am,

Yours very truly,



\*Dict. by H. F. S.\*