

- **Ben Maginley's - 1863-64, 1867-68, 1873-74**

- 1863: is **online** at:

Clipper, September 19, *Clipper, October 3*, *Clipper, October 24* (scroll down)

Clipper, November 14, *Clipper, November 28*, *Clipper, December 19* (scroll down)

- 1863, became Maginley & Van Vleck.

1864:

[Advertisement] The Monitor Circus. Proprietors, Maginley, Bell & Co. Manager, Oliver Bell. Equestrian manager, John Conklin. Matre du Cirque, B. R. Maginley. Treasurer, Geo. H. Bentley. The greatest combination of equestrian artists, together with the finest stud of ring stock, highly educated ponies.

Among the many features of this great show, we challenge the world to compete with Mademoiselle Marie, the greatest equestrienne living. Oliver Bell, Conklin Brothers, W. Smith, John Kaylor, W. Marshal, Chas. Oglesby, J. C. Louis, A. L. Hemmings, and hosts of others too numerous to mention. Mesdames John & Pete Conklin and Mr. Ben R. Maginley.

The great Mongolian trick horse, Monitor, who has no competitor in the ring, and stands unrivalled. Among the many feats performed by this wonderful talking horse, is the jumping of the skipping rope, which he accomplishes with all the ease of a school girl. The only educated bull, Don Juan, will appear at each performance - this being the only circus in this country possessing such an animal. The trained horse and bull will be introduced by their proprietor, Ben. Maginley. Comic trick pony, Flora Temple, the wonderful trick dog, Bruin, and the entire stud of trained horses will produce an entertainment that stands unrivalled as the Montior Circus of the World.

During the day of exhibition, the splendid band chariot, drawn by eight beautiful cream horses, containing Prof. Mead's Military band will parade through the principal streets of the city. Will perform at Centralia on Monday and Tuesday, May 23d and 24th. Admission 50 cents. Doors open at 2 and 7 o'clock p.m. Grand entree at 2 1/2 and 7 1/2 o'clock p.m. *Centralia Sentinel* (IL), May 19, 1864, n.p.n.

- 1864: Maginley, Black & Co., later Maginley & Bell is **online** at:

Clipper, April 23, *Clipper, May 14*, *Clipper, July 9* (scroll down)

1867:

I notice a building on Main street that is called the Amphitheatre, which has been used for circus performances and is now occupied by J. H. Wood & Co., for the purpose of training horses, for circus purposes. Mr. Wood is a widely

known proprietor in the circus line. He has here some very good horses which he has in excellent training. Among them is one thorough-bred which is a splendid animal. Messrs. Wood & Co., are in connection with a large company coming from New York to start out from here in the spring. This is intended to be the largest circus on the continent. Besides the firm named above, Mr. W. B. Carroll and B. McGinley, who are well known to the profession, are connected with it. [Note: probably Maginley, Carroll & Co.] *Semi-Weekly Wisconsin* (Milwaukee, WI), March 23, 1867, p. 1.

[Advertisement] Great Consolidation Circus! at Sparta, Friday, May 17, 1867. Doors open at 2 and 7 p.m. Admission 50 cts. Children under 12 years, 25 cts. An alliance of the best of 4 distinct establishments. Mr. Ben Maginley's Celebrated European Circus. Mr. W. B. Carroll's New York Circus. J. H. Wood's Great World's Circus. And Howes' Champion Circus. Ben Maginley, manager. W. B. Carroll, equestrian manager. J. H. Wood, treasurer.

The manager most respectfully assures the public, to whom he has long been known as a ___ for refined amusements, that the establishment he now represents is emphatically the best, both in merit and extent, to any that has ever been brought before them. Organized expressly for this campaign, the season of 1867. The proprietors have spared neither labor nor expense to render this circus is in all respects worthy the support and patronage of an appreciated and liberal public. An entire new outfit, comfortably arranged seats, appropriate surroundings, and tasteful adjuncts.

Monster brass band, led by Joe Wireshaw, Ike La Rue, champion drummer. Blooded horses of surprising beauty, remarkable training, and great docility, and a troupe of artistes, selected expressly for their superior abilities. We claim to have a show that can defy comparison & overthrow all competition. The leading performers, secured regardless of expense, are all first-class artists, whose abilities can always command positions in the principal amphitheatres and circuses in the world, and whose talents will give tone to the entertainment and render them entirely different and vastly superior to any hitherto given in this section of the country.

In order to successfully effect this much desired end, we take pride in presenting M'lle Marie Elize, the peerless queen of the arena who stands alone unapproached and unapproachable as an equestrienne. The very embodiment of grace, elegance and skill, in comparison to whom all other female riders sink into insignificance, none daring to attempt a rivalry. Among other wonderful things she executes the daring feat of leaping over a banner sixteen feet wide, while her horse is at full speed. Madame W. B. Carroll, long recognized as the fair and faultless representative of classic equestrianism. Mr. Ben Maginley, the quintessence of wit and humor. The touchstone of the age. Whose genius

of mirth sparkles like dew-drops in the rising sun. Whose humor though pointed and telling, is chastely devoid of offense or suspicious double entendre.

W. B. Carroll, the chieftain of the equestrian school, who as a two, four or six horse rider has no equal. The Holland Family, John Sen., John Jun., Masters George & Eddie. Are remarkable evidenced of one peculiar talent in one family. From childhood they were gymnasts, and from boyhood they were performers. Ambitious and ardently attached to their profession, they have reached an eminence that few artists can attain. Joseph Tinkham, a young, dashing and intrepid horseman, who on account of his marvelous executions on a bare back steed has gained the sobriquet of the Wild Weird Rider. Mr. Tinkham is also the champion as leaper, vaulter and turns a double summersault in the air before alighting.

C. Fowler, personator of the quaint and comical. W. A. Johnston, Billy Remington, De Averno, Geo. Bird, Masters Willie, George, Louis & Frank, La Petite May, Josephine & Annie, M'lle Tinkham. The celebrated thorough bred Irish trick and race horse, Rosewood, will be introduced by Mr. Ben Maginley. The afternoon entertainment will be inaugurated by a grand free exhibition. M'lle Tinkham, the dashing equilibrist, who will make a grand ascension on the slender wire, three hundred feet long, from the ground to the top of the centre pole, and altitude of 75 feet. Remember this exhibition is free to all, and will take place outside of the marquee at one o'clock. John L. Howes, gen. agent. *Sparta Eagle* (WI), May 8, 1867, n.p.n.

• 1867: Maginley & Carroll, **online** at:

[*Clipper, March 30*](#), [*Clipper, April 27*](#), [*Clipper, May 4*](#) (scroll down)

[*Clipper, May 25*](#), [*Clipper, June 15*](#), [*Clipper, July 13*](#) (scroll down)

[*Clipper, July 20*](#), [*Clipper, August 3*](#), [*Clipper, August 31*](#) (scroll down)

[*Clipper, November 9*](#), [*Clipper, November 23*](#), [*Clipper, December 7*](#) (scroll down)

1868:

Come to Grief. Our Southern exchanges bring us the intelligence that Maginley & Carroll's circus, which passed through Petersburg a few weeks ago, has been compelled to suspend operations and disband at Valhalla, South Carolina. *Petersburg Index* (VA), November 6, 1868, n.p.n.

• 1868: Maginley & Carroll, **online** at:

[*Clipper, March 14*](#), [*Clipper, March 28*](#), [*Clipper, April 25*](#) (scroll down)

[*Clipper, May 23*](#), [*Clipper, May 30*](#), [*Clipper, June 6*](#) (scroll down)

[*Clipper, July 18*](#), [*Clipper, August 15*](#), [*Clipper, September 19*](#) (scroll down)

[*Clipper, October 17*](#), [*Clipper, November 14*](#) (scroll down)

• 1868, Ben Maginley and W. Carroll took their show to Kansas in June, 1868.

A. W. Morgan was general agent. *Bandwagon*, May-June, 1987, Vol. 31, No. 3, pp. 14-15.

1873:

The Great Western Circus is to commence a season under the management of Ben Maginley, at Houston street, East River, Oct. 13(?). [New York City] *New York Clipper*, October 18, 1873, p. 230.

At the Great Western Circus, performing at the foot of East Houston street, the chief features of the past weeks were the Siegrist Family; Arthur Nelson, scenic rider; Wooda Cook, somersault equestrian; Millie Turnous, trapeze performer; Mme. Blanche, equestrienne; Master Willie Showles, rider . . . John Foster and George Watson are the clowns, and Ben Maginley is the manager. *New York Clipper*, November 8, 1873, p. 254.

Maginley & Co.'s Circus, Menagerie, Museum and Trained Animal Show will be the title of an establishment which will travel during the season of 1874, with John O'Brien, Dr. Spaulding and Ben Maginley as owners, the latter gentleman being the manager. Claude De Haven has been engaged as director of publications and general advertising agent with Maginley & Co.'s Circus next season. *New York Clipper*, December 13, 1873, p. 295.

1874:

The privileges with Ben Maginley & Co.'s show have been disposed of as follows: concert to Pete Gannon; sideshow to Jim Gannon and Collier; candy stands to Nick White. *New York Clipper*, January 17, 1874, p. 335.

Ben Maginley & Co.'s Circus, Museum, Menagerie and Trained Animals is the be the title of the show owned by Ben Maginley, Dr. Spaulding and John O'Brien, which will be put on the road during the tenting season of 1874. *New York Clipper*, January 31, 1874, p. 351.

Prince Sadi d'Jalma, the "Man of Mystery," is engaged for the coming season with Ben Maginley & Co.'s circus and menagerie. *New York Clipper*, February 28, 1874, p. 383.

Maginley & Co. have purchased, during the past week, a golden leopard, a tapir, and a collection of monkeys, birds, etc., all of which have been shipped to Frankford, Pa. Maginley & Co., during the winter, have been breaking a buffalo to perform a series of ring tricks. *New York Clipper*, April 4, 1874, p. 7.

Maginley & Co.'s Circus, Museum, Menagerie and Trained Animals. Proprietors, G. Spalding, John O'Brien and Ben Maginley; manager, Ben Maginley; assistant manager, S. Keeler; contracting agent, A. Burt; advertising agent, Claude De Haven; programme agent, J. Turner; treasurer, Joseph Colvin; assistant treasurer, Wm. Fowler; leader of band, Prof. Adolph Nichols; equestrian director, Jacob Showles; zoological director, Wm. Pendergast . . . Clowns, _ . S. Smith and George Dunbar. Riders, Mme. Trewolla, Mme.

Showles, Senorita Antonio, Fred Barclay, Mons. Fernando, J. Showles, Master Willie and Willie Showles . . . Gymnasts, Senor Antonio, George Dunbar . . . Acrobats, leapers and tumblers, Clifford, Fisher, Wilson, Sig. Raffello . . . Specialists, Prince Sadi d'Jalma and George Le Tort. Proprietor of concert, Peter Gannon. Proprietor of sideshow, Prof. Collier & Co. Proprietor of candy privileges, Nick White. Supt. of menagerie, A. W. Field. Supt. museum, Andrew Reed. Winter quarters, Frankford, Pa. . . . *New York Clipper*, April 18, 1874, Supplement, n.p.n.

[Advertisement] Maginley & Co.'s Museum, Circus, Menagerie and Trained Animals. In Newport, Saturday, June 13th. Royal Circus, British Museum, Mammoth Menagerie, and School of Educated Animals, together with the equestrian drama Putnam, The Iron Son of '76, performed every evening with one hundred men, women and horses. M'dlle Marie Elise, equestrienne. The Carroll Family (six in number), bareback riders. Prince Sadi di Jaima, human anaconda. Master Willie, boy bareback rider. The Great Dunbar. Antoni, and a regiment of artists.

Free street tournament. The Golden Appolonian, drawn by 40 horses driven by one man. The largest elephant in the world heads the cavalcade. The Rhinoceros to perform in the amphitheatre, ridden by a native. The performing mules, "Brick Pomeroy," and "Ben Butler." The talking horse, "Stephen A. Douglass." Elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen, dens with living wild beasts, headed by the cornet band of 25 musicians. Admission 50 cents, children under 9 years of age, 25 cents. Claude DeHaven, advertising agent and director of all publications. *Newport Daily News* (RI), June 10, 1874, n.p.n.

Ben Maginley & Co.'s Circus and Menagerie open at Boston on June 22 for one week. *New York Clipper*, June 13, 1874, p. 87.

Maginley & Co.'s Circus has closed for the season and gone into winter quarters. *New York Clipper*, November 7, 1874, p. 255.

1875: Ben Maginley has withdrawn from the Circus and Menagerie which bore his name last season. *New York Clipper*, January 16, 1875, p. 335.

1876: Circus property is offered for sale by Ben Maginley. The property consists of horses, wagons, costumes, harness, tents, etc. *New York Clipper*, February 5, 1876, p. 359.

Information should be checked with additional sources Do you have more information on this show? [Email](#) your documented information for the show or the persons.