no! Calve, its the same the world over. Her husband, Mr. Wolf, naturally disyou-for your temper?

Paris said she wished she need never re- lace to know that Roland Reed's turn to the stage but could spend all wife was Johanna Sommers. her life warbling the great master among her chickens. Well, now no one is compelling Calve to return to the stage. If she prefers the chickens let her have them and warble Bizet's impassioned measures to them until they become very nightingales. Perhaps she can even train a rooster orchestra. If she loves chickens better than two thousand a night let her have them, and start a wholesale poultry farm for all the world cares. Actors and singers are always talking about longing to exchange the calciums for the sunlight, champange for spring water and grease paint for new mown hay. But in the end they generally find that the calciums are better suited to their complexion and champagne to their digestion. They are always wishing they could return to the old homestead and go a-having in the meadows and fish in the brook and live there the world forgetting, by the world forgot. They forget that there never were any fish in the brook, and that in the hay field there is tan and sweat and dirt as well as the odor of clover. If they should try that sort of life for three weeks their artistic temperament would be so pained, and their artistic tempers would become so awry that the other inhabitants of the dear old homestead would find it expedient to move into town. There was but one anthentic case of a philosopher who exchanged a kingdom for a cabbage garden, and if I remember rightly his subjects aided him very materially in the exchange, as they thought he had missed his calling.

Miss Isadore Rush, Mr. Reed's blond. and popular leading lady, has, like most of them, had a history. I have gleaned a considerable portion of her very or eventful career from a Lincoln lady who used to live in Wilkes Barre, Penn., the town where "Jssy" Rush was born and grew up. Miss Rush was the daughter of Captain Rush, a dashing pation, a sort of all round sporting man. Her mother is an Irish woman, florid and rather stout. Isadore was like her father, handsome and inclined to be wild. She put in all her early years shocking the peaceful town of Wilkes Barre. She defied authorities at school, and general sentiment elsewhere, but because of her vivacity and beauty she was always popular among her father's friends, who knew a pretty woman when they saw one. Jack White, her first husbana, died in the south. Soon afterward Isadore married Nat Wolf, a wealthy druggist in Wilkes Barre and helped him spend his income very effectually. She ran about the country a good deal in those days, and once on a trip to New York met Mr. Reed. There were two things that Isadore Rush always could do. She could dress and she could act. Every one who knew her always wondered why she aid not go on the stage. Probably her ambitions and taste in that direction had something to do with the complications which followed her acquantance with Roland Reed.

The chickens "flutter" for the corn just approved of the connection and obtained as the frock coats that will crowd the a divorce. After a short preparation in a Metropolitan this winter go for the dramatic school, Miss Rush went song and name. Chickens are not directly into Mr. Reed's company and adept at disinterested affection any more has been with him ever since. Last than the rest of us. Olive Schriner year her career very nearly ended in a colored her thrilling novel "The African railroad accident, but Mr. Reed finally Farm" with the lucid sentence, "The succeeded in rescuing her and carrying chickens were wiser." They certainly her out of the car window. Since are not foolish enough to cherish a dis- Miss Rush went on the stge her family interested passion for Calve. Besides, moved to New York where her brother, Calve, if it were not for your voice and "Forry" is in the business and her sister, the corn, why in the name of goodness Carrie, is a sales-woman. Miss Rush should either we or the chickens love has one child living, born during the second year of her marriage with Jack

Calve, in a wild letter to a friend in It may interest the American popu-

Whatever the future holds for Mascagni, he has always that one opera. Most of us would be content to have written just that and then cease to be. There are parts of it that will "Die not till the the whole world dies." There is the Seduction song we heard Scalchi sing three years ago, that would seduce the archangels themselves as in the days when the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair. Then there is the intermezzo, yes there is the intermezzo. It would be worth writing a whole opera for that alone. It is unique in music as "The City of Dreadful Night" is in poetry. With its bass that labors and fails and struggles, that suffers and protests in its black despair; treble that never yields, never falters, dips sometimes toward the lower octaves like a bird that is faint with its death wound, and then flies on, flies on. That treble that knows and sees the hopelessness of all things and yet never wavers; love betrayed that still loves on. hope deferred that still hopes on; it is the despair which passes despair, despair sublime, impersonal, and full of awe as though it comprehended universal futility and universal doom.

They say that Mascagni is at work on S. M. MILLS a new opera. The news is not entirely welcome for ten chances to one it means another disappointment. It has been several years now since the advent of Cavalleria Rusticana and yet Mascagni has done nothing worthy of himself since then. People have begun to doubt whether he will ever again equal those magnificent measures that hunger and poverty and despair drove him to, whether that opera will stand his one witness to the world as Carmen stands for Bizet. So often these peculiar and unique works of art are without successors. Not every composer can be like Verdi, great gentleman without any visible occu. a hundred times. There is a kind of musical genius which rather musical intelligence, a sort of emotional tone fury which expresses itself once and dies. The muse plays queer tricks with men, and she can only be courted. never compelled. She is all things to all men. Sometimes she is as constant as Penelope, as she has been to Verdi for these eighty years. Sometimes she is fickle as Cleopatra, knows her lover but once and then throws him to the crocodiles. And if she happens to be in a cruel mood she lets him live, to wander over the world dreaming of her face, to be scorned and mocked of men.

- "As if a blacker night could dawn on night, "With tenfold gloom on moonless night unstarred.
- "A scene more tragic than defeat and blight, "More desperate than strife with hope de-
- barred, "More fatal than the adamantine never.
- "The sense that every struggle brings defeat Because fate holds no prize to crown success: That all the oracles are dumb or cheat
- Because they have no secret to express ; "That none can pierce the vast black veil uncertain
- "Because there is no light beyond the curtain; "That all is vanity and nothingness.

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