Act II.

<u>Nº 16.</u>

CHORUS (Men only) with SOLO (Dan.)









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Mick. Halt there!

Dan. What do you see, Mick?

Mick. Somebody that's keepin' invisible!

(All Men retire into caves out of sight.)

Dan. (to Mickie). Stay where ye are, sentry. It's an honourable post ye are holdin', mind that.

Mick. Holdin' the post, am I? Didn't ye tie me to it yourself with your own two hands and one of my braces? Bedad, it's the post that's holdin' me, not me the post at all!

Ter. (heard off). Erin-go-bragh!

Dan. Maybe it's only Terence, after all.

Ter. (entering). It is. Where are the boys?

Dan. They thought you was the soldiers.

Ter. I see. Have they gone far?

Dan. Not far, considerin' the start they had.

(Men re-enter.)

Ter. Well, you need think no more of the red-coats.

Dan. It's little enough we think of them. We treat them with contempt.

Ter. They have refused to come here, and we are perfectly safe.

All. Hooroo!

Ter. Professor Bunn, our new recruit, succeeded in persuading them that this place is haunted by fairies. They are frightened to death of coming here.

Dan. And it's the little Professor did that?

Ter. He was mainly responsible for the details of the plan.

Dan. Then it's a credit to Ireland he is. What do ye say, boys?







Mick. Halt there!

Ter. What is it?

Mick. The swatest enemy ye ever saw. It's Kathleen, the darlin', and the other colleens. (*Enter* Kathleen, *followed by women.*)

Edward German.













Ter. I am sorry you are out of breath, for I gather you have brought news of importance. Am I right? If you cannot speak, nod your heads.

(All the Women nod vehemently.)
(Enter Molly.)

Mol. Ye are all goin' to be killed.

Ter. Dear me! That is calculated to take one's breath away. Can you tell me any more? (Molly *shakes her head*.)

Nora. Where's my Mickie?

Mick. Here I am, Nora dear, stickin' to my post like a blessed martyr to his stake.

Nora. For what are ye stayin' up there alone to be shot at?

Mick. I'm bound to stay, darlin', and that's the truth. My runnin' away would mean my undoin'. (Nora *releases him.*)

Mol. You are surrounded. The Lord Lieutenant and the soldiers are coming here.

Ter. But the soldiers said they were afraid to come.

Kath. They changed their minds.

Dan. That's like the soldiers—the cowards! And it's my belief the little Professor was deceivin' you all the time, and not the soldiers. It's a traitor and a spy he is.

Ter. It is possible.

Dan. What do ye say, boys?

CHORUS of Peasants.



Dan. Whist now—what's that?

(Bagpipe heard in distance.)

Ter. Is it a pig in pain? (*Goes up.*)

Mol. Not at all. It's Blind Murphy with his music.

Kath. It's Blind Murphy has taken service with the Lord Lieutenant.

Dan. What's that?

Nora. The truth.

Dan. Then it's comin' here as a spy he is.

Mol. Not at all. He thinks he can get cured by the fairies—he said so.

Dan. A spy would say anything.

All. Och, the spalpeen! Etc.

Mol. Stop your foolishness!

Dan. It's while the stable door's still open I'll not wait here to be taken like a horse in a trap.

Nora. It's surrounded your trap is—ye can't get out of it by leavin' it.

Dan. Then it's the Book of Fate that's written dead against us. What do ye say?

Mol. Say? That if the Book of Fate is written against us, it's the Book of Fate wants re-writin', and it's the old Irish character we'll use in doin' it. For Dame Fortune, the old schoolmistress, may put an Irish boy in a corner, but it's his back he'll put to the wall in spite of her. Eh, Terence?

Ter. Yes; Black Care will never ride a winner in the Irish race, while I'm in it.

Nº 19.

SONG (Terence) with CHORUS.









Dan. Good for you, Terence, avick. It's to you that we'll trust to get us out of our distress, and not to any mesmerizin', ventriloquizin', advertisin' quack of a Cockney character impersonator. It's surrounded with spies we are, and he's one of 'em, and Blind Murphy's another—and what's this if it's not two more?

(Enter Rosie and Susan.)

Rosie. Terence! (She throws herself into his arms.)

Dan. The Lord Lieutenant's own daughter! How's that for spyin'?

Mol. (to Dan). It's the gentleman's sweetheart she is.

Dan. What's that?

Ter. Yes; I did not tell you before, this lady and I are engaged.

Rosie. Not quite engaged, dearest. You are engaged to me, but I cannot be engaged to you without Papa's consent, and that we shall never have. We are lovers, indeed—but engaged, alas, no!

Susan. Handkerchief, my lady? (*Handing it.*)

Rosie. Thank you, Susan. (*Drying her eyes*.)

Dan. And is it you, Terence O'Brian, rebel and patriot, that are contemplatin' unholy matrimony with one of those Saxon serpents that trample our country under their heels? It's a double-faced traitor ye are. What do ye say, boys?

All: Och, the spalpeen! Etc.

Dan. (to Terence). And smilin', too! It's a handful of slugs shall fly in your smilin' face! (Getting blunderbuss.)

Rosie. (to Terence). Don't let them throw slugs at us, dear, will you? Not even snails. I couldn't bear it.

Ter. No, darling, don't be afraid.

Susan. Salts, my lady?

Rosie. Thank you, Susan.

Ter. (as Dan advances with blunderbuss). My friends, perhaps I owe you an explanation. This lady and I met in London before we understood the incongruities of our positions. We fell in love, and have never yet succeeded in falling out. You will not blame us when you hear the peculiar circumstances of our first meeting.

Nº 20.

DUET (Rosie & Terence) with CHORUS.

















Ter. Now do you still think a man a traitor for being faithful to the lady he loves?

Mol. Is it you, Black Dan, will say that with Kathleen there hangin' on your arm and every word ye speak!

Rosie. What a nice girl! Have you a lover?

Mol. No, ma'am.

Susan. Poor thing! (A whistle is heard.)

Ter. Listen!

Bunn. (offstage). Erin-go-bragh!

Ter. The password.

Dan. Then it's either the Professor or Blind Murphy—one of the two—and spies both. Whichever it is shall have a warm welcome. What will we do?

All: Och, The spalpeen! Etc.

Mol. No! Get out of sight and hearin', while I see which it is. (All exeunt silently.)

(Enter Bunn cautiously. He is dressed as on his first entrance, Act I.)

Bunn. Is this the place? Erin-go-bragh! Erin-go-bragh! No; there's no one here. No one at all.

Mol. (coming down). Ye're not Pat, but the Professor—the Saints be praised!

Bunn. Eh? Erin-go-bragh, my dear, Erin-go-bragh a thousand times. (*Shaking her hand warmly*.) Are you so glad to see me?

Mol. I am that. I was afraid it might be—someone else.

Bunn. Afraid it might be? (Ogling her.) Are we alone? (Enter Susan.)

Mol. You've a sweetheart here?

Bunn. I can see that. (Looking at Molly.)

Mol. Then it's a double-faced lover ye must be, seein' she's behind you.

Bunn. (turning). Susan! (*Greeting her effusively.*)

Susan. (aside) My detective! Are you going to arrest them all and drag them off by force?

Bunn. Not by force. I employ stratagem with any number of criminals over ten. (*To* Molly.) Where are the—er—b-hoys?

Mol. They are preparin' a warm welcome for ye.

Bunn. Really? I didn't know I was so popular.

(Enter Chorus. They seize Bunn.)

All: Och, the spalpeen! Etc.

(At the end his coat is torn up the back.)

(Enter Terence and Rosie.)

Bunn. I really did *not* know I was such a favourite. You've nearly torn me to pieces. Really, I'm a perfect scarecrow.

Ter. Listen, boys, and you, Mr. Bunn. Lady Rosie has kindly given me an idea. It's as a scarecrow you were employed by me; you undertook to scare the soldiers—and failed. You shall have one more chance. We are surrounded and are going to be attacked by a regiment of English infantry, eight hundred strong. If you succeed in frightening them away, your life shall be spared by us. If you fail—

Bunn. Yes, if I fail—it is not likely—but if I fail—?

Ter. As one of us you will, of course, suffer death at their hands.

Bunn. Leave everything to me, sir.

Ter. Everything is left to you—except a way of escape. What do you propose?

Rosie. Might he not have a minute for reflection?

Bunn. Reflection? Now you've given *me* an idea. Have you ever heard of Professor Bunn's apparitions?

Rosie. No.

Bunn. (*surprised*). Dear me, how large the world is! Where is the young person who appeared as the Fairy Cleena last evening?

Mol. I'm here.

Bunn. This time I will improve your appearance. I'll make you appear weird—terrible—unearthly.

Mol. I'm mighty obliged to you.

Bunn. Listen! Every passer-by that sets foot in this place you will address in terms of passionate affection, and invite him to stay with you for fifty years.

Mol. I will not.

Bunn. Eh?

Mol. What would I do that for?

Bunn. To frighten him away. The Fairy Cleena is supposed to do it.

Mol. That's her affair; there's nothin' *I'd* do it for.

Bunn. Why on earth not?

Nº 21.

ENSEMBLE.























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(Exeunt all except Bunn and Susan.)

Susan. It strikes me there's mysteries on mystery's head. How is it that you, a detective and a nero, let yourself be put upon?

Bunn. Ah! That's where I'm clever; that's where I'm cunning. Don't you see, it's part of the game?

Susan. It seems to me the game's hockey, with you for the ball and everyone else with a stick.

Bunn. I dare say it does look a little like that, at *first*.

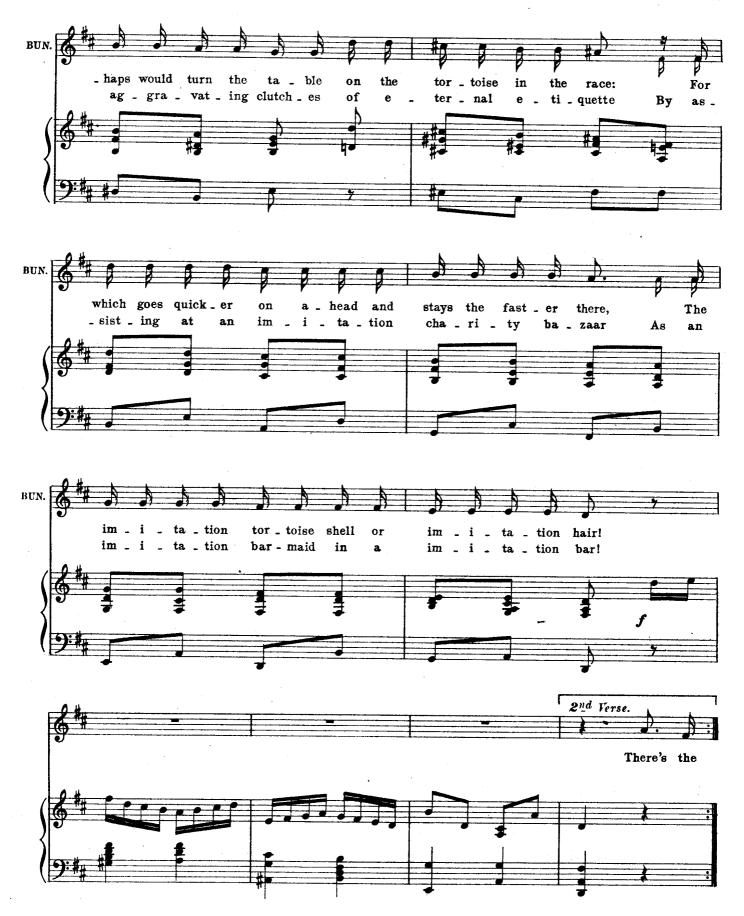
Susan. It looks more like it every minute.

Bunn. Susan, will you endeavour to recollect that there *are* such things as wolves in sheep's clothing—and I am one of them? Will you kindly remember that this is an age of shams, and that, as any Irishman will tell you, The English rose by climbing over the shamrock?



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(Enter Terence and Rosie, and afterwards Chorus.)

Ter. Mr. Bunn, Lady Rosie has another idea for you. As there is a difficulty about the *fairy* appearance, why not alarm the soldiers by letting them see a weird and *grotesque* figure skipping about the mountain in the moonlight? Why not impersonate a *goblin*?

Bunn. Well, sir—why not? I dare say you would do it very nicely.

Rosie. (to Bunn). Oh, of course I meant you to do it.

Bunn. Me? My dear lady—have you ever seen a goblin?

Rosie. No, never—have you?

Bunn. No; but I have seen their pictures. The generally accepted idea of a goblin is something ugly—small and mean-looking.

Rosie. Yes, I know.

Bunn. A mixture of the insignificant and the grotesque.

Rosie. Yes, I know.

Bunn. Well, there you are, you see—I really can't make myself plainer.

Rosie. No; I know. I didn't think you'd want to.

Ter. (Men *entering*). You see, unless you do something—and we can think of nothing else—I know I shall not be able to restrain the temper of this meeting—they will summon Judge Lynch in a moment.

(Dan and Men and Women have entered.)

Dan. It's arrived he is now, your honour. (With blunderbuss.)

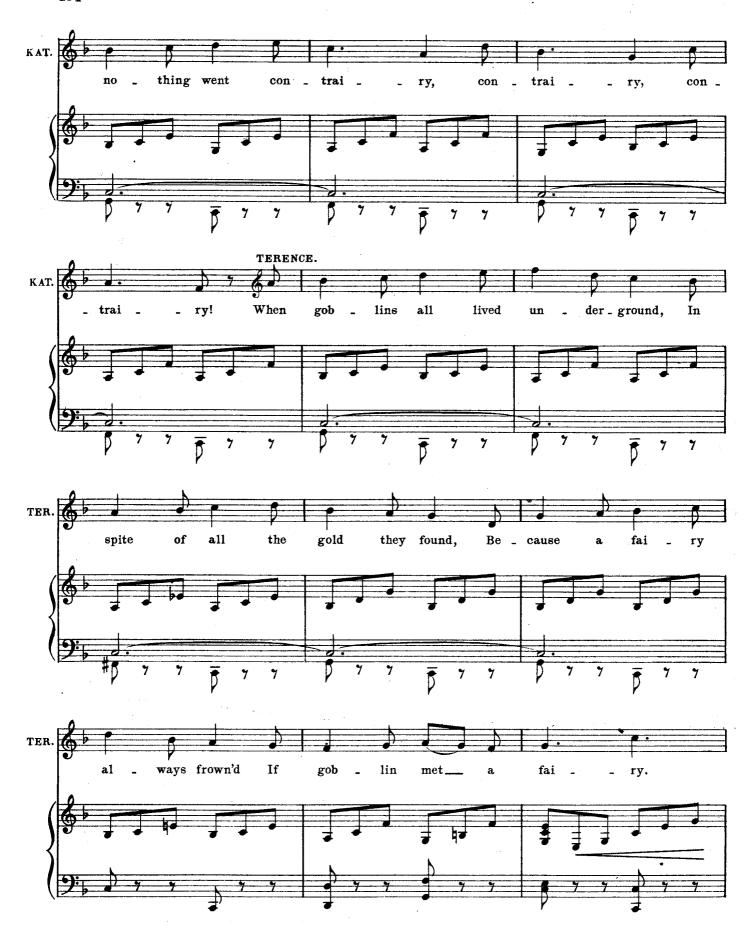
Susan. (aside, to Bunn). Hasn't the time come yet to arrest them?

Bunn. Patience. (*To* Dan.) Wait—I will make one more attempt to—to save your lives. If this young lady will assist me, I will impersonate a goblin, running after a fairy. It won't be quite the old-fashioned idea of a goblin. I dare say it will look more like a scene out of "Romeo and Juliet." But it is all I can do for you. I will make myself as frightful as I can.

Nº 23.

CONCERTED PIECE and DANCE.





























(Molly enters.)

Mol. There's someone coming this way now. But it's not frightened he seems.

Ter. If you cannot arrange to frighten any one, Mr. Bunn—

Bunn. It shall be done, sir—it shall be done. (*To* Molly.) Have you any objection to making the appearance I mention, *without* delivering the impassioned love-address?

Mol. I have not.

Bunn. Then kindly step into that cave.

Mol. (aside). It's Blind Murphy that's comin'—he'll not notice my appearance. (Exit Molly into cave.)

Bunn. (to Rosie). Excuse me, miss—do you sing?

Rosie. Oh, yes!

Bunn. Love-songs?

Rosie. Oh, yes!

Bunn. Do you know any love-song of a *cheerful* nature, one that implies that the singer has a sweetheart from whom she never means to separate—in fact, a love-song *without* the phrase "good-bye," or "farewell," or "we must part" occurring in it?

Rosie. Oh, no! There are none published.

Bunn. I thought not.

Ter. You forget the set of verses, darling, that I wrote for you on your birthday. They are not published, but—

Rosie. But they are a *gentleman's* love-song.

Ter. They were intended to represent the lady's feelings as well. I see no objection to your singing them to *me*.

Bunn. Then will you kindly step behind that rock and begin singing them when I sneeze twice? Your voice will appear to come from the apparition. I will arrange my apparatus. (*Exit into cave*.)

Rosie. If you think it right, darling, I do. Everything you ever think right, I will always think right.

Ter. Our minds, like our hearts, are one, darling. That's why I know we shall be happy together. (*Enter* Bunn.)

Bunn. I have arranged the apparatus in the cave. Kindly step behind this rock.

Rosie. We are quite ready. (Exeunt behind rock by side of cave.) (Enter Murphy.)

Bunn. Oh! It's Blind Murphy, the imposter, is it?

Mur. It is that, at present. But it's not blind I'll be any more when I've pretended I've spoken with the fairies. That's why I'm here. Have the boys all gone?

Bunn. Yes; they heard your—er—music—and thought it might be coming nearer. Listen. Did you really believe it was the Fairy Cleena that appeared in Molly's shape last evening?

Mur. I did not. I saw through that. But I believe in tellin' Molly I've come here and had a talk with the real Cleena and got my sight back from her. It'll be the miraculous cure I'm lookin' for.

Bunn. Look there! (*Pointing to cave on right.*)

(Molly's reflection appears.)

Mur. Saints preserve us!

Bunn. Can you see through that? Do you notice it's transparent?

Mur. (awed). It's Molly's shape, but it's not flesh and blood this time. Is that you, Cleena, ma'am? Speak, Cleena, and say you're not yourself at all, but only Molly as ye were the last time—speak, for the love of—

Bunn. Speak, lady—speak! (*Sneezes*.)

Rosie. (from behind rock). Do you wish me to speak or sing Mr. Bunn?

Mur. It's not her voice. It was Molly's shape and Molly's voice before—but this is only her shadow, and not her voice at all. It's the real Cleena this time, sure enough, that I never believed in, the Saints forgive me!

Bunn. Sing, lady, as thou wouldst only sing to one thou lovest; and tell me this—am / the one thou lovest?

Rosie. How dare you say that, Mr. Bunn?

Bunn. (to Murphy). You see it's not me she loves, so it's you.

Mur. Divil a doubt—I'm the happy man, bad luck to it! What will I do?

Bunn. Listen—and then run and warn the soldiers and the Lord Lieutenant, and tell 'em to keep away—a good long way. (*Sneezes and exit*.)

Nº 24. SCENA.- (Rosie, Terence and Murphy.)











(Enter Bunn, Molly, Kathleen, Nora, Dan, Women, and Men.)

Bunn. (to Terence). I fancy I've frightened someone this time, sir.

Nora. Who is it?

Kath. It's Blind Murphy.

Mol. Oh, it's frightened to death he's been! (*Kneeling by him.*)

Rosie. Oh, and I helped to do it!

Ter. No, no; he has only fainted.

Bunn. A success at last, sir, eh?

Ter. No, Mr. Bunn—a failure. The idea was that he should run off and tell the soldiers, and frighten them away; and instead of that he has fallen in a faint. Another failure, Mr. Bunn, and I think the last one.

Bunn. Oh, never say die, sir!

Ter. No, I'll leave it to the Lord Lieutenant to say that.

Bunn. We'll have one more trial, sir.

Ter. Yes, and we will all be tried together. Listen, Mr. Bunn: if you try to save your own skin by playing a double game, I shall put a bullet through your brain, or, at any rate, through your head. I think it is perhaps a kindness to let you know this.

Bunn. Thank you, sir. You've taken quite a fancy to me! (*Exit into cave*.) (*Murphy shows signs of regaining consciousness*.)

Mol. Did the lady frighten you with her singing, Pat?

Mur. Molly! Is it really you, Molly?

Mol. Who else would it be?

Mur. I thought I saw—

Mol. If ye thought ye saw anything, it's dreamin' ye must have been, bein' blind, poor boy.

Mur. Yes, bein' blind.

Ter. (to Murphy). You are accused of having come here as a spy.

Dan. It's hangin' is too good for him, but it's all we have to offer. (*Preparing a rope*.)

Ter. He must be tried first and sentenced afterwards.

Dan. The other's the safest way with spies. But have it your own way.

Ter. Who will stand as the prisoner's friend?

Dan. It's no friend he has among us, to stand or lie for him!

Mol. That's where ye're wrong. It's a strange thing that the only man among ye should be a girl! I'll stand as his friend, your honour—it's what I'd do for anyone.

Ter. You can question the prisoner. The cross-questions will come after.

Mol. It's not cross mine will be at all. I'm just doing this out of kindness—ye understand that, your honour?

Ter. Yes, I understand. Go on.

Mol. (to Murphy). Now, Blind Murphy, ye are charged with bein' a traitor. Are ye a traitor?

Mur. I am not.

Mol. That's every bit good enough for me. (*To* Terence.) Will ye be wantin' to hear any more evidence, your honour?

Ter. Yes; he is accused of writing an anonymous letter to the Lord Lieutenant warning him of our society.

Mol. The Lord Lieutenant we overheard readin' an anonymous letter—did ye write it?

Mur. I never put my name to such a document in my life.

Mol. (*triumphantly*). Hear that now!

Ter. He is accused of coming here as a spy.

Mol. A spy! (*To* Murphy.) How could ye be spyin' if ye were blind? Tell me that.

Mur. I could not.

Rosie. There's some sense in that.

Mol. There's no sense in it, ye mane. A blind man can't be a spy—that's proved—and it's one more question will close the case. Haven't ye been blind since ye were a gossoon that little? Speak, Pat dear—ye've only got to say it on your oath, and the case is concluded. It's the aisiest thing in life; askin' the question at all is like puttin' a frill on a ham-bone—it's not a necessity, but makes a finish. Come now, haven't ye been blind since ye were a gossoon?

Mur. No, I've never been blind at all. It's a lyin' thief that I've been—I've never been blind. I never had the heart to tell ye, Molly, till ye put me on my oath. I hadn't the heart to tell ye, seein' that ye pitied me—and pity's near akin to love, they say—though it's a mighty poor relation. I've never been blind—I wish I had before I saw ye look like that, Molly!

Mol. Ye've never been blind—and me holdin' your hand, and peelin' your praties—and pretendin' it was the fairies!

Dan. Wouldn't such be a spy?

Ter. Yes. (*To* Molly.) Have you anything more to say?

Mol. Yes—no.

Rosie. He has spoken the truth now.

Mol. They say that will shame the divil. I know it has shamed me.

Ter. He is banished. (*To* Murphy.) You have been able to see all these people when they didn't know it—if they know it, you shall never see them again.

(Exeunt all, leaving Molly and Murphy)

(Before her exit Rosie goes to Molly and quietly kisses her.)

Mur. (to Molly). Have you stayed to say good-bye, Molly?

Mol. It's not sure I am that I have.

Mur. Then it's only the cold stones of my native town that I'll be sayin' it to.

SONG.- (Murphy.)











<u>№ 26.</u>

DUET.- Molly and Murphy.











(Molly and Murphy exit.)

(Sergeant Pincher enters stealthily, as if searching for some one concealed. Kathleen, Nora, and Women enter to him. Other Soldiers follow the Sergeant. Terence enters.)

Kath. (*to* Sergeant). Are ye lookin' for anything—or anybody?

Ser. Ess—rebels. (*Regarding* Terence *and* Girls.) Be you a gatherin' o' rebels?

Ter. No, we are a-gathering of mushrooms. Sir, you will no doubt think me very stupid, but what *are* you waiting here for? And hadn't you better go away?

Ser. Well, of awl the chubble-'eaded vules! We be under orders to wait for the Lord Lieutenant.

Ter. Poor fellows! And at any moment the Fairy Cleena, who haunts this spot, may catch sight of you, and fall in love with you, and keep you here for fifty years. What will Mary Hooper and Mary Cooper and Jane Tucker and the rest of them think then?

Ser. There be Mary Hooper and Mary Cooper and Jane Tucker and Emily Snugg and Susan Wickens—

Ter. I know—I know. But where will *they* be in fifty years? What will become of them—and of you?

Ser. Aw! I an't a-thort nort about that!

Ter. Poor fellows! Pawns in the game of government. Playthings of unprincipled politicians! Poor deluded, patient, wooden soldiers!

Ser. Eh?

Ter. Listen. I wouldn't dishearten you for worlds, but—listen!

<u>Nº 27.</u>

SONG (Terence) with CHORUS.

Arthur Sullivan. Allegretto moderato con espress. Terence. Piano. sol_dier Who was 1. There was once lit _ tle 2. Now that lit _ tle wood _ en sol_dier (As al_ways did his du_ty, And he wood: Ve _ ry proud _ ly He all must do) Grew grad_u_al_ly old_er Then he was when new, Till at













(Exit Terence, with Kathleen and Women.)

Ser. Now diddee iver zee sich a chubble-'eaded vule's er is in awl—

(Enter Lord Lieutenant and Countess. The Soldiers range themselves in rank.

Lord L. There are no rebels here—as I expected.

Here truly's military expedition That sets out after rebels and arrives Before them. We are first upon the field.

Coun. Looking back

At English history, I do not know Of any Queen who, on the eve of battle, Kissed every single soldier in the ranks!

Lord L. I think we should have heard of such a thing.

Coun. We should; for 'twould have been a graceful act. And our posterity *shall* hear of it—

From me.

(Enter Bunn, unnoticed.)

Coun. Sergeant, come here, and I will kiss you first.

(He comes down reluctantly, Bunn by his side, hidden from Countess and Lord Lieutenant.)

(The Soldiers gradually exeunt by the closing step.)

Bunn. (to Sergeant). Do what I tell you, and you sha'n't be kissed.

(As Countess and Lord Lieutenant go aside, Sergeant bends down and Bunn whispers to him.)

Lord L. (to Countess). I may presume, I think,

That you intend to kiss the soldiers on

Their foreheads?

Coun. Certainly; the kind of kiss

You give the debutantes at Drawing Rooms.

Lord L. Such are too often only blank salutes
Of powder—which goes off when I discharge

That canon of my duty.

Coun. (to Sergeant). Can you bend

Gracefully, like a willow, from the waist? I cannot reach your brow unless you do.

(Bunn, standing behind Sergeant, nudges him.)

Ser. *I be a turmit hawer,*

From Debbenshire I came; My parents be 'ard-warking vokes An' I be just the zame. An' tha vly, ha, ha!
Tha vly, ha, ha!
Tha vly be on tha turmits,
An' tez awl my eye vur me tu try
To keep min off tha turmits.

Lord L. He's either hard of hearing or insane!

He thinks that we have asked him to recite

Some poem of his childhood.

Coun. (to Sergeant, speaking a little louder). Can you bend? I cannot kiss your forehead as you are.

Ser. 'Twas on a Vriday marning,

Avore the break ov day, That I tuked up my turmit haw An' tridged dree miles away.

Lord L. No, no, my man, to-morrow you shall join My Elocution Classes, but to-night The Countess wishes—

Ser. I zune did get a place ov wark,

I tuked it by the job;

An' ef I 'ad my time again

I'd zunder go to quod. An' tha vly, ha, ha!

Tha vly, ha, ha!

Tha vly be on tha turmits.

An' tez awl my eye vur me tu try

To keep min off tha turmits.

Bunn. (appearing to Lord Lieutenant.) Good morning! The Lord Lieutenant, I think?

Lord L. Are you a rebel?

Bunn. No, my lord, no! I am—amongst other things—a member of the Society for Psychological Research. I've come here in search of fairies—and, by Jingo, sir, I've found 'em; the place is full of 'em.

Ser. There's zome delights in haymaking,

And a few delights in mawing,

But ov awl tha trades that I like best, Gie me tha turmit hawing.

Bunn. It's easy enough to see what's the matter with this poor man—he's bewitched. It's not safe to stay here, that's very certain. If I were you, my lord, I should go home to bed.

Lord L. Sir, you amaze me!

Bunn. Ah! (*Pleased*.)

Lord L. I see at length

My Chaplain is approaching; he is stout

Tho' staunch, and lagged behind; he'll prove to you

That fairies can't exist. Come, Dr. Fiddle. (Enter Fiddle; he is panting.)

Endeavour to remember that you are

A learned Doctor of Divinity,

And not a grampus.

I want you, if you please, or if you don't,

To preach your sermon to this gentleman,

Who thinks this place haunted. I perceive

That to your faults of literary style

The Countess has already shut her eyes—

As I will do, I promise you. Begin.

(Lord Lieutenant sits, and prepares to slumber.)

Fid. (taking bulky packet from pocket and addressing Bunn).

This sermon I intended for to-morrow,

In which I deal with vulgar superstitions

So rife among the peasantry of Ireland.

This sermon providentially I carry

In my tail pocket—it is somewhat bulky,

For I have made it thoroughly exhaustive—

In fact, it is a question which will be, sir,

The most exhausted when the sermon's ended

Myself, my subject, or my congregation.

The subject I divide into ten headings,

Each heading into twenty sub-divisions,

Bristling with arguments and long statistics,

Which prove entirely to my satisfaction,

And will, I think, to yours, when you have heard them,

That there are not, have never been, and cannot

At any future time be in existence

Such things as Fairies, Pixies, Nymphs, or Brownies,

Hobgoblins, Gnomes, or other apparitions.

Bunn. (having made several unavailing attempts to interrupt and escape from the Chaplain, who has buttonholed him). Your Excellency, I am quite satisfied—

Lord L. That fairies don't exist? I'm glad of that; And I myself am also satisfied There are no rebels here.

Coun. I do not think
That anyone in Ireland—

Lord L. Would rebel

Against the Lord Lieutenant. So I think! (*Producing the anonymous letter*.) The man who wrote this letter telling me
Of rebels is the first, the very first
And only man who ever tried to hoax
The Lord Lieutenant. He shall be the last!
A thousand guineas is the sum I offer
For his discovery, or information
That leads to it!

Bunn. (taking letter). Permit me. I am Professor Bunn, the eminent expert in handwriting. Ah! I thought so; I can tell you who wrote this. I wrote it myself. A thousand guineas I think you said? (*Chuckles*.)

Lord L. I never break my word; and you shall have The thousand guineas.

Bunn. Thank you, my lord. I knew I could trust the word of a nobleman.

Lord L. I never break my word; and I have said That I will shoot all rebels that I catch. You, in this letter, prove that you are one.

Bunn. Against my will, my lord!

Lord L. (*to* Sergeant). Let him be shot at once; if that be not Enough, let him be shot at twice, or thrice—

Bunn. My lord—

Lord L. Summon the firing party!

Bunn. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them!

(He is carried off by Sergeant.)
(Enter Molly and Murphy.)

Mol. Listen, Lord Lieutenant! It's banished my Pat has been for bein' a traitor to the rebels. And it's us that's goin' to show them we wouldn't betray them for the world. Come out of your hiding, boys! (Men *and* Women *begin to enter*.) Now, Pat, spake the truth and shame your accusers!

Mur. Is it me that ever wrote a letter to ye in my life, Lord Lieutenant? Me that cannot write at all?

Mol. Why didn't ye say that before?

Mur. It's not a thing worth mentioning. (*To* Lord Lieutenant.) It's not your friend I am at all! I'm the reddest rebel here!

Chorus. (to Murphy). Hooroo! Whiroo!

(Soldiers enter.)

Lord L. Arrest these men, and let *them* all be shot at once—if that be not enough— (Soldiers *prepare their muskets*. *Enter* Terence.)

Ter. Stop! I am the leader of these men! If anyone is shot—

Lord L. Let him be shot at once; if that be not—

(Terence stands out. Susan runs across and throws herself into his arms, between him and the Soldiers.)

Susan. No! My mistress would wish this done if she was here—
(*Enter* Rosie.)

Rosie. I am. Thank you, Susan.

Susan. Shall I stay here, my lady?

Rosie. No, thank you, Susan. (*Takes her place in Terence's arms.*)

Lord L. (*to* Rosie). Who is this gentleman? Though you forget Yourself, can you inform me who he is?

Coun. A common rebel.

Rosie. Nay, a Commoner, whom love has crowned my King!

Coun. Tush!

Lord L. Listen, girl!

Apart from being daughter of a Viceroy,
Remember you're of ten times royal birth;
For, as is generally now the case
Among the English aristocracy,
Some of the richest if not bluest blood
Of all America flows in your veins.
Your ancestors (upon the other side)
Comprise two Railway Kings, a Copper Queen,
And half-a-dozen Pork-pie Potentates.
The democratic principles that must
Lie in your blood with such an ancestry
Will prompt you, I am sure, to love a Lord,
And no one else. Release my daughter, sir.

Rosie. Papa, this gentleman is—(*To* Terence.) Tell Papa who and what you are.

Ter. I'm descended from Brian Boru.

Peasants. Hooroo!

Ter. My blood is the elegant hue—

Peasants. True Blue!

Ter. That flows in the veins of the fortunate few who are sons of the Kings of Erin!

Lord L. I did not know that your descent was royal.

That fact removes the first objection which
I have to you as husband for my daughter.
But one objection still remains; 'tis one
Which is, I fear, quite insurmountable.
I cannot let my daughter marry one
Who has been shot for treason—as you will
Be shot in half an hour. I think that you
Will understand that is impossible.

Ter. Yes. If in company with these rebels I am to suffer a felon's death in half an hour, I cannot expect you to trust your daughter's happiness to me. I quite see that. There is nothing more to be said. It is a perfectly reasonable objection.

(Bunn has been brought on.)

Bunn. Pardon me. There is this to be said. It has just struck me. (To Lord Lieutenant.) If we had guessed, as we ought to have guessed, that you, being a scion of a noble English house, had so much American blood in your composition, we should not have rebelled against you. America is the friend of Ireland. You are an English nobleman. Therefore you are nowadays more than half American. Therefore you are our friend. How do you do? I am glad we met. We are no longer rebels. It would be absurd to shoot us.

Lord L. That sounds conclusive—

Bunn. It is conclusive. What do you say, b-hoys?







