

AMUSEMENTS

NATIONAL PLAYERS—"The Show Off."

Last night's capacity audience at the National Theater furnished one reason why George Kelly's laughable parody of the cheeky, blowhard of humanity, "The Show Off," was continued a second week, and the performance as a whole by the company led by Romaine Callender and Mrs. Hibbard furnished another. The latter put an end to the speculation that has been indulged in for some time as to who should have been cast in the title role, and our young friend Hampden established very clearly that he can be as good a father as any man when he chooses.

The performance a week ago was good—so good, in fact, that it invited comparison with the original company, with the famous Bartels as its star. Last night's performance by the National Players was so far in advance of the one of a week ago as to banish the latter from the comparison and to issue a challenge to Mr. Bartels and his original company to come back and beat it if he can.

Washington has not been slow to grasp the possibilities of the talented stock company that has been making the National Theater look during the Summer nights even better than it does on the average during the regular season.* And the company has promptly responded to a satisfactory patronage with unusually fine work in everything it has thus far presented. This mutual co-operation seems to set at rest all doubts that the company will easily continue to paying and appreciative patronage until it is forced by the regular season and the engagements of its players elsewhere to give way to the "road show," speaking or silent, as the case may be.

The National Players have gloriously revived all the glories of Washington's famous stock companies of the past and some believe they have established a peculiar glory of their own which will not fade in years. And all this, be it remembered, at less than half the admission rates of the regular season.

HOWARD—"Charleston Dandies."

The Howard Theater this week is making its appeal with beauty, spirit and fun, and Clarence E. Muse, with his "Charleston Dandies," reinforced by the efforts of Andrew Tribble, Andrew Lovejoy and a "bronze chorus" is making the welkin ring with laughter and applause from large audiences.

John M. Schorpp of Easton, Pa., has completed a miniature of Independence Hall, Philadelphia, in sugar.