VESTA TILLEY IN A CHARACTERISTIC PART.

"THE GIRL WHO LOVES A SOLDIER." ANOTHER SAMUELSON SUCCESS.

It is not often that the general public gets the chance of seeing Miss Vesta Tilley dressed as a girl, but this pleasure was afforded by the Trade show given of the Samuelson Film Company's drama at the Shaftesbury Pavilion, where Miss Tilley played the leading part in "The Girl Who Loves a Soldier." And a very charming and delightful girl is Vesta Beaumont, as portrayed by Vesta Tilley, and if one had to admit that Vesta was something of a tomboy she was none the less delightful, and it seemed perfectly natural under

Scene from "The Girl Who Loves a Soldier."

the circumstances. Her father, a self-made milion-aire—and very well made and polished off by Mr. Rutland Barrington, insists on Vesta becoming the proud bride of a noble, but the noble in question is a bit of noodle and Vesta very much prefers somebody else. When war breaks out somebody else throws up his job and enlists and the nobleman thinks that he will have the field to himself. Vesta decides otherwise and goes as a Red Cross nurse to the front, looking as charming in her nurse's uniform as she did in her riding habit or ball gown. Her lover is wounded and brought to the field hospital to which Vesta is attached, and while he is still unconscious she finds that he is carrying an urgent message for relief, his company being surrounded at a farmhouse near. How is the message to go through the lines? We feel sure that the audience could have suggested a plan if it had not occurred to Vesta. Fortunately, it does, and in a few moments she is disguised as a boy—we might almost say she abandons her female disguise and appears in the character by which she is most familiarly known, and certainly one of the smartest little soldiers in His Majesty's Army. She sets out on her adventure, is captured by Germans, cheeks the officers and blows cigar smoke in their faces, and finally outwits them all and delivers her message in time for help to be sent to the besieged farmhouse. Then she goes back and takes up the task of nursing her lover back to health, and as he had been unconscious for a long time she made him believe that he had fulfilled his mission successfully and proudly stands by his side as he re-ceives the V.C. from the hands of a very august personage.

It is a good straightforward story, full of excitement, sufficiently plausible and pervaded throughout by a fine note of patriotism. More than all it provides a splendid opportunity for Miss Vesta Tilley, her performance being full of delightful comedy of a kind which is perfectly conveyed on the screen.

An excellent company is engaged in support. Mr. Rutland Barrington as Mr. Beaumont, millionaire, and Mr. James Lindsey in an excellent bit of character comedy, coming in for special honours, though the rest of the cast is perfectly balanced. The production is elaborate, some very effective battle scenes are introduced and the photography is good throughout.

A film of such wholesome sentiment and humour, aided by the charm of Miss Tilley's personality and the magic of her name, should have an exceptional career.

"Fatty and Mabel Adrift" is, as our readers know, the title of an exceedingly popular Triangle-Keystone—almost too popular, in fact, for an ardent admirer of the film has somehow managed to keep a copy as a souvenir. Triangle are offering a reward for any information regarding "Fatty and Mabel Adrift"—with the accent on the Adrift, of course.

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