

*The Victorian Lyric
Opera Company
Presents*

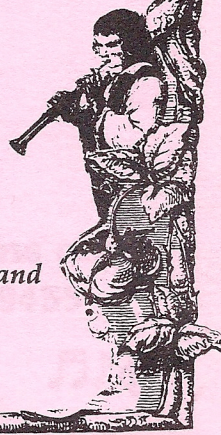
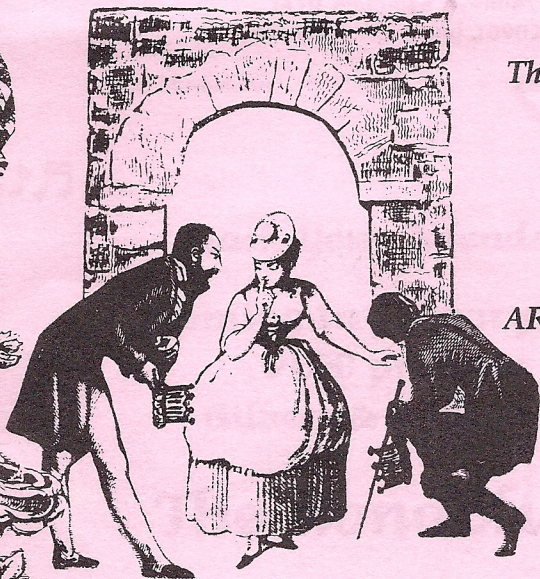
IOLANTHE

~ or ~

The Peer and the Peri

*Book By
W.S. GILBERT*

*Music By
ARTHUR SULLIVAN*



*F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Rockville, Maryland
June 17, 18, 24 & 25, 1994, at 8:00 p.m.
June 19 & 26, 1994, at 2:00 p.m.*

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The VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY, based in Rockville, is devoted to presenting of the comic operas of Gilbert and Sullivan and other operettas of that era and encourages the production of these evergreen works of the musical theater. The company is a community-based group and derives its operating finances from ticket sales, member dues, and individual donations. VLOC is always pleased to welcome new members to the organization. If you would like to become a member as a performer, technical staff or support member, or would just like to be kept informed of our activities, please sign our mailing list in the lobby during intermission (or after the show).

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Musical Numbers

Overture

Act I

1. Tripping hither, tripping thither (*Opening Chorus & Soli*)
..... Celia, Leila, & Fairies
2. Iolanthe! From thy dark exile (*Soli & Chorus*)..... Queen, Iolanthe
Celia, Leila, & Fairies
3. Good morrow, good mother (*Solo & Chorus*)... Strephon & Fairies
4. Fare thee well (*Solo & Chorus*)..... Queen & Fairies
- 4a. Good morrow, good lover (*Duet*)..... Phyllis & Strephon
5. None shall part us from each other (*Duet*).. Phyllis & Strephon
6. Loudly let the trumpet bray (*Chorus*)..... Peers
7. The law is the true embodiment (*Song & Chorus*)
..... Lord Chancellor & Peers
8. My well-loved lord and guardian dear (*Trio & Chorus*)
..... Phyllis, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountararat, Peers
9. Nay, tempt me not (*Recitative & Chorus*)..... Phyllis & Peers
10. Spurn not the nobly born (*Song & Chorus*) Lord Tolloller & Peers
11. My Lords, it may not be (*Recitative & Chorus*)..... Phyllis
Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountararat
Strephon, Lord Chancellor, Peers
12. When I went to the bar (*Song*)..... Lord Chancellor
13. When darkly looms the day (*Finale of Act I*)..... Ensemble

Act II

14. When all night long a chap remains (*Song*)..... Private Willis
15. Strephon's a Member of Parliament (*Chorus*)..... Fairies & Peers
16. When Britain really ruled the waves (*Song & Chorus*)
..... Lord Mountararat, Fairies, & Peers
17. In vain to us you plead (*Soli & Chorus*)..... Leila, Celia, Fairies
Lord Mountararat, & Lord Tolloller
18. Oh, foolish fay (*Song & Chorus*)..... Queen & Fairies
19. Though p'raps I may incur your blame (*Quartet*)..... Phyllis
Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountararat, & Private Willis
20. Love, unrequited, robs me of my rest (*Recitative & Song*)
..... Lord Chancellor
21. If you go in you're sure to win (*Trio*)
..... Lord Mountararat, Lord Tolloller, & Lord Chancellor
22. If we're weak enough to tarry (*Duet*)..... Phyllis & Strephon
23. My Lord, a suppliant at your feet (*Recitative & Ballad*).... Iolanthe
24. It may not be (*Recitative*)..... Iolanthe, Queen
Lord Chancellor, & Fairies
25. Soon as we may, off and away (*Finale of Act II*)..... Ensemble

Production Staff

Producer
P. Barry Grinnell

Director..... Kai Cofer
Conductor/Music Director..... Larry Garvin
Assistant Music Director Malinda Lloyd
Artistic Director..... Rosalie Santilhano
Stage Manager Pam Hodges
Assistant Stage Manager..... Don Benson, Lisa Lallis-Skogsberg
Set Design Kai Cofer
Lighting Design..... Jonathan Lawniczak
Lighting Execution..... Steve Skogsberg
Master Electrician..... Scott Lord
Choreographer..... Brenda Kahn
Scene Painter..... Sara Eichner
Costume Design & Construction Gaye Freese
Lisa Fisher, Kate Lawniczak
Lisa Lallis-Skogsberg, Mollie Toms
Technical Director (Rockville Civic Center)..... Lewis Dronenburg
Dance Captains..... Lisa Fisher, Gregory Gust, Kate Lawniczak
Technical Crew..... Scott Lord, Dave Elmore, Jenny Farley
Sean Legge, Shannon Mangieletti
Orchestra Managers Bernard Rappaport
Mary Ann Ruehling, Gene Sober
Rehearsal Pianist Jenny Bland
Make-Up Malinda Lloyd, Rusty Suter
Tickets Caroline Hummel
Program..... Leta Hall
Publicity and Program Cover..... Kent Woods
Set Construction Managers..... William G.S. Brown, David Kaysen
Set Construction..... Scott Lord, Don Benson, Tim Briceland-Betts
Tom Campbell, Tom Fuchs, Tom Goode, Barry Grinnell,
The Jaffes, Todd Long, John Reid, Judith Rubinstein, Roger Thiel
Videotaping..... Falls Church Cable Television
Photography..... Joel Hoffman
Refreshments..... The Wooden Shoe Pastry Shoppe
Costume Storage..... Donna & Lyle Jaffe
Set Storage..... Gordon & Stephanie Brigham, Harry Leet
Rockville Civic Center

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The Story of the Opera

Fairyland is in a state of sadness because of the banishment of Iolanthe, a former member of the fairy band. In marrying a mortal 25 years before, she broke a fairy law, the punishment for which was death; but the Fairy Queen reduced her sentence to penal servitude for life. At the start of Act I, the Fairy Queen is persuaded to pardon Iolanthe, who says that she has a son, Strephon. Presently, Strephon, a shepherd, arrives and exclaims that he is to be married to Phyllis, a ward of the Lord Chancellor.

After they depart, the members of the House of Lords enter, followed by the Lord Chancellor. All of them love Phyllis, but she declines their proposals because her heart is already given to Strephon. The Lord Chancellor is enraged and refuses to consent to the marriage. Later, while Strephon is being comforted by his young-looking mother, Iolanthe, the Lords and Phyllis jump to the wrong conclusion. Phyllis accuses Strephon of being unfaithful and offers her love to the wealthiest Lords – Tolloller and Mountararat. Strephon, in despair, summons the fairies to his aid. The Fairy Queen reveals her identity and wreaks her vengeance by threatening to enter Strephon into Parliament with supernatural powers to carry any bill.

Outside Parliament, Private Willis ponders life at Westminster. The Lords are irritated with Strephon's ability, despite their opposition, to carry any bill he chooses. Also, Tolloller and Mountararat are having difficulty deciding who should claim Phyllis. The Lord Chancellor is also in love with her but he feels he should not approach his own ward. Strephon, in low spirits despite leading both Houses, encounters Phyllis and confesses that his mother is a fairy. Phyllis is astounded but, realizing her earlier mistake, she at once embraces him. The two lovers beg Iolanthe to plead their cause with the Lord Chancellor, but she confesses that he is her husband and that by fairy law she is bound not to disclose herself to him.

The Lord Chancellor approaches Iolanthe, who veils herself in his presence. He is cheerful, having persuaded himself that he might marry Phyllis after all. Iolanthe appeals on Strephon's behalf but the Lord Chancellor is adamant and Iolanthe has no option but to reveal her true identity. The punishment for this crime is death and the Fairy Queen duly arrives to give judgment. However, she finds that the whole fairy troupe has married the Lords and she must therefore kill them all. The Lord Chancellor comes to the rescue by suggesting a change in the law so that it reads that a fairy *must* marry a mortal or suffer death. The Fairy Queen agrees, sets her cap on Private Willis, who sprouts wings, and everyone flies off to Fairyland.



NOTICE

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Under the Lights

Mimi Brennan (Leila) is very pleased to make her debut with VLOC. Most recently she appeared at Signature Theater in *Company*. Mimi hails from Central Pennsylvania where she is best known for her portrayal of Maria in *West Side Story* with ARCH productions. Also a member of the Alexandria Chorale, she keeps quite a hectic schedule. Mimi holds a B.Mus. in Vocal Performance from Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, IN.

William G.S. Brown (The Duke of Denver) advances from pirate to peer in his 6th VLOC show and gives haughty looks to the commoners. (However, commanding "Bow, bow, ye lower middle classes" has caused a stir at the local bars.)

Tom Campbell (The Duke of Dunstable), happily and without misgiving, once again works his wife **Ann's** name into the program. Without her he would be less than half a peer.

Lynne (with an "e") Clafin (Forget-Me-Not) grew up listening to *Iolanthe* play over and over while her Dad graded finals. She decided she should (finally) learn the story!

Lisa Fisher (Snapdragon) liked *Pirates* enough to return. "The wings, I like the wings. I wish I could use them to help me beat rush hour traffic."

Joy Foust (Daphne) wanted to start small and work her way up to large roles, so she began at the Sing-Out with Saccarissa (1 line) and moved up to the 1st Bridesmaid in *Trial* (3 lines).

Walt Frasier (Lord Tolloller) is in his 2nd VLOC production, after appearing as Frederic in *Pirates*. He has been seen frequently on the Montgomery College stage in such roles as Harold Hill (*The Music Man*), Karl Franz (*The Student Prince*), Jack (*Where's Charlie*), and Gasper (*Amahl and the Night Visitors*). Walt would like to thank VLOC for this opportunity to branch out into the community.

Gaye Freese (Anora Danen/Costume Coordinator) has been with VLOC since *Yeomen*, both on- and backstage. She wanted to do *Iolanthe* because she heard the fairies would learn to fly and be reduced to 5" high. So much for Tinkerbell fantasies.

Virginia Garber (Hyacinth) is delighted to put her music degree to good use in her 6th show with VLOC, as the animals at the Zoo, where she works, are singularly unimpressed!

Tom Goode (Baron Basingstoke) has hobbies including marching, singing "Tarantara", crying during 1st act finales, hiding behind trees, and banging together tubas and other brasses.

Kathleen Dodson Greenberg (Phyllis) is delighted to be making her 1st appearance with VLOC. She has performed in Washington as Charlotte in *A Little Night Music* with Unity Players and Peggy in *Godspell* with Foundry Players. Kathleen is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. By day, she is Associate Director of Development for the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League. With thanks to Eric for his love and support.

Barry Grinnell (The Earl of Olay/Producer) has been a regular member of the cast in VLOC's productions since 1985 and has played the role of Treasurer since 1986.

Gregory "a-tornadowhen-adjusted-for-inflation-is-a" Gust (Lord Mountararat) yearns for a Congress composed exclusively of people of intellect. Making his VLOC debut, Greg would like to take this opportunity to praise the exalted Grand Pooh-Bah, er, the Director. Persons of lesser vision might have considered the casting of an Armenian as Mountararat to be taking Method Acting too far. Greg, however, knew the role would "pique" his interest. He thanks his family for their love and support.

Leta Hall (Laurel) is in her 7th VLOC show because everyone here is so nice to her. She has appeared as Ruth (*Ruddigore*), as Isabel (*Pirates*), and as Glinda in *The Wiz* with the Georgetown G&S Society.

Donna Jaffe (Marquis of Carabas) was a fairy last time she did *Iolanthe*. Something must have happened for she is now a peer. She still wishes she could be a soprano.

Lyle Jaffe (Private Willis) is neither a little liberal nor a little conservative, but rather an immoderate moderate. He greatly enjoys, however, the opportunity to exercise his brains (assuming ... oh, never mind) in *Iolanthe*, since he got way too much physical exercise as Major Murgatroyd in *Patience*. Other shows in which he marched briskly about include *Yeomen* (1st Yeomen) and *Gondoliers* (Antonio). Lyle has been with VLOC long enough to receive, if not tenure, at least a pension. While we didn't reward him with vulgar money, we did introduce him to his adored wife, Donna.

Janet Kelly (Ciera) is proud to be circling the galaxy making her 1st appearance with VLOC. Other shows include *How to Succeed in Business, Guys & Dolls*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, and *The Student Prince*.

Andrew Klein (Duke of Earl) is in his 1st VLOC production or for that matter any production in a while. Fortunately, the rust is now off, but keep applying that WD40. Thanks, Mom.

Kate Lawniczak (Viscount Eyebee-Unalto) has no prior experience as a man, so she turned to her family of five guys to help her prepare for peerdom. They enthusiastically taught her the

intricacies of being male: burping popular tunes, continuously inhaling snacks, and yelling "Beer me!" and other colorful expressions during televised sporting events.

Laurin Lehner (Celia) loves musical theater and has performed in various groups around town. She appeared as Tseitel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Sandy Spring Theater Group) in *Pippin*, *Working*, and *Once on This Island* (Bethesda Academy of Performing Arts) and at the Academy of Experimental Children's Theater. She also appeared in *My Emperor's New Clothes* (Snookie) and in *Guys and Dolls* (Adelaide). Laurin has taken voice lessons and enjoys playing basketball and shopping with friends.

Todd Long (Strephon) is proud to assume the role of young shepherd/stud for his 2nd VLOC production - although he is not inclined to be stout! He wants to thank his "aunts," the Peers, the Phyllae, his "mother", and, of course, his kindred spirit: the stage manager. But most of all, he wishes to thank the women behind the man: Aroostine and Katie, wife and daughter, without whose love and support "indeed your Strephon might have died!"

Mary McCarthy (Iolanthe) is delighted to make her debut with VLOC in a role that demands very few dance steps. She has been involved in musical activities throughout her life and earned a bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California as well as a master's degree in music from the George Washington University. When not rehearsing for *Iolanthe*, she can be found teaching voice at the Holton Arms School in Bethesda.

John Perine (Lord Chancellor) is delighted to continue his sporadic string of appearances with VLOC, now totaling 19 shows over the last 15 years. Principal roles have included KoKo, Bunthorne, King Gama, Robin, Major-General Stanley, Captain Corcoran, Sir Joseph, Jack Point, and Giuseppi. (And, of course, Rupert in the 1979 Haddon Hall - you didn't remember?) He has also performed with the Washington Savoyards and other local theater groups ("Ah, but recently?" "Oh no, years and years ago.")

John Reid (Lord Wallaby) was born in Victoria, Australia and feels that he must be returning to his roots as he performs with the Victorian Lyric Opera Company.

Sheryl Ruppert (Phyllis) was last seen at VLOC leaping through the air as Patience (*Patience*). Other favorite roles include Guenevere in *Camelot*, Luisa in *The Fantastics*, and Despina in *Costi Fan Tutte* with the Crittenden Opera Studio. She would like to thank her father who inspired her love of music by singing show tunes while driving on long trips, and her mother for bringing homemade brownies to the matinee performances, and to her brother who dutifully attended all of her shows as well, without exception or complaint.

Sharon Stewart (Celia) is happy to be tripping hither and thither in these fairy revels. Although the weakness of succumbing to the call of the stage means the loss of many hours of sleep, the weakness is so strong that she fears she will be ever singing, ever dancing. She would like to thank her mortal husband for enduring her fairy flightiness during the past weeks.

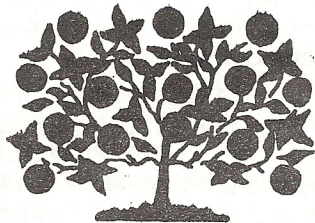
Willard Stewart (Lord Cholmondeley), a junior at Gonzaga College High School is making his first appearance with VLOC. He wishes to thank his family, especially his mother, Beverley Stewart.

Rusty Suter (Fleta/Make-up) is happy to be in her 12th show with VLOC. This time, thanks to Malinda, she gets to stand *in front* of "the bench", and if you look very closely you can watch her shake in her shoes while she's there. Backstage, Rusty assists her good friend, Malinda, who is a miracle worker with more than just make-up. Thank you, Malinda, for all your help. We love you!

Natalie Thompson (Leila) is in her 2nd production with VLOC. She has a B.Mus. in Vocal Performance (for love) and a Master's in Business (for food). She has been in Community Theater in Arlington and Fredericksburg, Virginia before moving to Maryland. In performance, she hopes not to trip hither and thither and into the orchestra pit.

Kimi Elizabeth Yokoyama Whipple (Fairy Queen) made her professional debut in *The Mikado* as Peep-Bo (Annapolis Opera). She appeared with Opera Delaware in *Tales of Hoffman* and *The Nightingale*, and has also been seen as Katisha (*Mikado*) and Despina (*Così fan Tutte*). She has been soprano soloist in Delaware and DC area churches, and has appeared in Wilmington's (DE) *Best of Broadway*. Kimi is a student of Elizabeth Vrenios and resides in the DC area with her husband, Peter, and their little dog, Bandit.

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Behind the Scenes

Jenny Bland (Rehearsal Pianist), after being half of the accompanist team for several years, wanted to experience *all* of the craziness, so she put out a contract on Judy Gardner and became the sole rehearsal pianist (and doubly crazy).

Kai Cofer (Director) returns to VLOC after last year's aesthetic success, *Patience*. Although Kai holds a theater degree from Indiana University, he is no stranger to the Washington area theater scene. A jack of all theatrical trades, he has worked professionally for numerous dinner theaters, children's theaters, and community theaters as an actor, director, designer, dramaturge, producer, and teacher. Among his favorite "Victorian" productions are *A Little Princess*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Hedda Gabler*.

Larry Garvin (Music Director/Conductor) wins the prize for longest commute, as he comes to us from Tallahassee, Florida, where he professes (or professes to profess) at Florida State University. Larry is a VLOC veteran, on-stage and off. He's (dis)graced the VLOC stage as Despard (*Ruddigore*), Jack Point (*Yeomen*), and Sir Joseph (*Pinafore*). Off-stage, he's music-directed *Patience* and conducted *The Mikado*. Larry, a chronic transient, has also appeared with, among others, the University of Michigan G&S Society, the Connecticut G&S Society, the Georgetown G&S Society, and the Chicago G&S Society. In his spare time (ha!) he's arranging the symphonies of Berlioz for carillon quartet.

Pamela Hodges (Stage Manager) has decided that stage-management must be a lot like parenthood. Rules and boundaries must be set. The peace must somehow be kept during squabbles. Encouragement and enthusiasm must abound, even when one is wrung out at the end of a long day. The ability to remain relatively calm in a crisis is essential. While she loves what she does, Pam thinks that if this is indeed what parenthood is like, she is very glad that her "children" are all old enough to live away from home!


Brenda Kahn (Choreographer) is new to VLOC. She first choreographed at Shippensburg University where she started her own dance troupe. 8 years later, the troupe continues to thrive on campus. During the past few years, she has choreographed at several high schools and an elementary school (she considers that an experience!). She is a part-time high school English teacher as well as a pet-sitter. In her "spare" time (if any exists) Brenda enjoys sleeping.




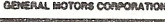
Jonathan Lawniczak (Lighting Designer) is in his 5th season with VLOC. His recent designs include The Source's *Girl's Guide to Chaos* and the Theater for Persons with Developmental Disabilities *Walking That Proudful Walk*. His designs for VLOC include *Ruddigore*, *Mikado*, *Pinafore*, *Princess Ida*, *Pirates* (1990 & '94), and *Iolanthe* ('90). He received his graduate-level training at the University of Michigan.

Malinda Lloyd (Assistant Music Director/Make-up) rises from the ranks, so to speak, to cast off her weeds and whip the chorus and singers into shape. Her participation in community theater around the DC area as well as "too many years and productions to count" as a drama teacher in MCPS and in Seattle do her in good stead and she teaches (although not literally) the chorus direction. An English teacher by day, Malinda moonlights as a novelist, student at Johns Hopkins, and make-up artist for VLOC.

Scott Lord (Master Electrician) first came to VLOC as Lighting Executioner for *Yeomen*, and has stayed for every show since. Scott enjoys the challenge of making sure that the actors are equally lit while assuring everyone privately that they are lit the best.

Rosalie Santilhano (Artistic Director) is an accomplished G&S performer who has sung all of the contralto and most of the soprano roles in the canon. She received her voice and acting training in her native Holland. She performed in VLOC's past productions of *Pirates* (Ruth), *The Mikado* (Katisha), *Iolanthe* (Fairy Queen), *Pinafore* (Buttercup), *Yeomen* (Dame Carruthers), and *The Gondoliers* (the Duchess of Plaza-Toro). Rosalie has served as VLOC's Artistic Director since 1991.

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Directed by Andrew Joffe

Music Directed by Victoria Gau

June 10-26, 1994

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Glossary

Words/Phrases in Order of Appearance

Peer [The Peer & the Peri]: A nobleman of the rank of baron and above, and in this case, a member of the House of Lords.

Peri: A lovely, graceful person. The word was synonymous with fairy in Gilbert's day.

Gambol [to gambol upon gossamer]: To leap about in play.

Flageolet: "A small fipple flute resembling the treble recorder but having usually 4 finger holes and 2 thumb holes and a cylindrical mouthpiece."

Borough [I've a borough or two at my disposal]: A town represented in Parliament, corresponding roughly to a Congressional district. The Fairy Queen has enough influence in one or two of these to send whomever she wants to Parliament.

Division [on a division, they'd be sure to take me into the wrong lobby]: A Parliamentary voting method in which those favoring a motion go to one location and those opposed to another.

Woolsack [it is indeed painful to have to sit upon a woolsack]: The Lord Chancellor's traditional seat in Parliament: an oversized hassock stuffed with wool, symbolic of the nation's former reliance on the wool industry.

Dolce far niente: Italian for "it is sweet to do nothing."

Festina lente: Make haste slowly. Emperor Augustus' motto.

Taradiddle: good English slang for an outright fib. (*Editor's note: "Taradiddle, taradiddle, tol lol lay" is equivalent to the children's taunt "Liar, liar, pants on fire."*)

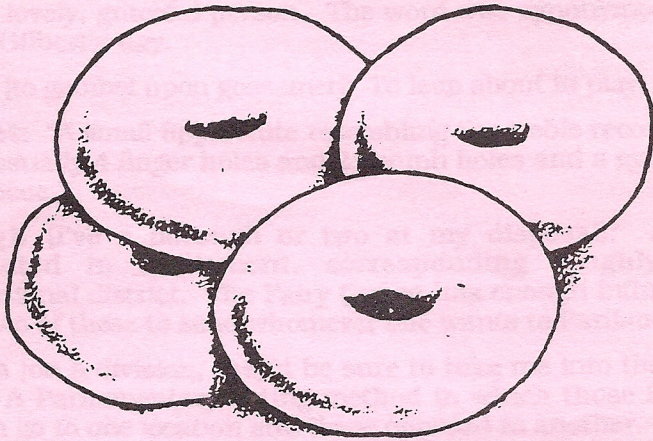
Marriage with deceased wife's sister [He will prick that annual blister, etc.]: This refers to a long-standing legislative feud between the two houses of Parliament. Without such a ban, it was argued, an unmarried woman might be tempted to poison her married sister and then snare her bereaved brother-in-law.

Pickford [He's a Parliamentary Pickford]: A well-known British moving and delivery company, whose slogan is "We carry everything."

Captain Shaw: In Gilbert's day Captain Shaw (1830-1908) was well-known and popular leader of the London Fire Brigade. Gilbert knew that Shaw would be in the Savoy on opening night and the contralto could look right at him.

[Glossary from *The Gilbert & Sullivan Lexicon* by Harry Benford; Sarah Jennings Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan.]

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