An entirely Men and Original Aesthetie Opena,

IN TWO ACTS,

ENTITLED

PATIENCE

OR,

BUNTHORNE'S BRIDE

WRITTEN BY

W. S. GILBERT.

COMPOSED BY

ARTHUR SULLIVAN

Authors of "Trial by Jury," "The Sorcerer," "H.M.S. Pinafore,"

"The Pirates of Penzance," &c., &c., &c.

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W. S. GILBERT. ARTHUR S. SULLIVAN. First produced at the Opera Comique, London, on Saturday, 23rd April, 1881, under the management of Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte.

PATIENCE; or, BUNTHORNE'S BRIDE.

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Tenum mun Duma on Danier	rds.
LIEUT. THE DUKE OF DUNSTABLE)	
REGINALD BUNTHORNE A Fleshly P	oet.
ARCHIBALD GROSVENOR An Idyllic Po	
Mr. Bunthorne's Solicitor.	
CHORUS OF OFFICERS OF DRAGOON GUARDS.	
THE LADY ANGELA	
THE LADY SAPHIR	
THE LADY ELLA Rapturous Maide	ns.
THE LADY JANE	
AND	
PATIENCE A Dairyma	uid.
CHORUS OF RAPTUROUS MAIDENS.	
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PATIENCE; OR, BUNTHORNE'S BRIDE.



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PATIENCE

BUNTHORNE'S BRIDE.

ACT I.

Scene.—Exterior of Castle Bunthorne. Entrance to castle, L. 2d E., by drawbridge over moat. A rocky elevation R. Young ladies dressed in asthetic draperies are grouped about the stage. They play on lutes, mandolins, etc. as they sing, and all are in the last stage of despair.

Angela, Ella, and Saphir lead them. Jane, a gaunt, formidable, portentous, black-haired, heavy-browed asthete, sits gloomily apart, with her back to audience, wrapt in grief.

No. 1.

CHORUS OF MAIDENS.











to the second of the second second government was the



JANE. No, none of as. His weird fancy has lighted, for the Ang. There is a strange magic in this love of ours. Rivals as we all are in the affections of our Reginald, the very hope-nonce, on Patience, the village milkmaid.

lessness of our love is a bond that binds us one to another.

SAPH. Jealousy is merged in misery. While he, the very

JANE. Bah! But yesterday I caught he

as we all are in the affections of our Reginald, the very lessness of our love is a bond that binds us one to another.

Saph. Jealousy is merged in misery. While he, the very cynosure of our eyes and hearts, remains icy, insensible, what ing fresh butter with a tablespoon. To-day he is not well.

Saph. But Patience boasts that she has never loved—that ber a sealed book. Oh, he cannot be serious.

the taxes.

Ang. And cherishes the receipts.

JANE. (Suddenly.) Fools!

Ang. I beg your pardon?

JANE. Fools and blind! The man loves—wildly loves.

Ang. But whom? None of us.

ELLA. The love of maidens is, to him, as interesting as love is, to her, a sealed book. Oh, he cannot be serious.

JANE. Of this fancy he will soon weary. (Aside.) Oh,
Reginald, if you but knew what a wealth of golden love is
waiting for you, stored up in this rugged old bosom of mine, the milkmaid's triumph would be short indeed. (All sigh wearily.)

> (PATIENCE appears on rock. She looks down with pity on the despondent ladies.)

RECITATIVE—Patience. No 2. PIANO. PATIENCE. Still brood-ing thy Far hap - pier SAPHIR (Looking up.)

4. 14.1



SONG-Patience.









Ang. Ah, Patience, if you have never loved, you have never known true happiness! (All sigh, and JANE groans.)

PAT. But the truly happy seem to have so much on their

minds! The truly happy never seem quite well.

goon Guards have halted in the village, and are even now on

their way to this very spot.

Ang. (Contempriously.) The Thirty-fifth Dragoon Guards!

SAPH. They are fleshly men, of full habit.

ELLA. We care nothing for Dragoon Guards.

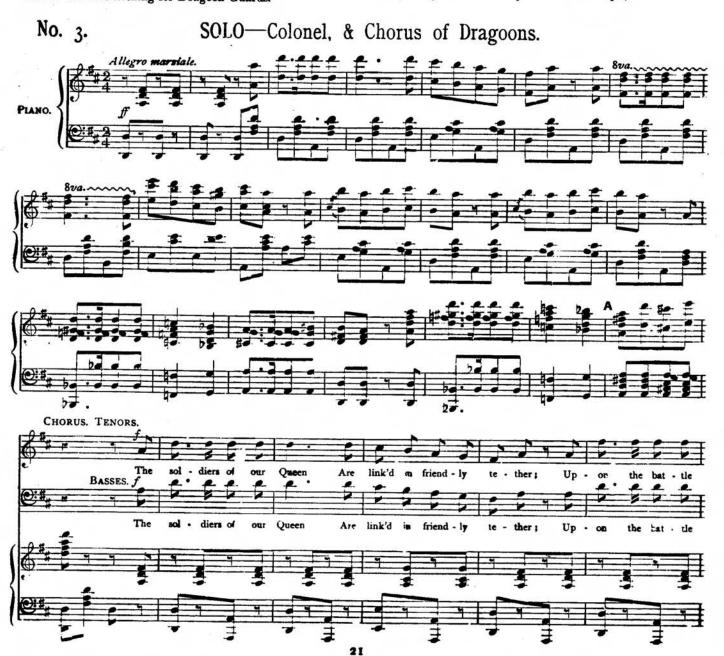
PAT. But, bless me, you were all in love with them a year ago!

SAPH. A year ago!

JANE. There is a transcendentality of delirium, an acute accentuation of supremest ecstasy, which the earthy might easily tastes have been etherealized, our perceptions exalted. (To mistake for indigestion. But it is not indigestion; it is esthetic others.) Come! it is time to lift up our voices in morning carol transfiguration! (To the others.) Enough of babble. Come! to our Reginald. Let us to his door.

Pat. But I have some news for you. The Thirty-fifth Dragon Cherds have helted in the village and are even now on the ladies go off two and two, singing refrain of "Twenty love-Ang. My poor child, you don't understand these things. A

(The ladies go off two and two, singing refrain of "Twenty love sick maidens we," and accompanying themselves on harps and mandolins. Patience watches them in suprise, and goes off up rock. March. Enter officers of Dragoon Guards from behind rock, led by Major. They march round stage.)







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But where's the Duke?

(Enter DUKE, listlessly and in low spirits.)

DUKE. Here I am! (Sighs.) Col. Come, cheer up! don't give way!

DUKE. Oh, for that, I'm as cheerful as a poor devil can be expected to be who has the misfortune to be a duke with a thousand a day!

MAJ. Humph! Most men would envy you!

Envy me! Tell me, Major, are you fond of candy? DUKE.

Maj.

Col. We are all fond of candy.

We are! ALL.

DUKE. Yes, and candy in moderation is a capital thing. But to live on candy-candy for breakfast, candy for dinner, candy for tea—to have it supposed that you care for nothing but candy, and that you would consider yourself insulted if anything but candy were offered to you,-how would you like that!

Cor. I can believe that, under those circumstances, even

candy would become monotonous.

DUKE. For "candy" read flattery, adulation, and abject deference, carried to such a pitch that I began, at last, to think that man was born bent at an angle of forty-five degrees! Great (They take no notice of Dragoons, to the surprise and indignation Heavens! what is there to adulate in me? Am I particularly

COL. Well, here we are on the scene of our former triumphs. intelligent, or remarkably studious, or excruciatingly witty, or unusually accomplished, or exceptionally virtuous

Col. You're about as commonplace a young man as ever

I saw.

ALL. You are!

DUKE. Exactly! that's it, exactly! That describes me to a T! Thank you all very much. Well, I couldn't stand it any longer, so I joined this regiment. In the army, thought I, I shall be occasionally snubbed, perhaps even bullied; who knows? The thought was rapture, and here I am.

Col. (Looking off.) And here are the ladies!

DUKE. But who is the gentleman with the long hair?

Col. I don't know.

DUKE. He seems popular.

Col. He does seem popular.

ALGERMON BUNTHORNE enters, followed by ladies, two and two, singing and playing on harps as before. He is reading, and quite absorbed. He sees no one, but walks across stage, followed by ladies.)

of those Officers.)

























Col. Angela, what is the meaning of this?

ANG. Oh, sir, leave us; our minds are but ill attuned to eight love-talk.

MAJ. But what in the world has come over you all?

JANE. Bunthorne; he has come over us. He has come among us, and he has idealized us.

DUKE. Has he idealized you? JANE. He has.

DUKE. Bravo, Bunthorne!

JANE. My eyes are open; I droop despairingly; I am soulfully intense; I am limp and I cling.

(During this BUNTHORNE is seen in all the agonies of composition. The ladies are watching him intently as he writhes. At last he hits on the word he wants and writes it down. A general sense of relief.)

Bun. Finished! At last! Finished!

(He staggers, overcome with the mental strain, into arms of Col-ONEL. They fan him.)

Col. Are you better now?

Bun. Yes. Oh, it's you—I beg your pardon; I am better now. The poem is finished, and my soul had gone out into it. That was all; it was nothing worth mentioning.—Dear Patience! (Holds her hand; she seems frightened.)

Will it please you read it to us, sir? (All kneel.)

SAPH.

This we supplicate.
(Tenderly to Patience, whom he holds by the hand.)

Bun. (Tenderly to Patience, whom he holds by the hand.)
Shall I? I will read it if you bid me!
Pat. (Much frightened.) If you like.
Bun. It is a wild, weird, fleshly thing, yet very tender, very yearning, very precious. It is called, "Oh, Hollow! Hollow!"

PAT. Is it a hunting-song?
BUN. A hunting-song? No, it is not a hunting-song. It is the wail of the poet's heart on discovering that everything is commonplace. To understand it, cling passionately to one another and think of faint lilies! (They do so as he recites.)

OH, HOLLOW! HOLLOW! HOLLOW!

What time the poet hath hymned The writhing maid, lithe-limbed,

Quivering on amaranthine asphodel, How can he paint her woes, Knowing, as well he knows, That all can be set right with calomel?

When from the poet's plinth The amorous colocynth Yearns for the aloe, faint with rapturous thrills, How can he hymn their throes, Knowing, as well he knows, That they are only uncompounded pills?

Is it, and can it be, Nature hath this decree. "Nothing poetic in the world shall dwell"? Or that in all her works Something poetic lurks, Even in colocynth and calomel? I cannot tell.

How purely fragrant! ANG.

SAPH. How earnestly precious!

Pat. Well, it seems to me to be nonsense.

SAPH. Nonsense, yes, but what precious nonsense!

ALL.

Col. This is all very well, but you seem to forget that you

are engaged to us!

SAPH. It can never be. You are not Empyrean. You are not Della Cruscan. You are not even Early English. Oh, be Early English ere it is too late! (Officers look at each other in astonishment.)

JANE. (Looking at uniform.) Red and yellow! Primary colors! Oh, South Kensington!

DUKE. We didn't design our uniforms, but we don't see how

they could be improved.

velvet, with a tender bloom like cold gravy, which, made Florentine fourteenth century, trimmed with Venetian leather and Spanish altar-lace, and surmounted with venetian leather and Spanish altar-lace, and surmounted with something Japanese-it matters not what—would at least be Early English!—Come, maidens! (Excunt ladies, singing refrain of "In a welancholy train.")

DUKE. Gentlemen, this is an insult to the British uniform-Col. A uniform that has been as successful in the courts of

Venus as on the field of Mars!





(As soon as he is alone Bunthorne changes his manner and be comes intensely melodramatic.)









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Be eloquent in praise of the very dull old days which have long since passed away.
And convince 'em, if you can, that the reign of good Queen Anne was

Culture's palmiest day.

Of course you will pooh-pooh whatever may be fresh and new, and declare it crude and mean,

clare it crude and mean,

For Art stopped short in the cultivated court of the Empress Josephine.

And every one will say,

As you walk your mystic way,

"If that's not good enough for him which is good enough for me,
Why what a very cultivated kind of youth this kind of youth must be!"

3 Then a sentimental passion of a vegetable fashion must excite your languid spleen,
An attachment à la Plato for a bashful young potato, or a not-too-French Though the Philistines may jostle, you will rank as an apostle in the high æsthetic band,
If you walk down Piccadilly with a poppy or a lily in your mediæval
And every one will say,
As you walk your flowery way,
"If he's content with a vegetable love which would certainly not suit me, Why what a most particularly pure young man this pure young mass must be!"

(At the end of his song PATIENCE enters. He sees her.)

Bun. Ah! Patience, come hither. I am pleased with thee. The bitter-hearted one, who finds all else hollow, is pleased with thee. For you are not hollow. Are you?

PAT. No, thank you, I have dined. I beg your pardon

-I interrupt you.

Bun. Life is made up of interruptions. The tortured soul, yearning for solitude, writhes under them. Oh, but my heart is a-weary! Oh, I am a cursed thing! Don't go.

PAT. Really, I'm very sorry-

Tell me, girl, do you ever yearn?

PAT. (Misunderstanding him.) I earn my living. Bun. (Impatiently.) No, no! Do you know what it is to be heart-hungry? Do you know what it is to yearn for the Indefinable, and yet to be brought face to face daily with the multiplication-table? Do you know what it is to seek oceans, and to find puddles?—to long for whirlwinds, and to have to do the PAT. Lady Angela, tell me two things. Firstly, what on best you can with the bellows? That's my case. Oh, I am a earth is this love that upsets everybody? and secondly, how is cursed thing!

PAT. If you please, I don't understand you; you frighten

Bun. Don't be frightened; it's only poetry.

PAT. If that's poetry, I don't like poetry

Bun. (Eagerly.) Don't you?—(Aside.) Can I trust her?—
(Aloud.) Patience, you don't like poetry. Well, between you and me, I don't like poetry. Its hollow, unsubstantial, unsatisfactory. What's the use of yearning for Elysian Fields when you know you can't get 'em, and would only let 'em out on tens. It is the one romantic feature in this chaos of materialbuilding leases when you had 'em?

PAT. Sir, I—
BUN. Don't go. Patience, I have long loved you. Let me
tell you a secret. I am not as bilious as I look. If you like I will cut my hair. There is more innocent fun within me than a casual spectator would imagine. You have never seen ing experienced this ennobling and unselfish passion! Why, me frolicsome. Be a good girl—a very good girl—and you what a wicked girl I must be! For it is unselfish, isn't it? shall.

untaught; I have never loved but my great-aunt. But I am you give your whole mind to it. quite certain that, under any circumstances, I couldn't possibly PAT. I'll set about it at once.

Bun. Oh, you think not?

PAT. I'm quite sure of it—quite sure—quite. Bun. (Releasing her.) Very good. Life is henceforth a blank. I have only to ask that you will not abuse my confidence: though you despise me, I am extremely popular with the other young women.

PAT. I only ask that you will leave me and never renew the

subject.

Bun. Certainly. Broken-hearted and desolate, I go. What is to become of me? (Recites.)

Oh to be wafted away,

From this black Aceldama of sorrow, Where the dust of an earthy to-day Is the earth of a dusty to-morrow!

It is a little thing of my own. shall not publish it. Farewell! I call it "Heart-Foam."

Exit BUNTHORNE. PAT. What does it all mean? Why does he love me? Why does he expect me to love him? He's not a relation! It frightens me!

Enter ANGELA.

Why, Patience, what is the matter?

it to be distinguished from insanity?

Ang. Poor blind child! Oh forgive her, Eros! Why, love is of all passions the most essential! It is the embodiment of purity, the abstraction of refinement, the idealization of utter unselfishness!

PAT. Love is?

ANG. Yes.

PAT. Dear me! Go on.

True love refines, purifies, elevates, exalts, and chas ism, it is the one unselfish emotion in this whirlpool of grasping greed!

Oh dear! oh! (Beginning to cry.) PAT.

ANG. Why are you crying?

To think that I have lived all these years without hav-PAT.

ANG. Absolutely. Love that is tainted with selfishness is PAT. Sir, I will speak plainly. In the matter of love I am no love. Oh try, try, try to love! It really isn't difficult if

I won't go to bed until I'm

head over ears in love with somebody

Ang. Noble girl! But is it possible that you have never loved anybody?

PAT. Only my great aunt.

ANG. Your great-aunt don't count.

PAT. Then there's nobody. At least- No. nobody. Not since I was a baby. But that don't count.

ANG. I don't know; tell me all about it.

No. 7

DUET-Patience & Angela.







Time fied, and one unhappy day—
The first I'd ever known—
They took my little friend away,
And left me all alone.
Ah, how I sobbed! and how I cried!
Then I fell ill and nearly died;
And even now I weep apace
When I recall that baby face!
We had one hope—one heart—one will—
One life, in one employ;
And, though it's immaterial, still
He was a little boy!

Ang.
Ah, old, old tale of Cupid's touch, etc.
Pat.
Pray, don't misconstrue what I say, etc.
No doubt, yet, spite of all your pains, etc.
(At end of Duet exit Angela.)

PAT. It's perfectly appalling to think of the dreadful state I must be in! I had no idea that love was a duty. No wonder they all look so unhappy. Upon my word, I hardly like to associate with myself. I don't think I'm respectable. I'll go at once and fall in love with— (Enter Grosvenor.) A stranger!







Patience! Can it be that you don't recognize me?

PAT. Recognize you? No, indeed I don't!

GROS. Have fifteen years so greatly changed me? PAT. Fifteen years? What do you mean?

Have you forgotten the friend of your youth, your Gros. Archibald, your little playfellow? Oh, Chronos, Chronos! this is too pad of you!

PAT. Archibald! Is it possible? Why, let me look! It is! It is! It must be! Oh, how happy I am! I thought we should never meet again! And how you've grown!

Gros. Yes, Patience, I am much taller and much stouter than I was.

PAT. And how you've improved!

Yes, Patience, I am very beautiful! (Sighs.) GROS.

PAT. But surely that don't make you unhappy?

Yes, Patience. Gifted as I am with a beauty which probably has not its rival on earth, I am, nevertheless, utterly and completely miserable.

PAT. Oh, but why?

GROS. My child-love for you has never faded. Conceive, between me and my happiness! then, the horror of my situation when I tell you that it is my PAT. Oh, if you were but a the hideous destiny to be madly loved by every woman who sets eyes on me!

PAT. But vhy do you make yourself so picturesque? Why not disguise yourself, disfigure yourself-anything to escape this

persecution?

Gros. No, Patience, that may not be. These gifts, irksome as they are, were given to me for the enjoyment and delectation of my fellow-creatures. I am a trustee for beauty, and it is my duty to see that the conditions of my trust are faithfully there is nothing to prevent your loving me. I am plain, homely, discharged.

Pat. And you too are a poet.

GROS. Yes, I am the Apostle of Simplicity. I am called "Archibald the All Right"—for I am infallible.

PAT. And is it possible that you condescend to love such a girl as I?

Gros. Yes, Patience; is it not strange? I have loved you with a Florentine fourteenth-century frenzy for full fifteen years!

Oh! marvellous! I have hitherto been deaf to the voice of love-I seem now to know what love is. It has been revealed to me: it is Archibald Grosvenor.

Yes, Patience, it is! (Embrace.)

Pat. (As in a trance.) We will never, never part! GROS. We will live and die together!

PAT. I swear it!

GROS. We both swear it! (Embrace.)

PAT. (Recoiling from him.) But-Oh horror!

GROS. What's the matter?

PAT. Why, you are perfection! A source of endless ecstasy to all who know you!

GROS. I know I am. Well?

Then, bless my heart! there can be nothing unselfish Pat. in loving you!

GROS. Merciful powers! I never thought of that.

To monopolize those features on which all women love PAT. to linger!

Too true! Oh, fatal perfection! again you interpose GROS. Oh, if you were but a thought less beautiful than you are!

GROS. Would that I were! but candor compels me to admit that I'm not.

PAT. Our duty is clear; we must part, and for ever!

GROS. Oh, misery! And yet I cannot question the pro priety of your decision. Farewell, Patience!

PAT. Farewell, Archibald! But stay!

GROS. Yes, Patience?

Par. Although I may not love you—for you are perfect unattractive

Gros. Why, that's true.

The love of such a man as you for such a girl as I must PAT. be unselfish!

GROS. Unselfishness itself!

(Exeunt despairingly in opposite directions.)

(Enter Bunthorne, crowned with roses and hung about with garlands, and looking very miserable. He is led by Angela and Saphir (each of whom holds an end of the rose-garland by which he is bound), and followed by a procession of maidens. They are dancing classically, and playing on symbols, double pipes, and other archaic instruments.)

FINALE-ACT I.



































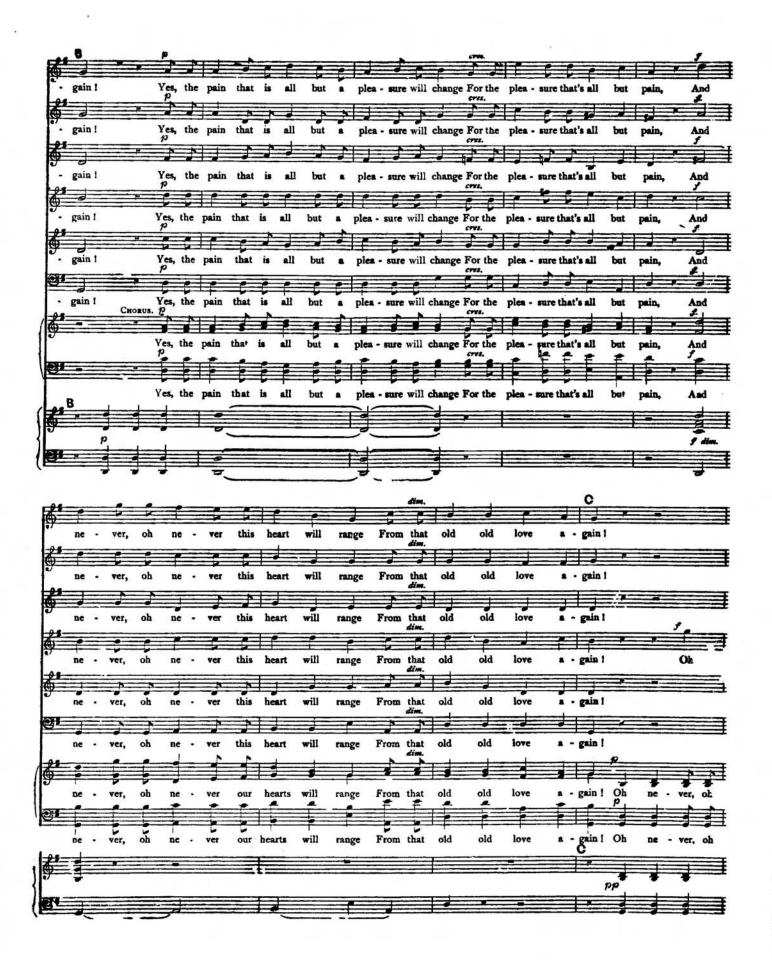




(Angela, Saphir, and Ella take Colonel, Duke, and Major down, while girls gase fondly at other Officers.)



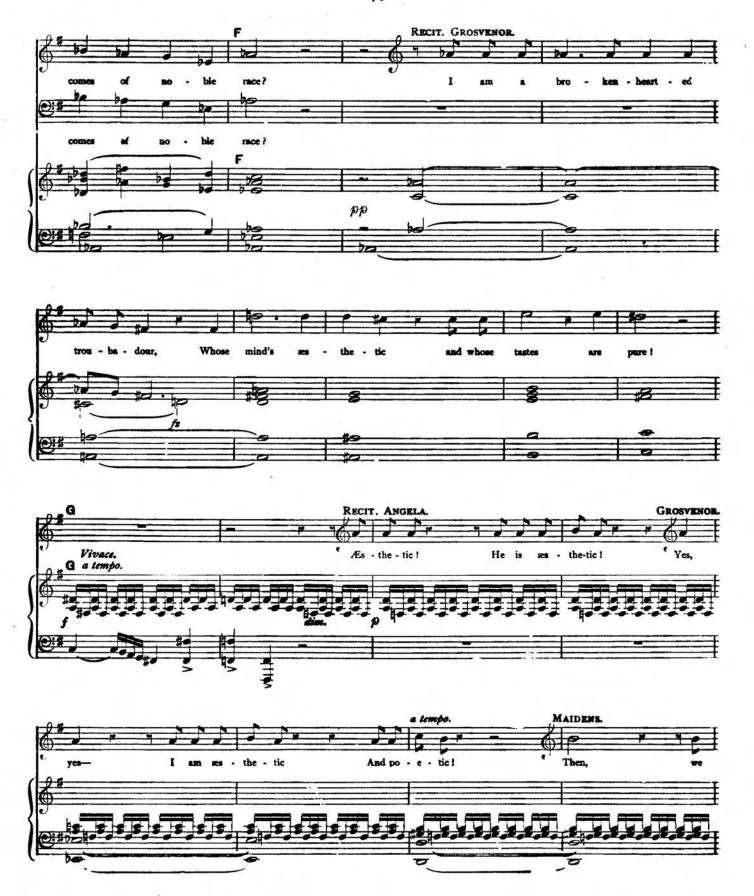






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(As the Dragoons and Girls are embracing enter GROSVENOR, reading. He takes no notice of them, but comes slowly down, still reading. The girls are all strangely fascinated by him, and gradually withdraw from Hussars.)











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ACT II.

Scene.—A yeade. A small sheet of water, C. Jane is discovered leaning on a huge double bass, upon which she presently accompanies herself.

JANE. The fickle crew have deserted Reginald and transferred their allegiance to his rival, and all, forsooth! because he has glanced with passing favor on a puling milkmaid! Fools! Of that fancy he will soon weary, and then I, who alone am faithful to him, shall reap my reward. But do not dally too long, Reginald, for I am ripe, Reginald, and already I am decaying. Better secure me ere I have gone too far!









(Enter GROSVENOR, followed by maidens, two and two, each playing on an archaic instrument, as in Act I. He is reading abstractedly, as BUNTHORNE did in Act I, and pays no attention to them. He sits R. C.)



GROS. (Aside.) The old, old tale! How rapturously these word in that decalet which is calculated o bring the bluss of maidens love me, and how hopelessly! Oh, Patience, Patience! shame to the cheek of modesty. with the love of thee in my heart what have I for these poor mad maidens but an unvalued pity? Alas! they will die of hopeless love for me, as I shall die of hopeless love for thee!

Ang. Sir, will it please you to read to us? (Kneels.)
Gros. (Sighing.) Yes, child, if you will. What shall I read?

ANG. One of your own poems.

GROS. One of my own poems? Better not, my child. They will not cure thee of thy love.

ELLA. Mr. Bunthorne used to read us a poem of his own

every day.

SAPH. And, to do him justice, he read them extremely well. GROS. Oh, did he so? Well, who am I that I should take upon myself to withhold my gifts from you? What am I but a trustee? Here is a decalet—a pure and simple thing, a very daisy; a babe might understand it. To appreciate it, it is not necessary to think of anything at all!

Ang. Let us think of nothing at all,

GROSVENOR recites.

Gentle Jane was as good as gold; She always did as she was told; She never spoke when her mouth was full, Or caught blue-bottles their legs to pull, Or spilt plum jam on her nice new frock, Or put white mice in the eight-day clock, Or vivisected her last new doll, Or fostered a passion for alcohol; And when she grew up she was given in marriage To a first-class earl who keeps his carriage.

Ang. Not one; it is purity itself. Gros. Here's another.

> Teasing Tom was a very bad boy; A great big squirt was his favorite tov. He put live shrimps in his father's boots, And sewed up the sleeves of his Sunday suits; He punched his poor little sisters' heads, And cayenne-peppered their four-post beds; He plastered their hair with cobbler's wax, And dropped hot halfpennies down their backs.

> > The consequence was he was lost totally, And married a girl in the corps de bally !

Ang. Marked you how grandly, how relentlessly, the damning catalogue of crime strode on, till Retribution, like a poised hawk, came swooping down upon the Wrong-doer? Oh, it was terrible!

GROS. (Aside.) This is simply cloying.—(Aloud.) Ladies, I am sorry to appear ungallant, but you have been following me about ever since Monday, and this is Saturday. I should like the usual half-holiday, and if you will kindly allow me to close early to-day, I shall take it as a personal favor.

ELLA. Sir, you are indeed a poet, for you touch our hearts

and they go out to you.

GROS. (Aside.) Poor, poor girls!—(Aloud.) It is best to speak plainly. I know that I am loved by you, but I never can love you in return, for my heart is fixed elsewhere! Remember the fable of the Magnet and the Churn!

Ang. (Wildly.) But we don't know the fable of the Mag-

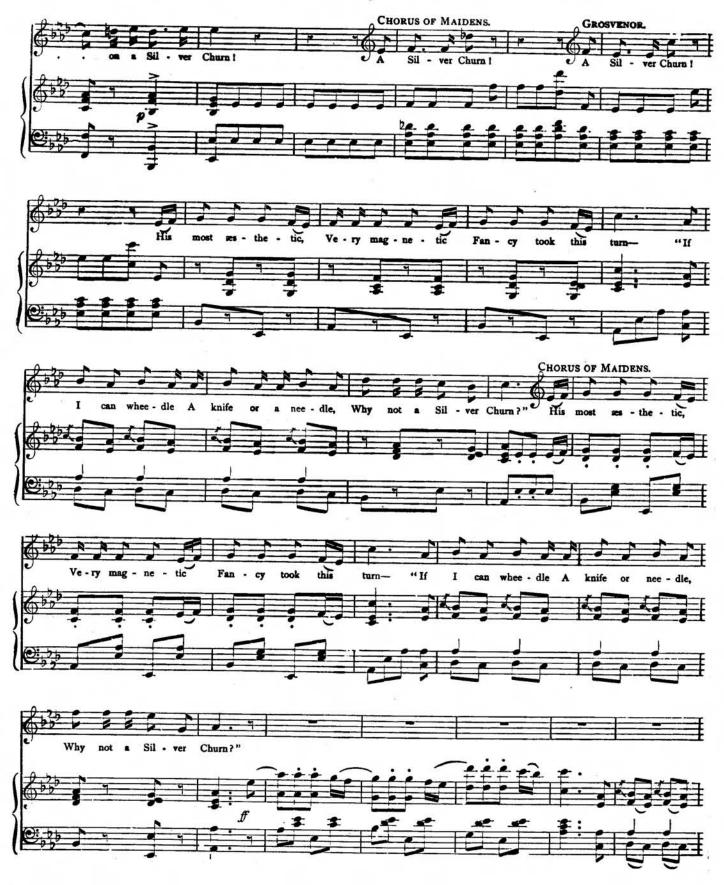
net and the Churn!

GROS. Don't you? Then I will sing it to you.

GROS. I believe I am right in saying that there is not one

SONG—The Magnet and Churn.









cination that I seem to exercise over all I come across? A curse on my fatal beauty, for I am sick of conquests!

(PATIENCE appears L.)

PAT. Archibald!

GROS. (Turns and sees her.) Patience!

PAT. I have escaped with difficulty from my Reginald. I wanted to see you so much, that . might ask you if you still love me as fondly as ever!

GROS. Love you? If the devotion of a lifetime- (Seizes

her hand.)

PAT. (Indignantly.) Hold! Unhand me, or I scream! (He ing about?

PAT. I've only been thinking how dearly I love vo releases her.) If you are a gentleman, pray remember that I am another's!—(Very tenderly.) But you do love me, don't you?

Madly! hopelessly! despairingly! GROS.

PAT. That's right! I never can be yours, but that's right!

And you love this Bunthorne?

With a heart-whole ecstasy that withers, and scorches, PAT. and burns, and stings !- (Sadly.) It is my duty.

Admirable girl? But you are not happy with him?

PAT. Happy? I am miserable beyond description!

That's right! I never can be yours, but that's right! PAT. But go now; I see dear Reginald approaching. Farewell, dear Archibald. I cannot tell you how happy it has made me to know that you still love me.

GROS. Ah, if I only dared— (Advances toward her.)

PAT. Sir! this language to one who is promised to another! - (Tenderly.) Oh, Archibald, think of me sometimes, for my heart is breaking! He is so unkind to me, and you would be so loving!

GROS. Loving - (Advances toward her.)

Advance one step, and, as I am a good and pure woman, I scream !—(Tenderly.) Farewell, Archibald!—(Sternly.) Stop there!—(Tenderly.) Think of me sometimes!—(Angrily.) Advance at your peril! Once more, adieu!

(GROSVENOR sighs, gazes sorrowfully at her, sighs deeply, and exit. She bursts into tears and weeps on rock.

GROS. At last they are gone! What is this mysterious fas- (Enter Bunthorne, followed by Jane. He is moody and ere occupied. JANE sings.)

> In a doleful train, One and one, I walk all day; Pity those who love in vain-None so sorrowful as they Who can only sigh and say, Woe is me, alackadav

Bun. (Seeing Patience.) Crying, eh? What are you cry-

Bun. Love me! Bah! Love him! Bah!

JANE. Bun. (To Jane.) Don't you interfere

JANE. He always crushes me! PAT. (Going to him.) What is the matter, dear Reginald? If you have any sorrow, tell it to me, that I may share it with you. (Sighing.) It is my duty!

Bun. (Snappishly.) Whom were you talking with just now?
Pat. With dear Archibald.

Bun. (Furiously.) With dear Archibald! Upon my honor,

this is too much!

JANE. A great deal too much!

Bun. (Angrily to JANE.) Do be quiet!

JANE. Crushed again!
PAT. I think he is the noblest, purest, and most perfect being I have ever met. But I don't love him. It is true that he is devotedly attached to me, but indeed I don't love him. Whenever he gets affectionate I scream. It is my duty! (Sighing.)

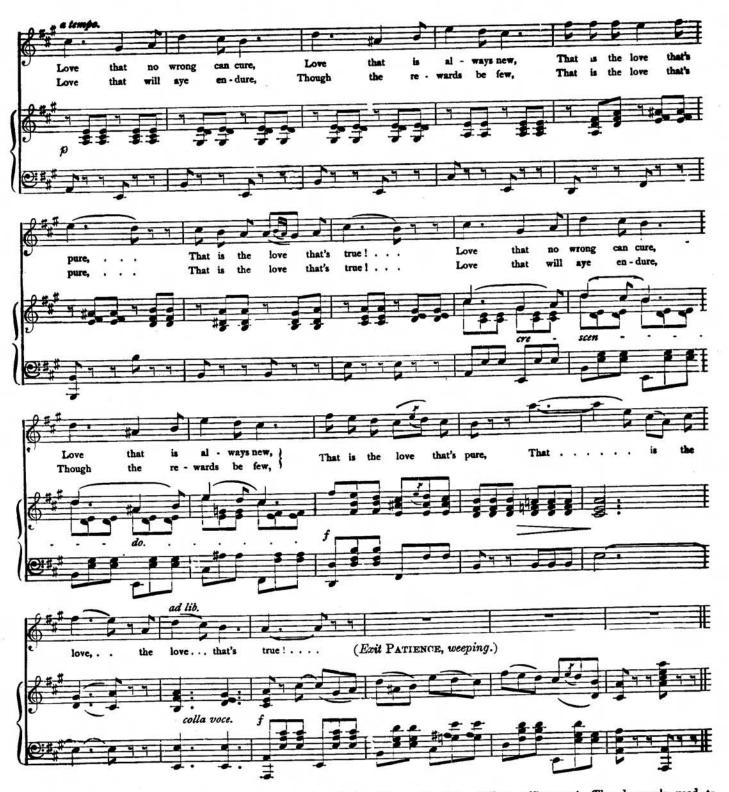
Bun. I dare say! (Turns away to Jane.)

Jane. So do I! I dare say!

Pat. Why, how could I love him and love you too? Bun. Love me? I don't believe you know what love is! Pat. (Sighing.) Yes I do. There was a happy time when I

didn't, but a bitter experience has taught me.





Bun. Everything has gone wrong with me since that idylidiot came here. Before that I was admired—I may say, follow me wherever I went; now they all follow him.

JANE. Not all! I am still faithful to you.

Bun. Yes, and a pretty damozel you are!

JANE. No, not pretty—massive. Cheer up! I will never Bun. (Savagely.) No, but I am for theirs. But I can be as mild as he. If they want insipidity, they shall have it. I'll Bun. Oh, thank you! I know what it is; it's his confounded meet this fellow on his own ground, and beat him on it. Jane. You shall; and I will help you.

Bun. You will? Jane, there's a good deal of good in you ao doubt I am highly spiced.

JANE. Not for my taste

after all.











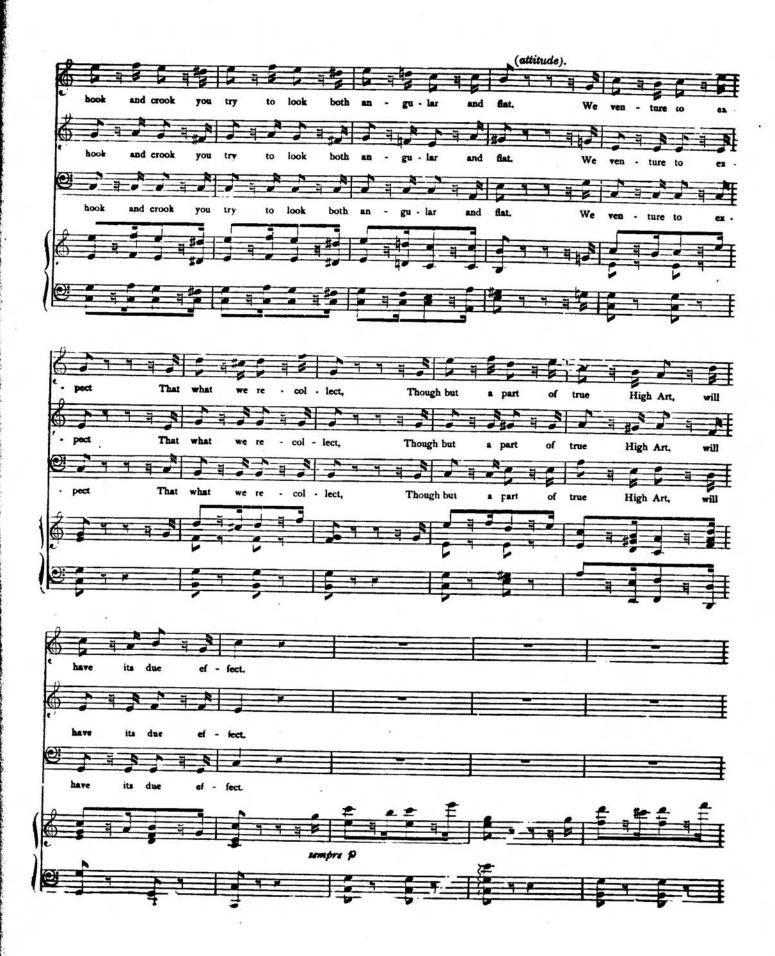
(Enter DUKE, COLONKL, and MAJOR. They have ebandomed their uniforms, and are dressed and made up in imitation of exthetics. They have long hair, and other outward signs of attachment to the Brotherhood. As they sing they walk in stiff,

constrained, and angular attitudes—a grotesque exaggeration of the attitudes adopted by BUNTHORNE and the Young Ladies in Act I.)

No 6. TRIO—Duke, Major, & Colonel.













Con. (attitude). Yes, it's quite clear that our only chance of making a lasting impression on these young ladies is to become recommend for cramp? as sesthetic as they are.

idea that this is not quite right.

Duke (attitude). I don't like it; I never did. I don't see

what it means. I do it, but I don't like it.

Col. My good friend, the question is not whether we like it, SAPH. Yes, your conversion to the principles of A but whether they do. They understand these things; we don't. Art in its highest development has touched us decove. Now, I shouldn't be surprised if this is effective enough—at a distance.

Maj. I can't help thinking we're a little stiff at it. It would

be extremely awkward if we were to be "struck'

Col. I don't think we shall be struck so. Perhaps we're a will not go out to you. little awkward at first, but everything must have a beginning. Oh, here they come! 'Tention!

They strike fresh attitudes in a group as ANG. and SAPHIR enter.)

Ang. (Seeing them.) Oh, Saphir, see! see! The immortal fire has descended on them, and they are of the Inner Brotherhood—perceptively intense and consummately utter.

attitudes.)

SAPHIR. (In admiration.) How Botticellian! How Fra Angelican! O Art! I thank thee for this boon!

Col. (Apologetically.) I'm afraid we're not quite right. Not supremely perhaps, but oh so all-but!-(To SA-

PHIR.) Oh, Saphir. are they not quite too all-but? SAPH. They are indeed jolly utter.

Maj. (In agony.) What do the Inner Brotherhood usually

Col. Ladies, we will not deceive you. We are doing this MAJ. (attitude). No doubt. The only question is how far at some personal inconvenience, with a view of expressing the we've succeeded in doing so. I don't know why, but I've an extremity of our devotion to you. We trust that it is not without its effect.

Ang. We will not deny that we are much moved by this

proof of your attachment.

SAPH. Yes, your conversion to the principles of Æsthetic

Ang. And if Mr. Grosvenor should remain obdurace Which we have every reason to believe he will-SAPH. Maj. (Aside, in agony.) I wish they'd make haste.

ANG. We are not prepared to say that our yearning hearts

Col. (As giving a word of command.) By sections of threes. Rapture! (All strike a fresh attitude, expressive of asthetic rapture.)

SAPH. Oh, it's extremely good; for beginners it's admirable.

MAJ. The only question is, who will take who? SAPH. Oh, the Duke chooses first, as a matter of course.

DUKE. Oh, I couldn't think of it; you are really too good! Col. Nothing of the kind. You are a great matrimonial (The officers have some difficulty in maintaining their constrained prize, and it's only fair that each of these ladies should have a chance of hooking you.

DUKE. Won't it be rather awkward?

Col. Awkward? not at all. Observe: suppose you choose Angela, I take Saphir, Major takes nobody. Suppose you choose Saphir, Major takes Angela, I take nobody. Suppose you choose neither, I take Angela, Major takes Saphir. Clear as day!





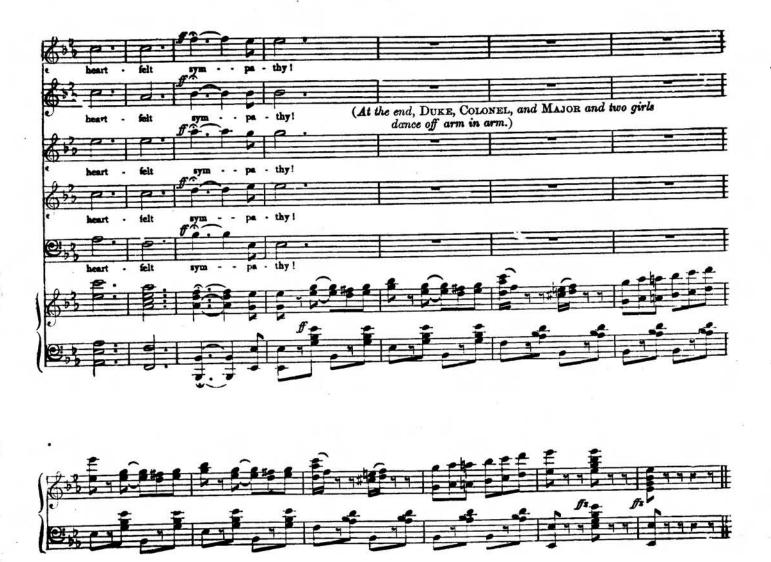












(Enter GROSVENOR.)

GROS. It is very pleasant to be alone. It is pleasant to be Bun. By making a complete that the page at leights upon these fortunes. It is pleasant to be Bun. looking at his reflection in the water.) Ah! I am a very Nar- lutely commonplace

he has shaved his moustache.)

Bun. It's no use; I can't live without admiration. Since Grosvenor came here insipidity has been at a premium. I will

(BUNTHORNE also reclines behind lake, so that the actions of both are reflected in water.)

Bun. (Looking in lake.) Which?

GROS. Mine.

Bun. Bah! I am in no mood for trifling.

And what is amiss?

the attentions of the young ladies. I don't like it, sir.

GROS. My dear sir, how can I help it? They are the plague of my life. My dear Mr. Bunthorne, with your personal disad-vantages you can have no idea of the inconvenience of being Bunk (Aside, after a struggle with himself.) I must not allow madly loved, at first sight. madly loved, at first sight.

Bun. Sir, until you came here I was adored.

GROS. Exactly-until I came here. That's my grievance; I cut everybody out! I assure you if you could only suggest some means whereby, consistently with my duty to society, I could escape these inconvenient attentions, you would earn my everlasting gratitude.

(Both rise and come down.)

but, however popular it may be with the world at large, your I do it on compulsion! personal appearance is highly objectionable to me.

GROS. It is? (Shaking his hand.) Oh, thank you! than a

Bun. By making a complete change at once. Your converable to gaze at leisure upon those features which all others may sation must henceforth be perfectly matter of fact. You must gaze upon at their good will! (Standing on bank of lake, and cut your hair. In appearance and costume you must be abso-

GROS. (Decidedly.) No. Pardon me, that's impossible.

Bun. Take care. When I am thwarted I am very terrible.

GROS. I can't help that. I am a man with a mission. And that mission must be fulfilled.

Bun. I don't think you quite appreciate the consequences of

thwarting me.

I don't care what they are. Gros.

show the world that I can be as insipid as he, Ah, he is there! but suppose, for one moment, I were to curse you? (Grosvenor Gros. Ah, Bunthorne! Come here; look! Is it not beau-quails.) Ah! Very well. Take care! Gros. But surely you would never do that? (In great Bun. Suppose-I won't go so far as to say that I will do it-

alarm.)

Bun. I d doubt. Still-I don't know. It would be an extreme measure, no

GROS. (Wildly.) But you would not do it-I am sure you would not. (Throwing himself at Bunthorne's knees, and clinging to him.) Oh, reflect! reflect! You had a mother once?

Bun. Never!

Bun. Ever since you came here you have entirely monopolized attentions of the young ladies. I don't like it, sir.

GROS. Then you had an aunt? (Bunthorne affected.) Ah! I see you had. By the memory of that aunt I implore you to pause ere you resort to this last fearful expedient! Oh, Mr.

once, or may a nephew's curse-

Hold! Are you absolutely resolved, Gros.

Bun. Absolutely!

Gros. Will nothing shake you? Bun. Nothing. I am adamant?

Very good. (Rising.) Then I yield; I will comply Gros. with your wishes.

Bun. Ha! You swear it?

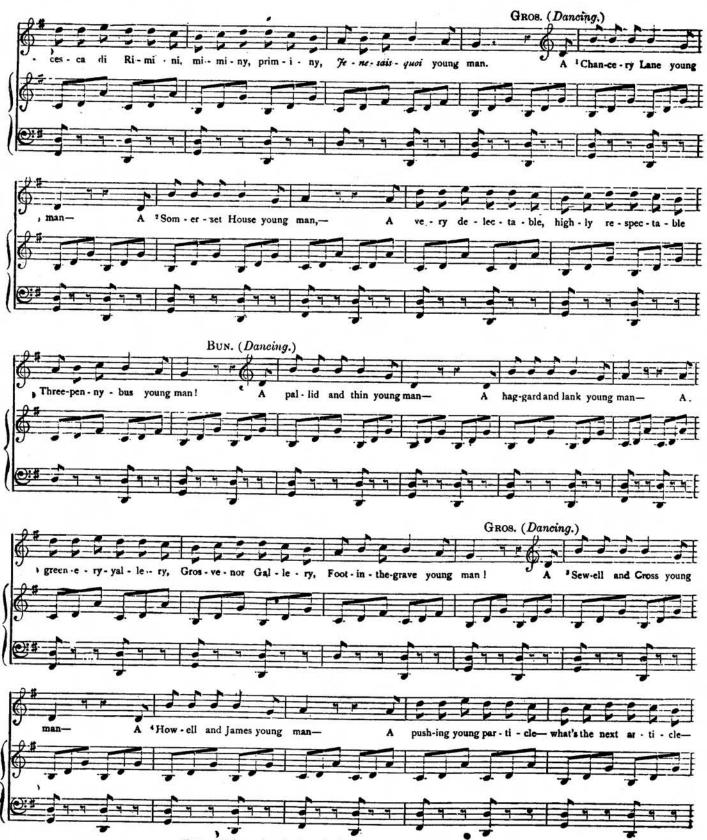
GROS. I do, cheerfully. I have long wished for a reasonable Bun. I will do so at once. You may be surprised to hear it, pretext for such a change as you suggest. It has come at last;

Bun. Victory! I triumph!









NOTE.—I Chancery-Lane is where the lawyers' offices are located in London. 2 Somerset House is the Government offices. 3, 4,6 Mean simply clerks connected in these bonses, which are large dry-goods establishments.



Bun. It is all right! I have committed my last act of ill-Bun. With occasional intervals for rest and refreshment. acture, and henceforth I'm a reformed character. (Dances long as I do. about stage, humming refrain of last air.)

PAT. Oh, Reginald, I'm so happy! (In his arms). Oh dear,

dear Reginald! I cannot express the joy I feel at this change. It will no longer be a duty to love you, but a pleasure, a rapture, an ecstasy!

Enter Patience. She gazes in astonishment at him.)

PAT. Reginald! Dancing! And— What in the world

Bun. My darling!
Pat. But— Oh, horror! (Recoiling from him.) What's the matter.

Bun. is the matter with you? Bun. Patience, I'm a changed man. Hitherto I've been

PAT. Is it quite certain that you have absolutely reformedgloomy, moody, fitful-uncertain in temper and selfish in dis-that you are henceforth a perfect being, utterly free from defect of any kind?

position.

PAT. You have indeed! (Sighing.)
Bun. All that is changed. I have reformed. I have modelled myself upon Mr. Grosvenor. Henceforth I am mildly cheerful. My conversation will blend amusement with instruction. I shall still be sesthetic, but my sestheticism will be of the there can be nothing unselfish in loving so perfect a being as most pastoral kind.

Bun. It is quite certain. I have sworn it! PAT. Then I never can be yours!

Why not? Bun.

PAT. Love to be pure, must be absolutely unselfish, and you have now become!

PAT. Oh, Reginald! Is all this true? Bun. Quite true. Observe how amiable I am. (Assuming I'll be as I was-

Bun. But stop a bit! I don't want to reform-I'll relapse-

a fixed smile.)

PAT. No; love should purify—it should never debase.

Bun. But I assure you, I- Interrupted! PAT. But, Reginald, how long will this last?

> (Enter GROSVENOR, followed by all the young ladies, who are followed by chorus of Dragoons. He has had his hair cut, and is dressed in an ordinary suit of dittos and a pot hat. The young ladies wear modern dresses. They all dance cheerfully round the stage, in marked contrast to their former languor.)

No. o.

Grosvenor & Chorus of Maidens.









BUN. Angela! Ella! Saphir! What-what does this mean? Bun. Thank you, Jane. After all, there is no denying it, Ang. It means that Archibald the All Right cannot be you're a fine figure of a woman! wrong; and if the All Right chooses to discard æstheticism, it

proves that æstheticism ought to be discarded. PAT. Oh, Archiba'd! Archibald! I'm shocked! surprised!

norrified! GROS. I can't help it; I'm not a free agent. I do it on compulsion.

This is terrible. Go! I shall never set eyes on you excitement.) PAT. again. But- Oh joy!

GROS. What is the matter?

PAT. Is it quite, quite certain that you will always be a commonplace young man?

Always! I've sworn it. GROS.

Why, then, there's nothing to prevent my loving you distinctly plain. (Girls retire disappointed.) Jane! PAT. with all the ferror at my command!

Why, that's true. GROS. PAT. My Archibald!

Gros. My Patience! (They embrace.)

Crushed again. Bun.

(Enter JANE.)

JANE (who is still æsthetic). Cheer up! I am still here. I have never left you, and I never will!

JANE. My Reginald! Bun. My Jane! (Embrace.)

(Flourish. Enter COLONEL, DUKE, and MAJOR.)

Col. Ladies, I have great and glorious news for you. The Duke has at length determined to select a bride. (General

DUKE. I have a great gift to bestow. Approach, such of you as are truly lovely. (All come forward bashfully except JANE and PATIENCE.) In personal beauty you have all that is necessary to make a woman happy. In common fairness, I think I night to choose the only one among you who has the misfortune to be

JANE. (Leaving BUNTHORNE'S arms., Duke! (JANE and DUKE embrace. BUNTHORNE is utterly muerable.)

Bun. Crushed again.

FINALE.

DUKE.

After much debate internal I on Lady Jane decide; Saphir now can take the Colonel. Angy be the Major's bride.

NOTE.—Swears & Wells and Madame Louise are large millinery establishments.





