

# Picture Patter -:- and a Bit -:- of Stage Gossip

BY ARTHUR S. WINTON.

Douglas Fairbanks' new picture, "A Modern Musketeer," discloses the smiling movie star in the role of Ned Thacker, a youth from Kansas, who inherited the spirit of the famed D'Artagnan, one of the triumvirate of heroes of Dumas' "The Three Musketeers," through parental influences. The picture began a four days' run yesterday at the Paramount-Empress and should pack that theatre at every performance.

The self-reliance of modern woman as compared with her sister of past generations, is strikingly shown, for in many cases the chivalry of the modern D'Artagnan as portrayed by the inimitable "Doug" is mistaken and his gallant attempts to assist women in distress lead to rebukes from the independent maidens alert to squelch flirtatious youths. Fairbanks demonstrates a new accomplishment in "A Modern Musketeer," viz., fencing. He handles a sword with the grace of an expert and alone defeats a room crowded with swordsmen.

As D'Artagnan, Fairbanks wears a wig. 'Tis said he had great difficulty in keeping it on during the making of the picture and objected to the curls, declaring they acted as a sort of porter for his eyes and prevented him doing his stunts effectively. The energetic "Doug" says he doesn't envy Julian Eltinge at all—but then if Julian tried to do some of the Fairbanks tricks he, too, would very likely soon balk at a wig.

Fairbanks always seems able to make his newest film better than the last, and so it is with "A Modern Musketeer." It's one of his most laughable pictures. The plot of the piece brings about some screamingly funny situations, and there's even more of the famous Fairbanks energy in evidence than in some of the teeming-with-action western pictures in which the star has been seen of late.

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The Rialto theatre, formerly the Mehesy, is offering its patrons two of the best pictures of recent months in "The Pride of the Clan," with Mary Pickford playing the Scotch lass, and "The Slacker," with Emily Stevens portraying the role of the wife who brought her slacker husband to a realization of his duty to country.

Miss Pickford will be seen in the picture with the Scotch highlands background today and tomorrow. It's one of the best liked films "America's Sweetheart" ever made and well worth seeing again even though you may have had the pleasure before. "The Slacker" rates as one of the very best of the pictures produced with the great world war serving as a basis for the plot and action. Miss Steven's acting in this film is truly wonderful. "The Slacker" has accomplished wonders in stirring the patriotism of America, and even though there isn't a shot fired in the picture, it carries its message of loyalty just the same.

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Elaine Hammerstein, the star of "The Correspondent," which was shown yesterday at the American theatre and will be continued today, is a daughter of the renowned Oscar Hammerstein, builder of several theatres in New York, founder of the Hammerstein Grand Opera company and daring impresario.

Miss Hammerstein shows by her work in "The Correspondent" that she is as talented in motion pictures as her father was as a producer and stage director. The film presents an absorbing drama of New York newspaper life in which romance and action prevail in the fight of an editor to win the woman he loves and to protect her against an unscrupulous millionaire.

Today the Strand theatre will have pretty Peggy Hyland, Vitagraph star, in "Babetto." Miss Hyland is seldom seen here and picture patrons will doubtless welcome her appearance at the S. State street theatre. Mary Miles Minter, another charming actress whom folks would like to see here much oftener, was at the Strand yesterday and pleased big audiences in her "Peggy Leads the Way."

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Another queen of the movies who is returning to Orpheum vaudeville this week after a long absence is Mollie King, whose picture has been flashed from one end of the country to the other. Miss King reveals herself in the two-a-day as a singing single. Before the camera men "shot" she she was well known in musical comedy, and before that Orpheumites will remember, she was of the sister team of Nellie and Mollie King, Charley King of the Orpheum team of Bruce and King is her brother and was the first member of the family to embark on a stage career. Now he is in Uncle Sam's navy.

Johnny Hyams and Lella McIntyre began their Orpheum tour this week. They will be accompanied over the circuit by their daughter Lella, now 12 years old. She has always traveled with them and has probably covered more mileage than any other girl of her age. Just before Christmas Lella and her mother dressed thirty dolls for the benefit of poor children in New York and still found sufficient time to do their bit of knitting for the soldiers.

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