

# 1911 Encyclopædia Britannica, Volume 17 — Mars, Mlle



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**MARS, Mlle [ANNE FRANÇOISE HYPPOLYTE BOUTET]** (1779–1847), French actress, was born in Paris on the 9th of February 1779, the natural daughter of the actor-author named Monvel [Jacques Marie Boutet, 1745–1812], and Mlle Mars Salvetat, an actress whose southern accent had made her Paris *début* a failure. Mlle Mars began her stage career in children's parts, and by 1799, after the rehabilitation of the Comédie Française, she and her sister (Mars *aînée*) joined that company, of which she remained an active member for thirty-three years. Her beauty and talents soon placed her at the top of her profession. She was incomparable in *ingénue* parts, and equally charming as the coquette. Molière, Marivaux, Sedaine, and Beaumarchais had no more accomplished interpreter, and in her career of half a century, besides many comedy rôles of the older *répertoire*, she created fully a hundred parts in plays which owed success largely to her. For her farewell performance she selected Elmire in *Tartuffe*, and Silvia in *Jeu de l'amour et du hasard*, two of her most popular rôles; and for her benefit, a few days after, Célimène in *Le Misanthrope* and Araminthe in *Les Femmes savantes*. She retired in 1841, and died in Paris on the 20th of March 1847.



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