

## More Real Comedy

PURE comedy as played by the most refined English players—such comedy as we used to have in Canada much oftener when cities were smaller—is getting a revival at one or two theatres of late. Sir Chas. Wyndham, supported by Miss Mary Moore, is just winding up a successful week's run at the Princess Theatre, Toronto, in "The Mollusc." Following him in the same theatre comes Miss Marie Tempest, who presents the same sort of refined English comedy, depending for its appreciation on the exercise of the mind—which is unhappily untrue of nine-tenths of the comedy imported into Canada. If reports are to be relied upon, "Penelope," the comedy by W. Somerset Maugham, in which she is announced to appear, ought to prove just as enjoyable as "The Mollusc" has been this week. The two plays, while entirely different in theme and treatment, are both examples of the best in modern comedy—the kind of comedy that appeals directly to the intelligence.

It is several years since Miss Tempest was seen on the local stage. Then she was an opera singer and one of the best. Her success in legitimate comedy, however, has been remarkable and in London where she is a tremendous favourite they regard her as their leading exponent of the art of comedy. "Penelope" was written especially for her and she delighted London in it for more than two years. In it she appears as a young wife struggling to rewin her husband, who has been lured away by a pretty grass widow. The method she employs is somewhat unique and it is doubtful if it would prove as effective in real life as it does in the play. It would require a Marie Tempest sort of a wo-

man to manipulate it and there aren't many such—perhaps.

Miss Tempest will be supported here by the same company of English actors that appeared with her in London so long.



Miss Marie Tempest, who is playing in "Penelope," direct from London

## In the days of the Play Party

By J. L. HARBOUR

### The Weevily Wheat.

ONCE upon a time there was the singing game called "The Weevily Wheat," in the playing of which the young men chose partners and arranged themselves in two long lines facing each other. While the couple at the head marched down between the lines the others sang:

"Oh, don't you see this pretty miss  
All dressed in riches of beauty,  
A-sailing down the flow'ry fields  
So faithful to her duty?  
Oh, don't you think she's a pretty miss,  
And don't you think she's clever,  
And don't you think that she and I  
Will make a match forever?  
"Oh, I won't have any of your weevily wheat,  
And I won't have any of your barley;  
But I must have the best of wheat  
To make a cake for Charley!  
For Charley he's a nice young lad,  
And Charley he's a dandy,  
And Charley he's the very lad  
Who stole his daddy's brandy!"

### The Game of Hiss Cat.

THEN there were games of forfeits in which one "kept postoffice," or "measured tape," or "picked grapes," or did other things involving more or less osculatory effort. It required some deliberation before a young fellow could "bow to the wittiest, kneel to the prettiest, and kiss the one he loved best." Then all the boys would be banished from the room and a little later two or three of them would be summoned back, and, through some occult process, divine if possible, the girls who had chosen them to sit by their sides. If they

made a mistake and sat by the wrong girl, violent hissing resulted, and they were again banished. This interesting game was called "Hiss Cat."

\* \* \*

### The Three Tinkers.

AGAIN three young fellows would lock arms and march up to some other fellow in the room, singing:

"Three tinkers, three tinkers,  
Three tinkers, are we,  
A-courting your daughters  
So rare and so fair!  
Can we get lodging  
Here, oh here?  
Can we get lodging here?"

To this the father of three daughters might reply, if he did not like the looks of the tinkers:

"Three tinkers, three tinkers,  
Three tinkers, you are,  
A-courting my daughters  
So rare and so fair,  
You can't get lodging  
Here, of here!  
You can't get lodging here!"

\* \* \*

### Give Her a Kiss and Let Her Go.

ANOTHER game was one in which a young fellow seated himself on one of two chairs in the centre of the room and sang this alluring invitation:

"Green grows the willow tree!  
Green grows the willow tree!  
Green grows the willow tree!  
Come, my love, and sit by me!"  
Then the young fellow pointed his finger at the object of his choice, and she was in duty bound to sit by him, after which the others sang:  
"On the banks the rushes grow!  
On the banks the rushes grow!  
On the banks the rushes grow!  
Give her a kiss and let her go!"

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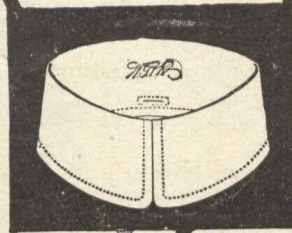
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