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SEELY GIVES SOME ADVICE TO THE UNKNOWN KNIGHT

From off the dusty mantel I take the family pen,
And to the poets corner, I donate another gem.
The prattle of the Unknown Knight sure fills my heart with joy,
He does his best at rhyme and jest but crudely like a boy,
Who tries to form his letters with wobbly mottled hands,
But after all his labours, shows, what no one understands.

Now listen Mr. Unknown Knight!
(pray don't take this to heart)
Your poor attempt at punning sure gives the nerves a start.
Your our egotism and confidence, it's clear,
Is boiling so within you that you think you're Bill Shakespeare.
But you can't hand the public a lot of chesty bluff,
If you want to win the biscuit, you'll have to know your stuff.

There is no use in talking, you surely are a chump
And as I read your ravings I think of Andy Gump.
Poor Andy thinks he's wonderful and so does wifey Min,
Tho' he is not in you class for he hasn't got the chin.
So cheer up Knight and study hard, and some day we may see
That you'll become quite famous just on what you've learned from me.

The next time that you're writing for this elevating sheet
Please try to write some poetry that people can repeat:
Please try to put some meaning in the groups of words you pen
With a line or two of pathos and some humour now and then.
The last epistle you sent in was read and read and read,
Because, of it, the reading folks made neither tail nor head.

Now here I'll set a pattern: 'tis a picture of the farm
Where the doo-doo birds are singing, never fearing any harm.
There are trees of grandest stature. There are clouds and deep blue sky.
There are stumps and stones and fences. There are people passing by.
There are cattle in the pastures and horses on the green.
'Tis a bit of natures nicest, this pretty rural scene.

There are fields of grain so golden, making billows in the sun.
There's the happy song of workers on a day that's just begun.
There's the cooing of the pigeons. There's the croaking of the frogs.
There's the gobbling of turkeys and the grunting of the hogs.
You can read from this description a very charming sight,
And I like to hear it criticized. Come on you Unknown Knight.

SEELY

GOVERNOR GRANTS PARDON

Jackson, Miss., Jan.—Governor Russell has pardoned Julia Parker, a colored woman serving her sixth year of an 18-year sentence for manslaughter.

"Shuffle Along" Scores Again

We quote pieces from 1st the Mail and Empire and 2nd from the Toronto Telegram to give our readers an idea of the way the Shuffle Along Company was received on its return to Toronto.

The Mail and Empire says:

"This classy Dixie musical comedy is in two acts and eight scenes and is the biggest presentation of the kind ever written and played by Negroes. Sissle and Blake, the original stars, head the big company of ninenty. The dancing of the chorus is delightful, the music refreshing and includes such song hits as "Wild About Harry," "Love Will Find a Way," Bandanna Days," "Honeysuckle Time," "Gypsy Blues," Shuffle Along," "I Am Craving For That Kind of Love," and "If You Haven't Been Vamped by a Brown Skin, You Haven't Been Vamped At All." Assisting the stars are many clever colored artists, it being exactly the same company that delighted Toronto audiences last fall, and who have been prominent in the cast since the play was produced at the 63rd Street Music Hall, New York, where it was the rage for two seasons. It is one of the fastest and snappiest revues of its kind. Good, clean comedy is pre-eminent. It runs through the whole show, with the audience in a continual roar of mirth at the antics of the clever comedians. If you would hear "blues" sung as they should be, you should listen to stunning Lottie Gee, Edith Spencer and Blanche Galloway sing them in haunting, heartbroken fashion. The Four Harmony Kings, a quartette, singing the old familiar Negro melodies; the eccentric dancing of the comedy chorus girl, Josephine Baker; the famous mile-a-minute singing and dancing chorus and the New York Music Hall orchestra, all go to make this Negro success one of the most delightful entertainments seen in some time."

The Toronto Telegram says:

"There's no need to be prejudiced against "Shuffle Along" because it is an all-colored entertainment, because rarely is such excellent dancing and singing offered for the delectation of those who relish "jazz." The fact that Sissle and Blake's aggregation can come back for t return engagement within a few weeks and continue to attract big audiences, this time at the Princess, is in itself the commendation to those who haven't yet enjoyed the peculiar gaiety which this unique combination produces. It is little wonder that it appealed so to New Yorkers that it is listed among the longest-runs on discriminating Broadway.

"There os a thread of 'plot,' enough to provide for comedy skits, but it is the music and stepping that makes the show. There are a number of song hits; the soloists have exceptional voices, and the chorus is a delight."

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