

CONFESSIONS OF A WIFE

LAWTON GETS ANOTHER LEADING LADY, BUT SHE ENVIES PAULA AND QUILTS

"Even when Mary Madden said she could not stay in the company with Ernest Lawton, Margie," said Paula, "I did not realize what she meant and I did not have time to ask her, for Ernest returned just then. As he passed the dressing room he called out: 'Rehearsal tomorrow at 11, Paula. I have engaged Miss Salvan to take the place of Miss Madden.'"

"Mary Madden looked up quickly and her face turned pale, but she said nothing. Miss Salvan was one of the best known leading women on the stage at that time. She was different from Mary Madden, however, as I found next morning at rehearsal.

"At first Miss Salvan was very sweet, but as the play proceeded she began to frown. At last she stopped and said: 'Mr. Lawton, am I leading lady in this company or am I feeder to that innocent-faced super over there?'"

"Why, of course, you are playing the lead, Miss Salvan."

"Well, I haven't discovered it yet, and I give you fair warning unless I have Miss Madden's part just as she has been playing it I will not go on."

"Ernest looked at me rather pathetically, but by this time I had begun to realize that I must fight my own battles, for no one would fight them for me, so I said nothing.

"Well, what about it?" was Miss Salvan's abrupt question.

"The manuscript you have, Miss Salvan, is that which we used for our first night's success," said Ernest.

"But it is not the one you are playing now by a long shot," interrupted Miss Salvan. "They told me on the street this morning that Mary Madden was leaving this company because you were determined to give your latest affinity all the fat."

"Mr. Lawton," I broke in, "please tell Miss Salvan she can have all my

speeches, as two weeks from tonight I will no longer be in her company."

"Good God, Paula!" exclaimed Ernest Lawton, "will you give up a part that has made you the talk of all Broadway because of the protests of an older actress?"

"Older actress!" shouted Miss Salvan, and then she broke loose. I have never heard such profanity as issued from that woman's lips. She called Ernest Lawton everything she could think of and I also came in for my share of the billingsgate. Finally she subsided into a flood of tears and left the stage. This was the first and last time I saw Jane Salvan at close range.

"Through curiosity I went to see her a year afterward when she was playing Sister Letty and I could not believe my eyes. Such a beautiful picture of sweet sacrificing sisterhood I have never seen on the stage. It was the triumph of art over nature.

"However, as Ernest Lawton said to me, that morning left us as badly off as before, with Mary Madden leaving us the end of the week."

(To Be Continued.)

TODAY IN ILLINOIS HISTORY

Nov. 7, 1748.—The governor of Louisiana strongly advised the French ministry not to carry out its plan of placing Illinois under the jurisdiction of Canada instead of that of Louisiana. He argued that Louisiana would suffer for lack of a source of food supplies, and that Canada could not properly protect a post so far distant.

Unable to obtain men to aid in harvesting, Fred Harris, a farmer near Pukwana, S. D., engaged four of the neighborhood girls, who shocked all of his small grain crops as well as men could have done it.