LONG SAM LUCAS
Artist of Negro Minstrelsy

"MY GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK" SINGER LOOKS BACK ON THIRTY YEARS OF LAUGHTER

The career of Sam Lucas has been one of the most remarkable and successful in the history of minstrelsy. There are many today who are aware of his fame, but few who realize the extent of his influence. But few people know that when Charles D. Caffee, the noted minstrel, was a young man, he was engaged by a labor union in New York to take the place of a sick minstrel. The union was represented by the famous but obscure minstrel, Sam Lucas, who, though he was only 21, was looked upon as a prodigy. The task of taking the place of the ill man was given to Caffee, who was so impressed by the success of the minstrel that he asked the man to come to New York and work with him. This was done, and Sam Lucas soon became one of the most popular minstrels in the country. He was the first to use the character of "My Grandfather's Clock," which became one of his most famous and popular songs. Lucas was a great actor and his performances were always a source of much laughter. The career of Sam Lucas has been one of the most remarkable and successful in the history of minstrelsy.