

Season 1901-1902

9th Season

A SURGING, SMILING CONVOCATION OF PLAYERS



COONTOWN 400



..A Musical Comedy..

IN 2 ACTS

10—BIG VAUDEVILLE ACTS—10

Our past reputation a sufficient Guarantee of our future Excellence.

—10— Girls —10—
—15— Comedians —15—
—28— People —28—

BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Features

McCarver, Reed and McCarver
Comedians, Acrobats
and Dancers

LaSHE Hero of the Wire

SCOTTE and DeLEO

Introducing a number of the
latest Musical Novelty
Instruments

Madam VanPatti
Prima Donna

✦ **Hillard Brewer** ✦
The Human Enigma

Lilly Garary and Citizen Sadie

Geo. Franklin's Dixie Quartette

Silena V. V. Aug 29 1901

*H. J. Bartenbach
Grand Island Neb*

*Dear Sir
Can you book the above
allocations at your theatre
for one night Nov. 18, 1901*

*+ what terms are at
once Oblige*

Howard W. Carver

% Coontown 400

*Provo Utah Sept 2.
Charleston " " 3.
American Fork " 4.*

“A Surging, Smiling Convocation of Players”

Howard McCarver

Autograph Letter Signed Asking to soliciting work for his All-Black Minstrel Show, Coontown 400

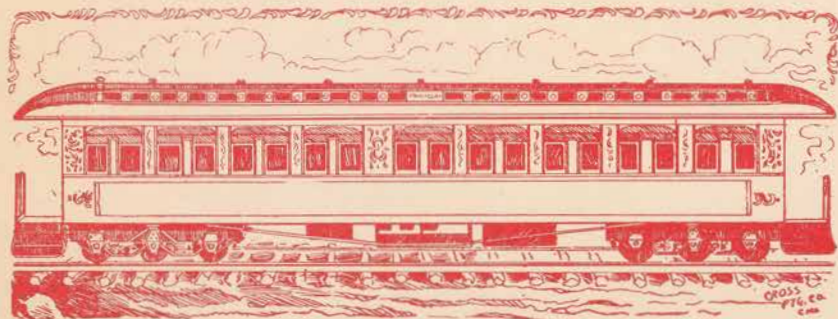
Salena, Utah: 1901

\$400

Season 1901-1902

9th Season

A SURGING, SMILING CONVOCATION OF PLAYERS



..A Musical Comedy..

IN 2 ACTS

10—BIG VAUDEVILLE ACTS—10

Our past reputation a sufficient Guarantee of our future Excellence.

—10—	Girls	—10—
—15—	Comedians	—15—
—28—	People	—28—

BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Features

Autograph Letter Signed in pencil on elaborate “Coontown 400 Season 1901-1902” letterhead to H.J. Bartenbach in Grand Island, Nebraska, asking “Can you book the above attraction at your theatre for one night Nov. 18, 1901 & what terms...” and giving several return addresses for there upcoming shows, all in Utah, at Provo, Charleston, and American Fork. The letterhead, which features an image of a railroad car, lists the various performers including Madame VanPatti (possibly “The Black Patti”, one of several black divas who emulated, at least in name, the great Italian opera soprano Adelina Patti), as well as vaudeville acts, girls, comedians, dancers, wire acts, acrobats, singers, and musicians. In 1899 important illustrator E. W. Kemble published his illustrated book of humor, *Coontown's 400*, a racist take on black “High Society”, presumably the inspiration for the name of this traveling minstrel show. Unlike many of the era’s minstrel shows, the Coontown 400 were all African-Americans. Howard McCarver worked in several minstrel shows, then in 1899 joined with his brother and Harry Reed, as McCarver, Reed and McCarver as acrobats and managers of the Coontown 400. Howard went on to manage and perform in other minstrel shows for the next decade, before eventually migrating into vaudeville with his wife. Old folds from mailing, else about fine. Colorful and interesting.

[BTC#435140]

BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Jileina Utah Aug 29 1901

H. J. Bartenbach
Grand Island Neb

Dear Sir

Can you book the above
allocation at your theatre
for one night Nov. 18, 1901

+ what terms are at

me & Oblige

Howard W. Carver

% Lountours 400

- Provo Utah Sept 2.
- Charleston " " 3.
- American Fork " 4.

ES
 McCarver
 robots
 the Wire
 DeLEO
 ber of the
 Novelty
 ts
 Patti
 na
 wer
 nigma
 tizen Sadie
 e Quartette