

= She Stoops to Conquer ( 1910 film ) =

She Stoops to Conquer is a 1910 American silent short drama produced by the Thanhouser Company . The film is an adaptation of Oliver Goldsmith 's She Stoops to Conquer , possibly adapted by Lloyd Lonergan . The scenario removes a subplot in favor of following Marlow who is sent by his father to court the daughter of an old friend of his . He encounters Tony Lumpkin , who directs him to the Hardcastle mansion , claiming it to be an inn . Hardcastle welcomes Marlow , but Marlow treats his host rudely , unaware of Hardcastle 's identity . When the misunderstanding is rectified Marlow refuses to marry Hardcastle 's daughter , for he has taken a liking to the maid servant . Caught in the act of making love to the maid by his father , the woman is revealed to be Hardcastle 's daughter and all ends well . The film was released on August 19 , 1910 , but it received mix reviews by critics . The film is presumed lost .

= = Plot = =

Though the film is presumed lost , a synopsis survives in The Moving Picture World from August 20 , 1910 . It states : " The play deals with the love affair of two young people , both of whose parents are anxious that they should wed . Young Marlow sent by his father to court the daughter of an old friend , Mr. Hardcastle . Marlow has spent very little time in the company of the fairer sex , and as a consequence thereof is always shy and nervous in their presence . He , therefore , accepts his father 's orders unwillingly and , accompanied by his friend , young Hastings , rides out to meet his future bride . On the road the travelers encounter Hardcastle 's stepson , Tony Lumpkin , who in revenge for punishment his stepfather has inflicted , directs Marlow and his friend to the Hardcastle mansion , claiming that it is an inn where they will be well treated . In the meantime , great preparations are being made at the Hardcastle home for the reception of Hardcastle 's old friend , and when Tony ushers in young Marlow , thinking Hardcastle merely the proprietor of an inn , he treats him with scant courtesy and orders him about , much to the older man 's chagrin . Hardcastle is subjected to his daughter 's extravagant costumes , and she appears on this memorable evening dressed in a simple dress and wearing the cap and apron that housewives in the neighborhood assume . This costume greatly pleases her father , but leads young Marlow further astray . He immediately jumps to the conclusion that she is a most attractive barmaid and loses his heart to her in short order . Upon the arrival of his father , Marlow learns his mistake as regards the inn question , but flatly refuses to marry Hardcastle 's daughter , claiming that she is too grand for him , and citing his preference for the maid servant . While in the act of making love to the supposed barmaid he is discovered by his father , and , when told that this is the young lady his father had intended him to marry , he is overjoyed , as he feels sure that his bashful disposition would never have allowed him to woo and win her had he known her to be a lady of fashion . "

= = Cast = =

Anna Rosemond in an unknown role .

Frank H. Crane in an unknown role .

According to Hervé Dumont 's Encyclopédie du film historique the role of Kate Hardcastle was played by Rosemond and the role of George Marlow was played by Crane . This information may have come from a surviving film still . One surviving film still was used in an advertisement by the Thanhouser Company .

= = Production = =

The scenario is an adaptation of Oliver Goldsmith 's She Stoops to Conquer and was not , by that time , not familiar to most theatergoers . The writer of the scenario is unknown , but it was most likely Lloyd Lonergan . He was an experienced newspaperman employed by The New York Evening World while writing scripts for the Thanhouser productions . The impetus to adapt the play for the

film may have been inspired by a recent Broadway production as noted in one Thanhouser advertisement , " So revered is *She Stoops to Conquer* in the hearts of the American public that recently they saw it as an all @-@ star Broadway production with Eleanor Robson as Kate and Kyrle Bellew as Marlow , and it scored an epoch @-@ making success . The present producers don 't claim it to be a Broadway production but they [ do ] know it 's the best picture thing of its kind that has been released this far in the game . " The advertisement also claims to be the first film adaptation of the play , which according to *The Complete Index to Literary Sources in Film* it is . *She Stoops to Conquer* would see numerous adaptations over the following decades , but the Thanhouser Company would also draw from Goldsmith 's work with their first adaptation of *The Vicar of Wakefield* in 1910 .

The film director is unknown , but it may have been Barry O 'Neil . Film historian Q. David Bowers does not attribute a cameraman for this production , but at least two possible candidates exist . Blair Smith was the first cameraman of the Thanhouser company , but he was soon joined by Carl Louis Gregory who had years of experience as a still and motion picture photographer . The role of the cameraman was uncredited in 1910 productions . Though the roles of the actors are unknown , leading actress Anna Rosemond is credited with a role . One of the more prominent leading male actors was Frank H. Crane in another unknown role . It is likely that numerous other character roles and persons appeared in the film . Bowers states that most of the credits are fragmentary for 1910 Thanhouser productions . One of these uncredited roles could have been played by the other leading lady of the company , Violet Heming .

= = Release and reception = =

The one reel comedy @-@ drama , approximately 1000 feet long , was released on August 19 , 1910 . The film had a wide national release with known advertisements in Missouri , Texas , Minnesota , Washington D.C. , and Kansas . The film was also shown by the Province Theatre of Vancouver , Canada .

The film received mixed reviews in trade publications . *The Moving Picture World* remarked that the play itself was not well @-@ known , but that the plot was depicted adequately enough that it may encourage a re @-@ perusal of the play . There was no fault found by the reviewer who stated , " The characters of *Hardcastle* , Kate and Marlow are admirably done and seem to correctly interpret the original . The staging and costuming are in harmony with the play and reproduce the scenery of the time depicted with accuracy . The usefulness of a work of this sort does not end with the presentation of the play itself . There is an educational value which includes the costuming and reproduction of the surroundings of the time . These are so unfamiliar now that they afford not a little addition to the interest and pleasure of such a film . The work has been done so well that the company deserves commendation for undertaking the task . It is not an easy manner to reproduce a play of this character , and when it is well done the company performing it deserves praise . " *The New York Dramatic Mirror* disagreed on almost all points , " In numerous details the illusion is dispelled , for the scenery is manifestly not of the eighteenth century . No contemporary of Goldsmith ever rode in such a barouche as appears in this film , nor lived in such a house as Mr. *Hardcastle* . The final tableau is as artificial as set pieces which have gone out of style at funerals . With all of its imperfections there is considerable of virile comedy in the film . " Though the *Mirror* reviewer stated that despite the elimination of the Hastings and Constance Neville subplot , the acting is clear enough that audiences do not need prior knowledge of the play to appreciate the film .