

The VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPAY, based in Rockville, is devoted to authentic productons of the Comic Operas of Gilbert and Sullivan and encourages the promotion of these evergreen works of the Musical Theatre. The company is a community-based group and derives its operating finances from ticket sales, member dues, and individual donations. The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank those individuals who continue to show their support of the VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY through their generous donations.

Vitginia Oownes Ot. & Mts. Nottis C. Hekimian Hatty Leet William MacNeal Matie Yudowitch

Artistic Director Marion Scodari and Producer Tim Briceland-Betts are always pleased to welcome new staff members to the organization. If you would like to become a member of VLOC as performer, technical staff, or support member, or you would just like to be kept informed of our activities, please fill out the enclosed form and leave it in the lobby as you depart... "dignified and stately"...



SMOKING is NOTpermitted in the Theatre.
EMERGENCY EXITS are located at the sides of the stage and in the lobby.

Thank you.

A NOTE ON THIS EDITION

Those familiar with tolanthe will notice that the edition used tonight is in certain important respects different from the standard edition usually performed.

On the first night, two numbers were included that have since been cut. One of them, a song for Strephon, was Dickensian in its social criticism, which unfortunately rings as bitingly true today as when it was written. The other, a recitation for Mountararat, though sometimes thought to have been a song, was never intended to be one. These are performed tonight.

In addition, one of the two surviving numbers from *Thespis*, the original collaboration of Gilbert and Sullivan, proves quite relevant to the second act of *Iolanthe*. You will hear it as a solo for Tolloller, thus evening up the imbalance that would have been created had Mountararat been given a moment in the limelight not balanced by an equivalent on from his fellow MP.

In case you think that Gilbert always knew what he was doing when he shortened his libretti, reflect that he tried to cut "My Object All Sublime" from The Mikado on opening night, and was only dissuaded from doing so by Richard Temple, the soloist, who didn't want his chief chance to shine omitted from the production.

The Victorian Lyric Opera Company would like to take this opportunity to thank Matthew Cunitz for orchestrating the additional music used in this performance, and Peter Kline for the additional lyrics and continuity.

ARGUMENT

ACT 1. The curtain rises on an Arcadian landscape with the fairies tripping on to tell of their sorrow that lolanthe has been banished by their Queen for martying a mortal a quarter of a century before. They cannot understand why she chose to live at the bottom of a stream, and successfully entreat the Queen to summon tolanthe and forgive her. On her arrival, tolanthe explains that she has wanted to live near her son, Strephon, who now enters to tell his mother and his "aunts" that he is anxious to marry Phyllis, a Ward of Chancery, but is prevented by the Lord Chancellor. The fairy Queen promises Strephon that if he is ever in need of her help she will give it to him. After Strephon and Phyllis have sung of their love for each other the Peers make ther famous entry with "Loudly let the trumpets bray." The Lord Chancellor sends for Phyllis, tells the Peers that he is overcome by her charms and goes on to tell Strephon he still withholds his consent. Strephon in desperation consults his mother, but Phyllis (seeing him with a young woman) assumes he is being unfaithful, in which she is encouraged by the Peers. He thereupon calls on the fairly Queen for help and the first Act ends with her and the fairies telling the Peers that Strephon will go into Parliament and wreak havoc there

ACT 11. Private Willis, on guard at the Palace of Westminster, meditates on the political scene; the two Lords Mountararat and Tolloller (both now engaged to Phyllis) argue and almost come to blows over her, when the Lord Chancellor, restless and disturbed, comes in to sing his famous Nightmare song.

Needless to say, Phyllis and Strephon become reconciled and ask lolanthe to intercede for them with the Lord Chancellor. She agrees, although knowing that if she goes to him and is recognized as his wife, long believed dead, she will be condemned to death by the fairly Queen.

Her death seems inevitable until all the fairies proclaim that they too intend to marry mortals. But the Lord Chancellor saves the day by altering the fairy Law so "that every fairy shall die who don't marry a mortal." The fairy Queen, delighted, proposes to Private Willis, and everyone is happy.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

No. Overture. ACT 1 2. INVOCATION: "Iolanthel from Thy Dark Exile" (Soli and Chorus)............Queen, Iolanthe, Celia, Leila, Fairies 6. ENTRANCE AND MARCH OF THE PEERS "Loudly Let The Trumpets Bray" (Chorus, Tenois and Basses)..... 7. "The Law is The True Embodiment" (Song and Chorus)......Lord Chancellor and Peers "My Well-Loved Lord And Guardian Dear" (Trio and Chorus) Phyllis, Lord Mountararat, Lord Tolloller, Peers 10. "Spurn Not The Nobly Born" (Song and Chorus)...............................Lord Tolloller and Peers 11. "My Lords, It May Not Be" (Recitative and Chorus) Phyllis, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mounararat, Strephon, Lord Chancellor, Peers 12. "When I Went To The Bat As A Very Young Man" (Song)......................Lord Chancellor 16. "When Britain Really Ruled The Waves" (Song and Chotus) Lord Mountararat, Fairies, Peers "In Vain To Us You Plead" (Soli and Chorus) Leila, Celia, Fairies, Lord Mounararat, Lord Tolloller "Though P'thaps 1 May Incury our Blame" (Quartet) Phyllis, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountararat, Private Willis "Love, Unrequited, Robs Me Of My Rest" (Recitative and Song) Lord Chancellor 21. "He Who Shies At Such A Prize" (Trio) Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountararat, Lord Chancellor 21a "My Bill Has Now Been Read A Second Time" (Recitative and Song)......Strephon 24. "It May Not Be" (Recitative)................................lolanthe, Queen, Lord Chancellor, Fairies

10LANTHE

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OTALOGUE COACH Peter Kline DIRECTOR Mation Scodari MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR Barity Morley

CAST

erization contractor
The Lord Chancellor
Lord Mountaratat
Lord TollollerElwood Zimmerman
Private Willis, of the Grenadier GuardsBarry Grinnell
Strephon, an Arcadian shepherd
Queen of the fairies
Linda Lynch (Jan. 13 [mat.], 19, 20 [eve.])
tolanthe, a fairy, Strephon's motherLucy Greene
Phyllis, a shenherdess and Ward in Chancery Linda Kirk
Celia, a fairyAnn Beet (Jan. 12, 13)
Sheryl Ruppert (1an. 19, 20)
Leila, a faityShirley ffiedman (lan. 12, 13)
Syrīl L. Kline (Jan. 19, 20)
Fleta, a fairy
Lord DeBelvilleCharles Sens
Main BeaterVictor Hugo Portas

LADIES OF THE CHORUS, FAIRIES

Ann Beet, Stephanie Brigham, Fran Fleming, Shirley Friedman, Donna laffe, Kate Lawniczak, Syrīl L. Kline, Edith Livingstone, Sheryl Ruppert, Rusty Suter

GENTLEMEN OF THE CHORUS, PEERS

10hn Austen, Batty Grinnell, Watten Houghteling, 1im Hummel, Robert Jacobson, Lyle Jaffe, Erik Kfeil, Kent Woods

ACT 1: An Arcadian Landscape - Evening

ACT 11: Exterior of Westminster Palace, London - Night

PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCER Tim Briceland-Betts

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PRODUCTION STAFF	
PRODUCER	
Tim Briceland-Betts	
O must ladace	0)
Stage Manager	M
Set Design	M
Set Construction	
Stephanie Brigham, Warten Houghteling, Erik Kreil, Donna laffe,	W
Lyle Jaffe, Jonathan Lawniczak, Gina Nowacki, Ed Wiot, Lou Wiot	0)
Technical Director (Rockville Civic Center)	
Lighting DesignJonathan Lawniczak	
	X
Costume DesignLaufa Hubbard, Edith Livingstone, Mary Sue Merritt, (Marion Scodari	
	0)
Costume Construction	
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Make-up DesignLora Sullivan	X
Propertieslim Parker Assistant to the DirectorLou Wiot	W
Assistant to the Producer and Set DesignerEd Wiot	0
Rehearfal PianistJudy Gardner	
	0
20.000	78
Publicity/Public RelationsDeb Briceland-Betts	W
Program	0
Photography	000
	M
Ms. Santilhano's gown courtesy of the Washington Savoyards, Ltd.	X
Illustrations from <u>Victorian Pictorial Borders</u> and <u>Treasury of Victorian Printers' Frames</u> . Ornaments and Initials, Carole Belanger Grafton, ed.; Dover Publications, Inc., NY.	
Music stands and lights courtesy of Rockville Musical Theatre.	(0)
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The Victorian Lyric Opera Company wishes to extend its sincere thanks to Christ	
Congregational Church, for the use of its rooms for our rehearsals, and to all those who	K
joined our support ranks subsequent to the early deadline for this program. Though your	X
name may not be mentioned here, your efforts on behalf of this production have contributed greatly to its success. We love you!	
Contribution district to 113 June 232. Act to Act do pr.	0



VIOLIN

Bonnie Bartows, Concertmistiess Catolyn Larson Don Johnson Mautine Beasley Winnie Palmet

VIOLA Amanda Laudwein

Amanaa Lauawesi Andy Bursten

CELLO

Liz Luck Sol Feldman BASS

Dave Ross Cyndy Elliott

OBOE Carl Gardner

FLUTE

Pauline Summers Louise Hill

CLARINET

Gene Sober Susan Braun FRENCH HORN

Don Hunter Lotin Krusberg

TROMBONE

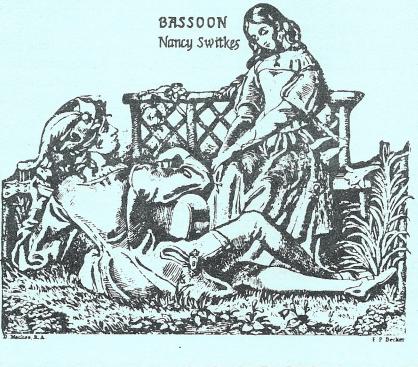
Earl Zastrow

TRUMPET

Tom Gleason Bethie Rappaport

PERCUSSION

Tom Christy Bonny Hilditch



ABOUT THE CAST

ANN BEER (Celia {1an. 12, 13}) has logged countless miles and hours journeying from her home in Reston to prepare for her first appearance with VLOC. Though she still may very well pass for 23 ("in the dusk, with the light behind her" -Ed.), Ann's singing career actually goes back far enough to include two productions of *The Pirates of Penzance* (once as Mabel), separated by marriage and the births of three children. She has sung numerous opera roles and in oratorio, choral, and church groups. She studies voice in Reston with lune Presswood.

GORDON BRIGHAM (The Lord Chancellor) has a tendency to perform only those roles for which he is least suited. He was Colonel Calverly in Patience, despite the fact that the suit didn't fit him and he is a pacifist. He made up for it, however, by falling in love with a member of the chorus, whom he has subsequently married. He took on the role of Giuseppe in The Gondoliers because "Giuseppe is just a guy and I am a character actor." Keeping his flair for mordant humor under control, Brigham made Giuseppe more memorable than anyone else has ever made him primarily by losing himself in the part and losing his character in the ensemble. His wife-to-be valiantly taught him the ensemble parts. Now Gordon has undertaken the role of England's highest legal office primarily because he regards himself both as a fugitive from the law and from his own tendency to drown himself in the artistry of his acting. He has worked long and hard to master the second act trills andante in 6/8 time, only to find out that they occur in the dialogue only.

11M FELTEN (Lord Mountararat), a Minnesota native, has performed Shakespeare, Sophocles, Brecht, Beethoven, Brahms, Handel, some political theater, and a lot of Ge'S roles in Ithaca, Tucson, and the Washington area. Locally he has been seen with VLOC and the Washington Savoyards, most recently as Pooh-Bah in VLOC's 1988 Mikado. Iim commits astrophysics at Goddard Space flight Center but maintains that this private indiscretion should not unfit him for service in Parliament.

SHIRLEY FRIEDMAN (Leila {Jan. 12, 13}) claims to be the mother of a precious baby girl named Lauren, but other members of the cast have laid claim to her so we'll just have to see. Rumor has it that Shirley got this part to encourage her mother, Rosalie, to behave at rehearsals, but it didn't work so we'll just have to see about that, too. She is one of only two members of the cast with the courage to ever even consider asking Producer Tim Briceland-Betts a question. As many VLOC regulars already know, Shirley always wears pajamas under her "street clothes," and, of course, she has the largest shopping bag full of assorted canned goods collections in this area.

LUCY GREENE (Iolanthe) seemed an admirable choice for Iolanthe because she is exactly 17, which is convenient, because Daryl Landis is exactly 25. She can also sing and proved that as the Lady Ella in *Patience*, where she had to prove her excellence with remarkably few notes, and as Casilda in *The Gondoliets*, in which role she discovered for the first time a brittle aloofness and sanctimonious snobbery that she has struggled to put behind her in this present role. In private life, she devotes herself to keeping the Smithsonian Institution able to operate.

BARRY GRINNELL (Private Willis) steps up to the rank of a British soldier, having done service in the galleys as His Disctinction Don Alhambra del Bolero. "The moral crisis this role of torturer put me through has brought on guilt that can be expiated only by standing guard all night long in front of Big Ben -- come cold or admiring females." This latest development in the moral regeneration of our admired treasurer comes after he has won laurels and heaped fame upon our opera company by running faster than anyone else in a business suit. Grinnell's greatest moments of hilarity, however, always take place in the presence of balance sheets.

LINDA KIRK (Phyllis) has undertaken the role of Phyllis after developing her own uniquely freudian analysis of the character. She sees Phyllis as struggling with an inner ambition to be loved by the corridors of power while openly allying herself with the forces of nature in opposition to government. She feels that this is in reality every young girl's desire: namely, to throw as much chaos as possible into the essential masculine order of things represented by legislative forces. She graduates to the demanding soprano role of Phyllis after having brilliantly assayed the demanding role of Gianetta where she had to share the limelight with two other leading ladies. Here she shares the limelight with no one except a baritone insomniac. Linda has often helped VLOC to sound more like an opera company than most Ges companies are able to, and she also writes very nice thank you notes.

SYRIL L. KLINE (Leila {Jan. 19, 20}) takes a strictly syrillous approach to her acting. She loves to curl into buttercups and often gets her feet wet in dewdrops. As Tessa in The Gondoliers, she specialized in lauding the joys of marriage. She did this while shamelessly flirting with the husband-to-be of her daughter-in-law-to-be simply because he happened to be cast in the role of her husband. This was not a new thing, since she had previously partnered with this same man in Patience. In private life, despite the extremely syrillous approach to her characterization noted above, Syril is actually a lady of fun, who teaches teachers how to play games in their classes. She also tries to keep Peter Kline in town often enough to be dialogue coach.

DARYL LANDIS (Strephon) is the founder of a charismatic organization called "Inner Quest." Unfortunately, he lost most of his followers when they discovered his intentions were not spiritual but medical. Currently, we hear that Daryl is hard at work on a possible Broadway musical about canned fish, Tuna, Tuna, Tuna!, and a country song about canned meat called "Spam Ain't Ham But 1 Don't Give A Damn!" We don't care what anyone says, here at VLOC we say "a tenor's a tenor."

LINDA LYNCH (Queen of the fairies {Jan.13 [mat.], 19, 20 [eve.]}) is a person of deeply subterranean, but nevertheless cerulean, proclivities. She specializes in queendoms, duchessdoms, and other doms, even though she is obliged to do so while being an unusually patient mother of unusually cute and beautiful children. In her characterization of Lady lane in Patience, she found a purple coloration to the various passions and other conflicting notions, a coloration that brought out values in the past unexplored since it was abortively attempted by Danny Kaye. Woody Allen provided her role model for the Duchess of Plaza-Toro in the early rehearsals, but as her psychic exploration of the role developed she found her own peculiar, inimitable style that is forever preserved on videotape for connoisseurs willing to travel miles to see Katisha's right heel. Thanks to Barry Grinnell, Linda has discovered in the part of the fairy Queen a deep romantic fervor previously exploited only by Kirsten Flagstad in her performance of Isolde at the Metropolitan Opera. In private Linda sharpens blunt cookie cutters and repairs Christmas tree ornaments that don't work.

ROSALIE SANTILHANO (Queen of the fairies (lan. 12, 13 [eve.], 20 [mat.])) has played just about everything in Ges except the Lord Chancellor, for which she is actually better suited than Gordon Brigham. Never allowing herself to become overconfident artistically, she went to live among the frogs for two weeks in preparation for this part. She found the experience reminiscent of the eighty or so dives she took from a willow tree, trying to understand the psyche of the little bird in Tit Willow. Rosalie, in addition to creating more roles for VLOC than space allows us to list, has lent her family (one of whom, under a disguised name, is doubling as one of the fairies). In private life, because of her passion for assaying so many roles, she bakes bread.

CHARLES SENS (Lord De Belville), like the Peer whom he portrays, has tried his hand at many ventures, particularly in theatre. So it is only fitting that he be relieved of duty as foreman of the jury, service in "the Queen's Navee," and his post of the Lord High Everything Else (from sojourns into other Go's productions), and be elevated to the House of Lords for tonight's entertainment.

SHERYL RUPPERT (Celia (Jan. 19, 20)) Studies opera at the Levine School of Music and acting at the Folger Theatre. Some previous "fairy tale" roles include Guenevere in Camelot, Gretel in Hansel and Gretel, Winifred in Once Upon A Mattress, and Cinderella. Clap if you believe in fairies!

ELWOOD ZIMMERMAN (Lord Tolloller) makes his entrance into the House of Lords in his third role with VLOC. In 50 doing, he shows a marked taste for noble roles, after having played Lt. the Duke of Dunstable in 1988's Patience, and Luiz, the drummer boy turned Baratarian monarch in last year's The Gondoliers. This is all right with the rest of us, though, since we know that he has plenty of "birth and position," and "blood and behavior for twenty." Mr. Zimmerman is a relative newcomer to the world of Gos, having spent the last 25 years performing in such organizations as the Paul Hill Chorale and the Capitol Baptist Chorale, where he has sung solo roles from Handel's Messiah and Verdi's Requiem. Did he have any reservations about diving into light opera with such different experience? In the words of Lord Tolloller, "None, whatever."



ABOUT THE PRODUCTION STAFF

TIM BRICELAND-BETTS (Producer) was chosen to be our producer because of one word: results. It doesn't matter what he has to do, whose feelings he has to hurt, whose life he has to destroy — it's all the same for "straight-ahead" Tim. He has one goal: The Show. "Everything and everyone else walks," says Tim, nicknamed "B-B" for the sting of his put-downs. Miss a rehearsal? Change a design? Raise a cost estimate? Orop out of the show?? "You'll have to kill me first!" says Tim.

IUDY GARDNER (Reheatsal Pianist) has been our reheatsal pianist for some time now, and we consider her "a treasure," "a gem," and a couple of other cloying metaphors. But it has not always been thus. Three years ago, an agent for VLOC discovered Judy sitting quietly at a piano in a dark room, dressed like Joan Crawford, watching old Dick Van Patten commercials, and humming "What's It All About, Alsie?" quietly to herself. This is a hard business, but damn it, sometimes. ... sometimes, it's all worth it.

PAM HODGES (Stage Manager) spent most of her youth in a big, dark room holding a small light and shushing anyone who might happen by. It was therefore inevitable that she grow up to be a stage manager. Pam also did the typesetting for our program from hastily scribbled notes handed to her during rehearfals over the past few weeks. "With all the deciphering t've done lately, I should get a Ph. D. in cryptolgraphy!" she once quipped at a rehearfal. Pam's life, however, isn't entirely devoted to stage managing or secretarial work for the Department of the Navy where she is employed. In her spare time she collects and displays cans of vegetables she considers "quaint," and searches for new additions to her ever-increasing assortment of novelty buttons, which at last count numbered over 200 -enough to nestle inside quite a few nutshells.

PETER KLINE (Dialogue Coach) spent the last five years dressed as a tugboat captain and saying, "I wouldn't pull your ship if it were the last one in the harbour!" to anyone who would listen. His latest projects have been supervising "Holiday Beauty Makeovers" for department store Santas, and recycling fondue sets and other 70s refuse. most of use have read his latest book on animal husbandry, <u>Proper Care and Grooming of the Beast Within.</u> Peter's favorite expression has always been, "Don't toy with me, Edgar." Seriously, what the devil is a dialogue coach?...

BARRY MORLEY (Music Director/Conductor), our conductor, had a past life as an Aztec athlete, as a consequence of which, he lost his heart and had to be reincarnated as a pacifist who hates sports. His hatred of sports has led him to try to replace them with such activities as Nurdleybowl, Brindldorph, Rondotury, and Hoopadoop, all games of the Gods. Barry, after finding God at Camp Catoctin, found a composer for his opera libretti, one of which has been commissioned by VLOC. Barry is fun to rehearse with because he has a droll sense of humor and runs his orchestra according to the principle of Quaker Business Meeting.

MARION SCODARI (Stage Director, Artistic Director, Psychoanalyst, and Benevolent Grandmother) has been wrestling with Go's for many years. She is a noted recording artist, who immortalized the role of Zara in Utopia, Ltd. opposite the silken tenor of Barty Morley. Marion is a sharp little lady in a crisis, who can crack the whip when necessary, but her encyclopedic sense of impressarioship has many colorations, which have seen VLOC through 18 major crises and 215 small ones. Her last role on stage with VLOC was Doreas in Haddon Hall, an underappreciated Washington premiere of Sullivan's only opera based on actual historical events and characters. Marion is also the only Go's practitioner to go unacknowledged in Peter Kline's mercifully out-of-print book on Go's. In her own way, Marion has done more to make the Go's aficianado happy than any ten D'Oyly Carte choristers.



Why is this man upset?

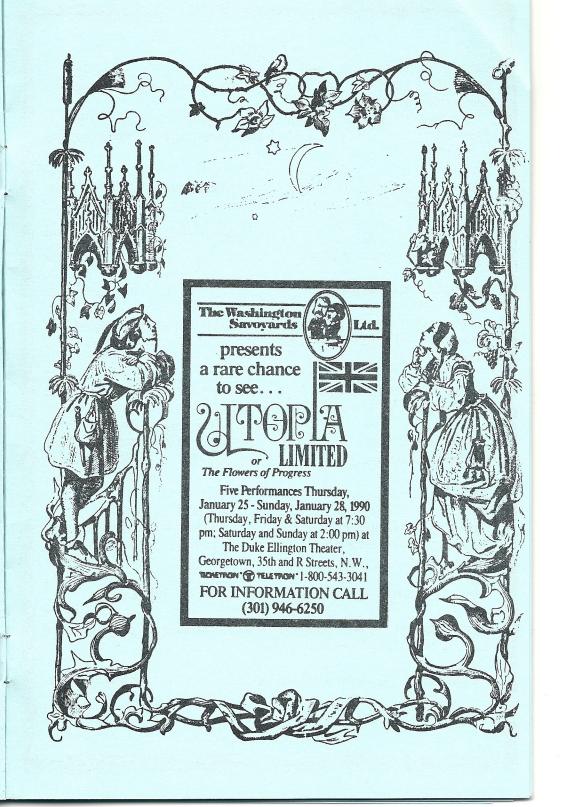
Because he missed the auditions for the Victorian Lyric Opera Company's

June 1990 production of Gilbert & Sullivan's

The Pirates of Penzance.

DON'T MISS OUT!!

Auditions will be held at Christ Congregational Church, 9525 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD, on Friday, February 2nd from 7pm to 10pm and on Sunday, February 4th from 2pm to 6pm. Callbacks will be Monday, February 5th from 7pm to 10pm. Please call Caroline Hummel at 445-0020 for more information.



GLOSSARY

ANDERSEN'S LIBRARY. Hans Christian Andersen. Danish poet and writer, best known for his fairly tales.

BANBURY'S. Small baked pastries filled with mincement, originally made at Banbury in Oxforshire.

BARING. The London banking house of Baring Brothers, founded by Sir Francis Baring in the late 18th century.

BOMBAZINE. A twilled fabric, usually black, made of silk and worsted and used for the gowns worn by law court officials.

CANAILLE. Rabble or riff-raff.

CAPTAIN SHAW. Captain Eyre Massey Shaw (1830-1908) was the highly popular Chief of the London Fire Brigade. An inveterate first-nighter, he was present at the opening of "lolanthe."

COMMON COUNCILMEN. The Court of Common Council is the civic body of the City of London.

CONTRADICENTE (LAT.). Contradicting. With "nobody at all contradicente" a bill is carried without dissent.

DIVISION. The method by which a vote is taken in Parliament.

"DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW YOU'RE..." The word bitten off by Phyllis is "out." A catch-phrase of the period; a retort implying incredulity, especially of some very ingenious remark.

DOLCE FAR NIENTE. An Italian term signifying a state of pleasurable idleness.

EQUITY DRAUGHTSMAN. In jurisprindence, the rule of equity law prevail in cases of conflict with the rules of common law.

FESTINA LENTE. A Latin phrase meaning "make hast slowly," i.e. Look before you leap.

