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could be saved by working along these lines, experts on the situation believe, and New York is the place in which to start, for there, it is said, is a prodigious waste of the material that is out of all sympathy with a very real and almost desperate situation. It is a situation, too, it is pointed out, that has nothing to do with war conditions and which will not be relieved simply by the coming of peace.



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"LESS THAN THE DUST"

Mary Pickford As Hindu Girl in First Artercraft Production.

(Reviewed by Thomas C. Kennedy in Motography.) Needless to say, Mary Pickford is the outstanding feature of "Less Than The Dust," the first release of the Artercraft Pictures Corporation, that will be shown at the Arcade today and tomorrow.

The picture is in seven reels, each reel being a generous one. The story is of an English girl who has become thoroughly Hindu through environment.

The picture opens in India. Radha's father is a member of a group of Hindus who are planning to revolt against the English rule. Radha desires to learn the English tongue and she studies faithfully. The girl and Captain Townsend, commanding at the post at Sapatu, become fast friends. On the night of the revolt Radha, though forced to aid the rebels, saves the captain's life.

Townsend returns to England on receiving word that his uncle is seriously ill. The uncle makes the captain his heir, explaining that his own son has disgraced the family name. The swordmaker is sentenced with other leaders of the revolt to five years' imprisonment. Ramlan feels it his duty to tell Radha the truth about her birth. Radha's father, a Captain Brooke, was a victim of a drug and her mother entrusted the child to the care of the swordmaker. Radha is sent to England by the Babu and makes her claim to the estate of Edward Brooke, the uncle of Captain Townsend. According to the will left by Brooke, Townsend would be justified in the eyes of the law if he refused to grant Radha her share in the estate. The girl goes to a "Finishing" school and when a real English lady, she marries the captain.

The story has been given an elaborate production. It is, come to think of it, quite novel to see Mary Pickford in a production on so large a scale. Many spectacular scenes are introduced, not the least impressive of these being long, sweeping views of the streets of Sapatu at the time set for the revolt. John Emerson paid great attention to the spectacular, and rightly so, because these opportunities were bound to prove more fruitful of pleasing effect when they reached the screen than any of a dramatic nature the story presented.

In the heroic role, David Powell acquits himself most commendably. He is reserved and makes Captain Townsend a convincing character. Mary Aiden, Mario Majeroni, Cesare Gravina and Francis Joyner are effective.

Radha is a good role for Mary Pickford to appear in. Radha's strictly Hindu propensity for driving a sharp bargain enables the star to secure many laughs from the audience. Perhaps the most effective comedy situation is that in which Radha, with a few kicks, mixes up the shoes of the natives who are bathing in the sacred pool and who give her the chase for entering the pool wearing her shoes.

Taken all-in-all, this film is up to and above the usual Pickford films and can be counted upon to appeal to all and delight the Pickford fans.

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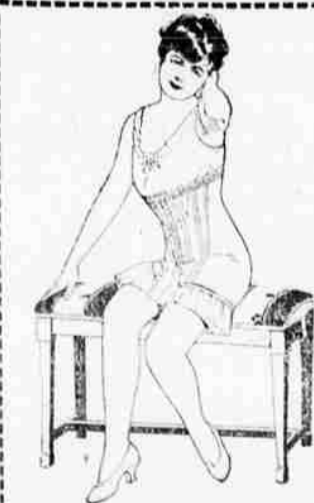
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