

PARIS RAVES OVER A NEW BEAUTY--THIS TIME SHE IS A LITTLE MILLINER.

Mlle. Curot, Though Only a Poor Work Girl, Is Now Paris's Idol of Loveliness.



THREE PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS OF Mlle. ERNESTINE CUROT THAT SHOW WHY PARIS HAS GONE WILD OVER HER.

PARIS, Aug. 6.—This beautiful young girl has a new model of feminine beauty. She is Mlle. Ernestine Curot, who was chosen to represent the Muse of Paris in the great National Fete.

She is only a work girl—a little milliner. She was chosen as the most beautiful woman in a competition which was open to all France.

She was a radiant success at the fete, but she has not been forgotten since then. Her charms are the subject of enthusiastic discussion in the cafes and the newspapers.

Ernestine's beauty is typically Parisian. She has blond hair and large, dark eyes. Her nose is slightly retroussé. Her figure is small, plump and graceful. She is an incarnation of delicious coquetry. She is only eighteen years old.

The National Fete was a most brilliant, original and artistic affair. It was intended to mark the progress of France and the centenary of Michelet, the great revolutionary historian, who celebrated the glories of work.

It was fitting that a beautiful work girl should be chosen as the Muse of Paris. The fete began with a march performed by a splendid orchestra conducted by M. Georges Charpentier, in which all the old cries of Paris were introduced.

M. Charpentier was himself the composer. Only very few of these old "cries" still survive, and an effort was recently made to induce the Prefect of Police to prohibit them altogether.

"Achetez la crevette, elle est bonne, elle est belle" (Buy the shrimp! she is good, she is beautiful) "chand d'habits" (the equivalent of "old clothes"), "avez-vous des chaises a rempailler?" (chairs to mend), "limandes a frire!" (lemon soles for frying), still exist.

An air in "Fernand Cortes" was actually appropriated by an intelligent hawk of ink, Felicien David, the composer, stole one of the most successful motives from an itinerant cheese-monger.

Halévy composed "Grand paratra in pale aurore" after hearing the cry of "Belles bottes d'asperges" (fine bundles of asparagus).

As the last chords of the music died away the Muse descended the steps of the Hotel de Ville accompanied by the two lesser muses, Mademoiselles Eugénie Bellin and Amélie Chasselin, and mounted the stage.

A troop of little street children, costumed in rags, surrounded her, carrying baskets of flowers in their hands. The ceremony was nothing if not symbolical. Then the "criers" of Paris exhorted the crowd to come and admire the Muse, and a ballet began—the Ballet of Pleasure, danced by artists from the corps de ballet of the Opera.

In the midst of the dancing appeared Beauty, personified by Mademoiselle Mante, of the Opera, who expressed in pantomime her desire to give eternal form to the efforts of Humanity.

The beautiful Muse of Paris, Mademoiselle Curot, was by far the most attractive figure in the whole fete.

Theatrical managers have offered her splendid inducements to appear on the stage, and great artists have begged her to sit for them.

She is destined to reign for a time as the Parisian Goddess of Beauty. In recognition to Liens de Pougy, Cloe de Meronne, Manon and others.

AN AMERICAN RIVAL OF THE EMPRESS OF INDIA.

Continued from Page Thirteen. and his family, but Washington and the diplomatic corps received them kindly. The girls received the finest European education. The oldest, Mary, often known as Belle, was the most brilliant. She was the belle of the most fashionable society in Washington and the diplomatic corps. She is tall, dark and majestic. Her hair and complexion are entrancingly beautiful. She is brilliantly accomplished and has been

to elect her husband for the Southport Division of Lancashire three years ago. Few voters cared to remain Liberals when appealed by the lovely American Tor. The selection of Mr. Curzon as Viceroy of India is made by the British Government partly because he has an American wife. It is an expression of the desire for an Anglo-Saxon alliance. That this is so may be judged from a letter which was written by a British officer from the United Service Club at Simla, under date of July 6: "The next Viceroy is the question of the hour. All agree that the next ruler must be a strong man of affairs who can keep

a level head in a crisis. But another point upon which opinions coincide remarkably touches the personality of the Viceroy's consort. We don't talk of this too seriously, because for some occult reason Whitehall deems it a matter of no importance. "Goodness alone knows why. Why should a mere man all suffice as the representative of the Queen and Empress of India and no notice be taken of the woman who must preside over the vice-regal courts of Calcutta and Simla? "I might quote on the importance of the grande dame who can entertain royalty, who can enter joyously into the life of our society, give it tone and set the fashion in all things, both great and small. These matters to English readers may sound like trivialities, but they are not.

They make for the peace and prosperity of the Empire. "But the fact on which I would lay especial stress is the sacred reverence in which the Viceroy's consort is held by the princes and peoples of India. This divine womanhood can only be fitly represented by a woman. I, and many think with me, desire to see the new Viceroy accompanied by a consort beautiful, graceful and accomplished, who will place all her gifts, all her talents unreservedly at the service of India. "Mrs. Curzon is an American lady, wealthy, accomplished, charming. The Anglo-Indians pride themselves on their freedom from insular prejudices. We should accord the very warmest welcome to this fair American."

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