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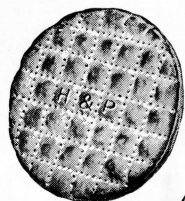
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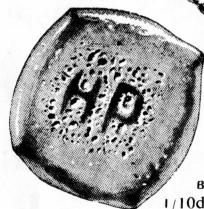
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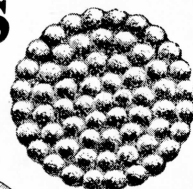
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The Story

THIS YEAR we present "The Pirates of Penzance", which was first performed on April 3rd, 1880. The libretto is supposed to spring from an adventure in Gilbert's own childhood when he was kidnapped, while in charge of his nurse, by bandits near Naples.

The Opera opens with a rousing chorus of Pirates, stating that Frederic is now out of his indentures ; then Ruth tells how she was entrusted to apprentice Frederic to a **pilot**, but made a mistake and apprenticed him to a **pirate**.

Then the ladies, who are all daughters of the Major-General, take the stage singing, completely oblivious of the fact that a pirate has come into their midst, and being greatly shocked when they find out. Frederic tells his tale of woe and how he has completed his indentures because he is a 'Slave of Duty'. But only Mabel, who declares herself with one of Sullivan's marvellous cadenzas, is favourably inclined towards him.

Then when the pirates come to try and marry the girls, their father, the Major-General, comes along and is promptly captured by the pirates, but is released when he tells them he is an orphan boy. The music then works up to what some feel is the most dramatic piece of music in the whole show, "Hail Poetry", usually sung without accompaniment.

The Second Act brings in the police who the Major-General has employed to capture the pirates. They show a superficial brave front goaded on by the girls, but soon show their true colours when confronted by the pirates. It is now discovered that Frederic was born on February 29th so he has a long time to serve before his 21st birthday, which is, of course, a well-known Gilbertian paradox.

Mabel and Frederic then swear their love and faithfulness to one another and Mabel appeals to the police for help. So with the famous song by the Sergeant of Police, and comical skirmishes between the police and pirates, the Opera ends with the pirates yielding after being charged to do so in Queen Victoria's name. It is then discovered that the pirates are all noblemen who have gone wrong, so of course the ladies are satisfied and all live happily ever after.

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President's Remarks



Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again it is my pleasure to welcome you to another Gilbert and Sullivan Opera, which this year is "The Pirates of Penzance."

To see a Savoy Opera is to be carried back into a world in which Britain still ruled the seas and the ladies (God bless 'em) were fragile, innocent little things, unable to cross the road without the support of a chivalrous masculine arm.

The members of the Society are constantly aware of the support and encouragement they receive from you—the audience, and are grateful for it.

We hope that the presentation of "The Pirates of Penzance" will afford you a great deal of pleasure, and indicate that the standard we have set ourselves is well maintained.

Yours faithfully,

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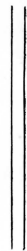
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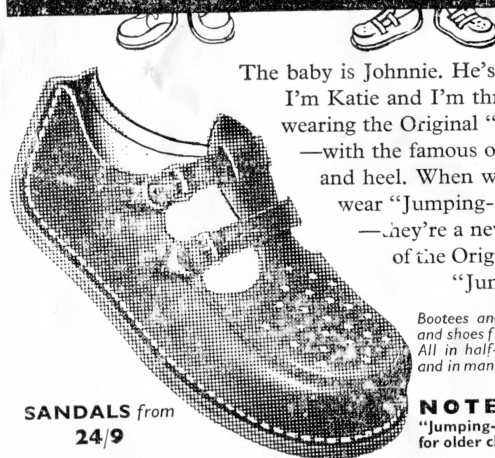
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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Overture

- 1.—Opening Chorus of Pirates and solo (**Samuel**)
"Pour, oh pour, the pirate sherry"
- 2.—Solo (**Ruth**)....."When Frederic was a little lad"
- 3.—Song (**Pirate King** and **Chorus**) "Oh better far to live and die"
- 4.—Recitative and Duet (**Ruth** and **Frederic**)
"Oh false one you have deceived me"
- 5.—Chorus of Girls "Climbing over rocky mountains"
- 6.—Recitative (**Edith, Kate, Frederic** and **Chorus**)... "Stop. Ladies, pray"
- 7.—Aria (**Frederic** and **Chorus of Girls**)
"Oh ! is there not one maiden breast"
- 8.—Air (**Mabel** and **Chorus**)..... "Poor wand'ring one"
- 9.—(**Edith, Kate** and **Chorus of Girls**)
"What ought we to do ? Gentle sisters, say"
- 10.—Duet (**Mabel** and **Frederic**) and Chorus of Girls
"How beautifully blue the sky"
- 11.—(**Frederic** and **Chorus of Girls and Pirates**)
"Stay, we must not lose our senses"
- 12.—Recitative (**Mabel, Major-General, Samuel** and **Chorus**)
"Hold, monsters"
- 13.—Song (**Major-General** and **Chorus**)
"I am the very pattern of a modern Major-General"
- 14.—Finale "Oh men of dark and dismal fate"

ACT II

- 1.—Introduction Solo (**Mabel** and **Chorus**)... "Oh dry the glist'ning tear"
- 2.—Recitative (**Frederic** and **Major-General**)
"Now, Frederic let your escort lion-hearted"
- 3.—Chorus with Solos (**Mabel, Edith** and **Sergeant**)
"When the foeman bares his steel"
- 4.—Recitative and Trio..... "Now for the pirates lair"
- 5.—Trio (**Ruth, Frederic** and **King**) "When you had left our pirate fold"
- 6.—Trio (**Ruth, Frederic** and **King**)..... "Away, away, my heart's on fire"
- 7.—Recitative and Duet (**Mabel** and **Frederic**)
"All is prepared ! Your gallant crew await you"
- 8.—Duet (**Mabel** and **Frederic**)..... "Stay, Frederic stay"
- 9.—Recitative (**Mabel** and **Chorus of Police**)
"No ! I'll be brave ! Oh, family descent"
- 10.—Song (**Sergeant** and **Chorus**)
"When a felon's not engaged in his employment"
- 11.—Solo (**Sergeant** and **Chorus**)..... "A rollicking band of pirates we"
- 12.—Solo (**Samuel** and **Pirates**) "With cat like tread"
- 13.—(**Frederic, King, Major-General, Police** and **Pirates**)
"Hush ! Hush ! Not a word"
- 14.—Song (**Major-General**)..... "Sighing softly to the river"
- 15.—Finale.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

MAJOR-GENERAL STANLEY	...	...	S. W. LOCKYER
THE PIRATE KING	...	...	C. MOUL
SAMUEL (his lieutenant)	...	...	G. HALLER
FREDERIC (the pirate apprentice)	...	...	N. A. HAIGH
SERGEANT OF POLICE	...	...	G. GREENWOOD
MABEL	...	General Stanley's daughters	J. RAWDON
EDITH	...		I. RICHARDSON
KATE	...		B. MOUL
ISOBEL	...		P. LODGE
RUTH (A pirate maid of all work)	...	...	M. WHITTAKER

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I.—A rocky seashore on the coast of Cornwall.

ACT II.—A ruined chapel by moonlight.

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Last year the Society, not only maintained, but actually enhanced its reputation—so it was freely said. “The Gondoliers”, always popular, proved a record box-office draw.

These things are most encouraging to talented and hard-working members of the Society who rehearse for six long months before a show is presented, thus ensuring its excellence.

For this year, “The Pirates of Penzance” has been chosen. Old and new patrons may be assured of a cordial welcome, a performance of distinction, and an evening’s unalloyed pleasure. We look forward to the renewal of old friendships and the forging of new ones.

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