

THE PLAY

"THE JEALOUS WIFE" was first performed at Drury Lane on Thursday, 12th February, 1761, with Garrick and Mrs. Pritchard in the leading parts. It attained an immediate success, and remained a stock piece until well into the nineteenth century, since when it has been but seldom seen.

After the brilliance of the Restoration Comedy of Manners, the sentimental comedy held almost unchallenged supremacy over the English stage throughout the eighteenth century. If Goldsmith and Sheridan be excluded—and their works are so familiar that we thought it well to look elsewhere for a play to represent the second half of the eighteenth century in our History of the Theatre Programme—it is not easy to find a play that would appeal to a modern audience. We cannot swallow to-day the highly moral sentimentalism of Steele, Cumberland and Kelly and their contemporaries, sometimes insincere and hypocritical, but often genuinely intended to be "elevating."

Fortunately, George Colman was one of the few to break away from the prevailing mode, and write more robustly, more naturally, more humanly, and above all more entertainingly. "The Jealous Wife" shows him to be a dramatist of no mean ability. Alike in construction, dialogue, delineation of character and treatment, this play is far ahead of most of Colman's contemporaries. Above all, it is not a highly self-conscious, highly sententious sermon, but a genuine comedy, at which we can sit back and laugh—as we hope you will do!

It is a more or less naturalistic comedy of its period: it deals with real people, talking and acting much as people did. As such it is not to be compared with the satirical artificialities of Sheridan. It is in this naturalistic key that we have endeavoured to produce the play, and it may be of interest to record that, in harmony with this interpretation, most of the costumes kindly loaned by Mr. Cyril Nairne, are genuine clothes of the period.

A.E.J.E.

A REMINDER —

Saturday, 8th May: Annual Dinner, at the Comedy Restaurant.

Friday, 21st May: Annual General Meeting.

NEXT SEASON —

DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAMA IN THE 19th & 20th CENTURIES.

Become a non-acting member NOW, and see the whole season's programme for 7s. 6d.



PRESENT

"THE JEALOUS WIFE"

A COMEDY BY GEORGE COLMAN

AT

THE QUESTORS THEATRE

MATTOCK HALL, MATTOCK LANE, EALING

ON

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

APRIL 30th AND MAY 1st, 1937

PROGRAMME

THREEPENCE

"THE JEALOUS WIFE"

THE SCENES

ACT I.

- SCENE 1.—A ROOM IN THE OAKLYS' HOUSE.
SCENE 2.—A ROOM AT THE BULL AND GATE INN, NEAR HOLBORN.
SCENE 3.—THE OAKLYS'.
SCENE 4.—A ROOM IN LADY FREELOVE'S HOUSE.

INTERVAL OF TEN MINUTES.

ACT II.

- SCENE 1.—LADY FREELOVE'S.
SCENE 2.—THE OAKLYS'.

INTERVAL OF TEN MINUTES.

ACT III.

- SCENE 1.—THE OAKLYS' (THE NEXT DAY).
SCENE 2.—THE BULL AND GATE.
SCENE 3.—THE OAKLYS'.

TIME - 1760.

Settings designed by FRED ROBINSON.

The majority of the costumes worn in this production have been kindly loaned by Mr. J. CYRIL NAIRNE from his private collection.

Mrs. Oaklys' costume designed by MARJORIE BYWATER.

Major Oakly's costume by CLARKSON'S.

Shoes and Swords by WALLER BROS.

Wigs by BERT.

Furniture by THE OLD TIMES FURNISHING CO.

Stage Manager FRED ROBINSON
Wardrobe Mistress MILDRED EMMET

THE PLAYERS (in order of appearance)

Prologue - - - - ALFRED EMMET.

MRS. OAKLY EVELYN SKELTON
MR. OAKLY LIONEL LOCKE
MAJOR OAKLY PHILIP ALLEN
CHARLES OAKLY ARTHUR PETERS
JOHN (servant to the Oaklys) LISTER BECK
SIR HARRY BEAGLE CLIFFORD FOREMAN
TOM (his servant) LAURIE RIVERS
MR. RUSSET T. S. SAUNDERS
TOILET (servant to Mr. Oakly) MURIEL CURTIS
LADY FREELOVE BETTY GRAY
SERVANT TO LADY FREELOVE PHILIP ELLIOTT
HARRIOT RUSSET MILDRED EMMET
LORD TRINKET CYRIL THOMAS
CAPTAIN O'CUTTER JOHN HERON
A CHAMBERMAID IRIS MARTIN
PARIS (servant to Mr. Oakly) LAURIE RIVERS

The Play produced by ALFRED EMMET.

The Producer wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. J. CYRIL NAIRNE for advice and help with his production.

CUSHIONS MAY BE HIRED FOR 1d. EACH.

COFFEE will be served in the intervals. Please give your order beforehand to a programme-seller.

DO COME TO THE DISCUSSION ON THIS PLAY IN THIS THEATRE AT 8.15 p.m. ON TUESDAY NEXT, 4th MAY.