

# POOR DOCUMENT M C 2 0 3 4

THE STAR, ST. JOHN.

## STAGE CHARMS MORE MILK

### Astounding Success of the Actress in Capturing Titles

**STRANGE** as it may seem, actresses are now capturing more titles than American heiresses.

Only the other day it was proclaimed in London that Miss Viola Tree, daughter of Beecham Tree, and an actress of more than insular reputation, was to marry the marquis of Granby.

This on top of reports, not denied, that Estelle Christy, the New York Casino chorus girl, wears an engagement ring given by Lord Elliot; that Maudie Darrell has captured the marquis of Anglesey, and that the earl of Stenhope has laid his heart and title at the feet of Gabrielle Ray.

Long, indeed, is growing the list of foot-light favorites marrying into the nobility. And to their credit be it said that many of them really adorn the new positions to which they attain.

**"H**AS it come to a race between American millions and the stage?" is the question being asked in England's aristocratic circles. Just now the foot-light favorites appear to be in the lead.

Since the time when the engagements of Miss Gladys Waverley and Miss Theodora Shonts were announced, no fewer than four English titles have fallen at the feet of actresses.

That is, according to current report, and report in these cases is accepted as correct, because the usual ground deplains have not been made.

Those who do not take readily to this order of things may remark that the capture of honors and position by actresses is really not new; will assert that the introduction of stage celebrities to the English peerage goes much further back than the day of the American heiress.

They will tell you that English kings were flirting with Nell Gwynn when the only American heiresses were the daughters of Indian chiefs and when the wealth of American millionaires was computed in wampum.

Mentioning specific cases, they tell of the third earl of Peterborough, who married Miss Amastasia Robinson, a music hall singer of London, in 1794, while the earl of Derby made Eliza Farnes his countess before the American Revolution.

Never before, however, has there been such a rapid upon titles as the stage is making now. Within five years, it is freely predicted in London, there will be five actresses possessed of one heiress-possess.

Critics find their guns of argument pointed to a considerable extent by the exemplary behavior of actresses who have done the honors.

Belle Elton, the former Gaiety actress, who died about three years ago in Ireland, did so well as Lady, Clancarty that she was sincerely mourned by a large circle of aristocratic friends.

Rosie Boote is winning laurels in her new role of the marchioness of Headfort; Camille Clifford, wife of Hon. Lyndhurst Bruce, who will become Viscountess, has been admitted to exclusive circles of society, and Lady Ashburton, formerly Frances Belmont, is making new friends among those who were shocked by her admission into the purple.

Other good examples of actresses who have entered the nobility, but their heads and filled their new positions cleverly are "Connie" Gilchrist, who became the countess of Orkney, and Eva Carrington, who abandoned music hall popularity to become Lady de Clifford.

#### MISS TREE HAS MANY CHARMS

Miss Viola Tree possesses a genius for dancing and her grace that she will probably entertain many drawing-room assemblies when she becomes the marchioness of Granby.

Her comeliness of feature and form has made her a favorite in tubercles. To her is a happy gift as an artist, and has wrought excellent likenesses of some of her friends.

When Miss Viola Tree was not quite 18 at least, so declared the many articles written about her—and was one of the most famous of the many Gilbert girls then on the stage.

That she was not consumed by eagerness to enter the social realms to which her new title was to prove the open sesame, was shown by the fact that she gladly consented to a six months' honeymoon in Abyssinia.

After she returned home she assumed social duties awaiting her. She speedily developed into a model country grande dame.

Every Victoria handkerchief—that was her real name—John Southwell Russell, Lord de Clifford, at a little dinner in Dublin, and the two were victims of bad case of love at first sight. The wedding took place February 16, 1904.

Lord de Clifford will not settle down as a model Irish landlord, perhaps, for a number of years. The spirit of "wanderlust" is in his blood; he is a great traveler, and his wife is no less enthusiastic in that direction. During her residence on Lord de Clifford's Irish estate the former actress has become an expert rider to hounds.

Camille Clifford rose from the lowly position of a scrub-girl to that of heiress to a countess. She came to America a little Swedish peasant girl, bearing the name of Ottoborn; she went out to domestic service, scrubbed floors, sewed and performed other tasks fitting the lot of a maid of all work.

It was almost by accident that she was engaged as a chorus girl in the play, "Morocco Bound," then running in Boston. As it proved, she only needed this chance; her work was so good and her stage appearance so attractive that she was never without an engagement afterward.

Her beauty won her a host of friends among the theater-going public, and her capability was recognized by managers.

With the family of Lord Aberdare is not old in the peerage. It is one of the wealthiest in England. Extensive property, and she is constantly pouring a stream of gold into the family coffers, and many other industrial enterprises swell the income.

Some years ago a cablegram from London conveyed this information to the young heiress of Headfort, formerly Miss Rosie Boote, of the Gaiety Theatre.

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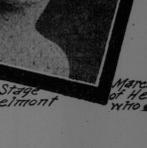
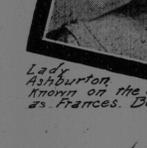
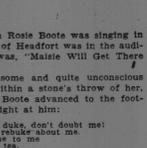
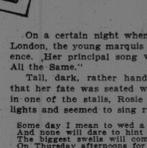
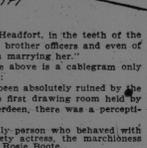
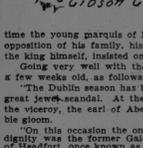
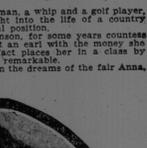
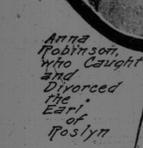
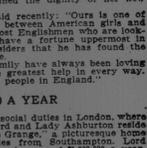
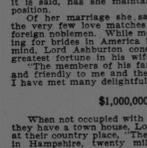
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## What is Popularity? How Photograph Sales Reply.



**W**HAT is popularity? In what does it consist? How can it be gauged? Is it popularity to be cheered as one appears before the footlights? Is it to be discussed daily in the newspapers, to have one's picture each month, in various poses, in the magazines? Is it to have cigarettes, cigars, confections and toilet articles named after you? Is it to write for the consumption of a half million readers? Some one in Paris the other day made a round of the shops to ascertain what photographs were mostly in demand. If one's photograph sells well in the French capital it is considered an unflattering sign of popularity.

**M**OST popular of all those before the French public, according to the investigation, is La Belle Otero, the dancer. Of every hundred pictures sold in Paris, fifteen were of Otero.

Next came Pierre Loti, the "Rudyard Kipling of France," and "Ralph the Butcher," a widely known wrestler, each with thirteen pictures sold in the hundred. Fourth in favor came Sarah Bernhardt, with eleven, while Cleo de Merode—she of the falling tresses—came fifth. Two of every hundred portraits

bought were of Count Boni de Castellana. It must be a happy thought for the lovely Otero that Merode ranks fifth in popular favor, for the rivalry of the two women has interested Paris for many years. In France, perhaps, the photographs are as good a gauge of popularity as anything, for the people are photograph mad.

In the United States the photograph fad came in late and starts. Perhaps the extent of one's fame or notoriety here could best be gauged by the columns of space in the newspapers. For the time being there could have been little doubt that Evelyn Nesbit Thaw was the leader in notoriety. Newspapers printed columns about her. Postcards showing her posing in various attitudes, a favorite picturing her living with her head on a tiger's head, were sold by the thousands.

For some years one of the most popular men of the country has probably been assured of his occupancy of the meridian in the public mind by the sale of Teddy bears. Actresses and authors in this country have seen their popularity rise and wane in the sale of pictures and postcards.

Not many years ago pictures of Miss Lillian Russell were so much in demand that cigarette makers enticed purchasers by giving away small colored photographs of the actress. The climax of Kipling's popularity was marked by sales of his pictures.

It will be remembered that pictures of few authors ever had the vogue that of Richard Le Gallienne, when he came to America after the success of his "Golden Girls." Schoolgirls proudly placed the picture of the long-haired poet with the classic profile on their mantels, and people talked of the grace and charm of the author of "The Love Letters of the King."

Hall Caine, too, came in for his turn, but as his face was not quite as handsome as that of Mr. Le Gallienne, his fame-in-photographs was brief. Of course people like to know what celebrities look like. So they buy their pictures. Then, too, both in England and America the popularity of an actress can often be gauged by the vogue of a song with which she is associated. For the time being Vestal Victoria's fame faded from every one's lips in the song of "Poor John."

Political success, perhaps, is not better manifested than in public acclaim, and it will be recalled that when the Mayor of a certain city in the United States came out for pure government a grateful people followed him for days when he went to lunch from the governmental building to his club, cheering him on his way.

Much popularity is short-lived, however, and often the political hero of the day sinks into obscurity while the actress goes sparkling on her way in an eternal youth.

Otero, the most popular woman in Paris, said to be the most graceful dancer in the world, has long been known as the rival of Cleo de Merode. La Belle Otero went on the stage when she was 8 years of age and while dancing near Madrid danced herself into fame by being abducted by secret agents of King Alfonso XII, who spirited her off to his palace. She forced open a window and escaped.

At the age of 13 she married the Marquis de Otero, a Spanish nobleman. At 18 she eloped, in Berlin, the dancer played havoc with hearts, and the Crown Prince Wilhelm, now the kaiser, was said to have been smitten by her charms.

For years Otero has reigned in Paris. Rather, at times she was compelled to share her reign with Merode. For many years the rivalry between the two was the talk of Paris. One tried to surpass the other in richness of dress, toilettes, expensive automobiles, jewels and breeds of dogs. It was Otero, it is said, who started the rumor that Merode hid her ears because they were deformed.

Cleo de Merode, for a long time in high favor with King Leopold of Belgium, is said to be worth millions in her own right, having gained immense profits from lands in the Congo given her by Leopold. The subject of Cleo's ears has been a mystery.

**AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY**  
Since the time when, in the late eighties, she appeared in a picture painted by Alfred Grevin, with her hair plastered down over the side of her face, the world has wondered as to the shape of her ears. She never permits them to be seen by the public.

Pierre Loti, who ranks so high in the estimation of Parisians, is the author of some twenty-odd books, consisting of fiction and works of travel. All are written in a charming style.

Julian Viudez is his real name—is a lieutenant commander in the French navy. He devotes his time to the navy and to literature. Between voyages he spends his time at his home at Rochefort, one of the finest in France, where he is visited by hundreds of admirers.

His books of travel are popular because of their intimate, personal observations. His novels are classics, and his "Romance of a Child" is said to be a perfect work.

That Loti should share in degree of popularity with a wrestler is considered as rather humorous. However, it is not likely that the admirers of Loti are devotees of Ralph the Butcher.

Another name that has become famous in the past few years is that of "Miss Sarah" Bernhardt, who was first in the hearts of Parisians; her photographs were the most largely sold. But her reign has lasted for so many years that it is not wondered that the public has turned to other gods and goddesses.