

# Jessie Millar

Los Angeles, CA



- 1882 Jessie Millar is born in Los Angeles.
- 1890 Jessie performs in LA at age eight.
- 1891 "At the close of Saturday night's musical performance (September 19), Jessie Millar, the child cornetist, was presented with a handsome gold badge by members of Casassa's First Infantry, N.G.C., Band." She played "Promenade Polka" by Douglas and "Polka" by Cox (*San Francisco Morning Call*, 9-22-1891).
- 1892 Jessie Millar, child cornetist, is with her mother in Minneapolis on vacation (*NY Clipper*).
- 1894 With Professor Otto's Military Band, Davenport, IL.  
America's youngest cornet virtuoso, late of Sousa's band, in her NY debut (*NY Herald*, 12-23).
- 1896 Jessie performs a post-circus concert for Barnum & Bailey's in Washington DC and is described as, "the greatest of women soloists on the cornet. She plays a horn of wonderful sweetness in tone. Her simple melodies are exquisitely delivered and her double and triple tonguing were clear as staccato on a piano."
- A National Police Gazette*: NY article says she is from LA and 15 years old; her first performance was at a San Francisco Fair and she was opening for the Barnum & Bailey show.
- 1897 Said to be one of the most beautiful women of New York and a musician of rare ability (photo 2).
- 1898 Jessie is performing at the Orpheum in Sacramento. A *New York Clipper* article (photo 1) mentions that she is 16 years old and managed by N. B. Millar.
- 1901 Performing at the Utica, NY Orpheum Theater.
- 1903 Performing in Washington DC. In April, Morris Alburtus [her husband; billed together as early as 1897] and Millar were heading to their farm in Waterville, Nova Scotia after a season of 40 weeks (*NY Clipper*).

THE NEW YORK CLIPPER. 113

One of the Good Numbers, "FUN AT THE FAIR GROUNDS" Orpheum, Brooklyn, East-Week.

**Alburtus and Jessie Millar**

NOV. 14 AND LATER OPEN.

Now playing a three weeks' engagement with the "ORPHEUM SHOW," Ahn's, Buffalo, this week; Toronto, Oct. 27; Cleveland, Oct. 24; Boston, Oct. 21; Rochester, Nov. 7. Bill for Europe July 25, 1900. RICHARD WARREN, European Representative.

ALL AGENTS. N. Y. Address, 220 WEST 30TH STREET.

Notes from the Harlequin Stock — Morris and Patsy writes: 1896, etc. etc.

- 1904 Jessie is performing with Morris Alburtus (*NY Clipper*).

- 1905 Alburtus & Millar depart Liverpool in November for New York. Their address is #229 W. 38th St, NYC.
- 1906 Alburtus (a juggler & actor) & Millar (cornet, piano & accordion) perform together.
- 1907 Alburtus & Millar will finish 58 weeks in England on June 22, heading to their farm in Waterville, Nova Scotia (*NY Clipper*).
- 1908 Alburtus & Millar depart Liverpool for NY in June.
- 1910 Alburtus & Millar depart Canada for Monrovia, CA. Jessie is now a Canadian citizen, age 29, has blue eyes, and is 5'-8" tall. Their last permanent home is listed as Sydney, New South Wales. Morris Alburtus is 44 and listed as living in New York City from 1875 until 1908 (immigration).
- 1912 Jessie is playing with Carl Clair's Grand Military Band.
- 1913 Morris Alburtus is listed as being born in Rochester, NH on 9-5-1866 and working in theater (immigration).
- 1919 Jessie performs with the Prescott Municipal Band in Arizona; directed by her father L. P. Millar.
- 1920 Jessie is performing in Chicago and billed as the World's Premier Lady Cornetist.
- 1927 Jessie performs in Buffalo at Loew's Theater and plays a duet by herself on cornet & piano.
- 1928 Performing at Loew's Commodore on piano, trumpet & accordion. She is tall and blonde (*NY Billboard*).