

MUSIC AND DRAMA

MISS JULIA MARLOWE is an artist who is always welcome in Canada, since the days when she first captured Montreal and Toronto as *Rosalind* in Shakespeare's daintiest comedy. The English tour of Miss Marlowe and Mr. Sothern last year was an artistic success, whose interest was somewhat heightened by the fact that Miss Marlowe is English by birth although American in education and methods. Miss Marlowe will appear in Toronto on April 2, 3 and 4, with Saturday matinee, at the Princess Theatre in *As You Like It*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *When Knighthood Was in Flower*, and a new romantic drama entitled *Gloria*.

The theatre-goer will be relieved to learn that *Gloria* has nothing to do with *Glory Quayle*, the horrible heroine of Mr. Caine's melodrama, *The Christian*, but is, on the contrary, a new play by James B. Fagan, a writer hitherto unknown to dramatic fame and said to be a "discovery" made by Miss Marlowe herself. The manuscripts which surround a newspaper editor are but a mole-hill in comparison with the pile which confronts an actress, who invariably hopes to find in the mounting heap of would-be dramas the material out of which a successful play may be made. *Gloria* is a bit of sun-lit, laughing Italy, a play which shows,



Miss Julia Marlowe, who will be at the Princess Theatre, Toronto, next week.

also, a seldom-realised side of the Renaissance. "We take the Renaissance in awe. It means to most of us something dignified and splendid. Yet Browning strove to modify that idea; he gave us *My Last Duchess* and *Fra Angelico*, poems which reflect the light humour, the cynical wickedness of Florence and Pisa."

Gloria is said to reflect successfully the sunny spirit of that day. Its heroine is a care-free hoyden, a countess of youth and bubbling spirit, who takes delight in sending her lovers on fools' errands and who regards the world as a lifelong jest, to be laughed at under the bluest skies and amidst the most luxurious gardens and palaces. "The joy of life unquestioned" makes this play of Sixteenth-Century Italy a source of unalloyed mirth and Miss Marlowe, whose Roman name of Julia suggests,

Italian memories, takes to the part *con amore* and adds a new charm to the many she already possesses for a not-easily-pleased public.

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IN order to realise just how paltry the modern entertainment known as musical comedy has become, it is necessary to hear a revival of one of the good old Gilbert-and-Sullivan operas. Montreal had such an opportunity lately, in which "the flowers that bloom in the Spring had nothing to do with the case." It is to be hoped that other Canadian cities will have similar opportunities and that amateur companies will also turn their attention to the tuneful and ideal productions which show up the ultra-modern stuff as flimsy material. Mr. George Cohan, who is guilty of some of the poorest of the late "entertainment," recently sent to certain United States publications a communication expressing his views on English theatrical and operatic productions and the epistle to the Western Hemisphere makes weird reading. Among other remarks Mr. Cohan delivers the following judgment regarding *Peter Pan*:

"I decided I would have thoroughly enjoyed it when I was a small boy taking violin lessons in Orange, New Jersey."

So Mr. Cohan took music lessons. Unlucky violin! And unhappy James M. Barrie whose delicate dreams have failed to ensnare the Cohan fancy! The more reputable journals in New York have joined in ridicule of the Cohan lucubration and it is to be hoped that further critical details from that source will not find a fool publisher. Mr. Cohan's dramatic productions are tawdry and vulgar beyond what we deserve; but his dramatic comment on the attractions of the city he playfully terms "Edward's village" are a painful revelation of the effects of a rush of dollars to the brain.

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MADAME LE GRAND REED, who has delighted Montreal audiences during the last month by her singing at two concerts, is to be the assisting soprano soloist at the People's Choral Union concert in Massey Hall, Toronto, next Tuesday night. Mr. H. M. Fletcher, the conductor of this organisation, will then conclude what has been an unusually heavy season of choral work.

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SO far, there has been no announcement of outdoor theatrical performances during University Commencement week. The un-June-like weather of the last three years, during the closing days of the college year, has probably deterred the authorities from making any "Ben Greet" arrangements.

WAITING FOR DINNER.

When one is very hungry,
It's hard to wait, I know,
For minutes seem like hours
And the clock is always slow.

There isn't time to play a game,
You just sit down and wait,
While mother says, "Be patient,
Our cook is never late."

It's best when one is hungry,
To think of other things,
For then, before you know it,
The bell for dinner rings.

—St. Nicholas.

CHILDREN THRIVE BEST ON

SHREDDED WHEAT

During Lent, give 'em lots of it. Makes bone, muscle, brain, and good teeth; creates rich red blood and natural warmth. Keeps the whole system in good working order.

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