THE PIRATES

PENZANCE

WRITTEN BY

W. S. GILBERT.

COMPOSED BY

SULLIVAN. **ARTHUR**

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NEW YORK

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THE

PIRATES

OF.

PENZANCE

OR,

The Slave of Duty.

AN ENTIRELY ORIGINAL COMIC OPERA

IN TWO ACTS.

WRITTEN BY

W. S. GILBERT.

COMPOSED BY

<u>arthur Sullivan.</u>

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ONDON

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W. S. GILBERT, ARTHUR S. SULLIVAN.

Convrient, 1880, by J. M. STODDART & CO.

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Rк	HARD, A Pirate Chief										
SAN	TURL, his Lieutenant										
FRI											
Мл	JOR-GENERAL STANLEY, of the British A	rmy .									
	WARD, a Sergeant of Police										
	BEL, General Stanley's Youngest Daugh										
KA	, ,									ί.	
	TH, General Stanley's Daughters									:	
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	rH, a Piratical "Maid-of-all-work"									` .	
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THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

THE SLAVE OF DUTY

Written by W. S. GILBERT. Composed by ARTHUR SULLIVAN. OVERTURE.

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KILL D. LIFE C. C. F. P. P. F. F.





BORNS.—A rocky sea shore on the const of Cornwell. Rocks L., As the curtain rises groups of Pirales are discovered, some Srine Morping down to L. C. of stoys. Under those rocks is a carern, the eithrone to which is seen of fire detrinent. A natural article of rock ecceptes the R. C. of the stops. In the distance is a cult respective to the control of a schooner is lying at auction.















(FREDERIC rises and comes forward with Pirate King, who enters scuttling a Cunarder or cutting out a White Star never shipped from R. U. E.)

King. Yes, Frederic, from to-day you rank as a full-blown member of our band.

ALL. Hurrah!

KING. What do you mean? FRED. To-day I am out of my indentures, and to-day I leave loved Ruth.

ou for ever.

ALL. Leave us? FRED. For ever!

KING. But this is quite unaccountable. A keener hand as

a handspike. FRED. Yes, I have done my best for you. And why? It was

my duty under my indentures, and I am the slave of duty. As a child I was regularly apprenticed to your band. It was through ALL HUFTAN! FREDERIC My friends, I thank you all, from my heart, for an error. No matter, the mistake was ours, not yours, and I was your kindly wishes. Would that I could repay them as they in boor bound by it.

SANCEL, All error? What error?

SAMUEL. Au error? What error? FRED. I may not tell you. It would reflect upon my well-

(RUTH comes down C.)

RUTH. Nay, dear master, my mind has long been gnawed by the cankering tooth of myster . Better have it out at once.





FRED. Rise, sweet one; I have long pardened you.

(Ruth rises.)

RUTH. The two words were so much alike! FRED. They still are, though years have rolled over their fireads, for such is my sense of duty that once out of my inden- we know is not the case.

(Crosses It.)

turns I shall feel myself bound to devote myself, beart and soul, Sam. But, hang it all! you wouldn't have us absolutely to your extermination.

your duty to destroy us, we cannot blame you for acting on that delicate a situation? conviction. Always act in accordance with the dictates of your conscience, my boy, and chance the consequences

SAMUEL. Besides, we can offer you but little temptation to remain with us. We don't seem to make piracy pay. I'm sure I don't know why, but we don't.

FRED. I know why, but, alas! I mustn't tell you: it wouldn't what is to become of her? be right.

KING. Why not, my boy? It's only half-past eleven, and you are one of us until the clock strikes twelve.

icrests.

ALL, Hear! hear!

FREE. Well, then, it is my duty as a pirate to tell you that you are too tender-hearted. For instance, you make a point of have never had an opportunity of comparing 70u with other never attacking a weaker party than yourselves, and when you women, it is just possible I may be mistaken. attack a stronger party you invariably get thrashed.

KING. There is some truth in that.

RUTH. (Kneeling at his feet.) Oh pardon, Frederie! pardon! FRED. Then, again, you make a point of never molesting an

orphan. SAM. Of course: we are orphans ourselves, and know what

it is FRED. Yes, but it has got about, and what is the consequence > heads! (RUTH goes up with SAMUEL.) But this afternoon my Every one we capture says he's an orphan. The last three ships obligation ceases. Individually, I love you all with affection we took proved to be manned entirely by orphans, and so we unspeakable; but collectively, I look upon you with a disgust had to let 'em go. One would think that Great Britain's merthat amounts to absolute detestation. Oh pity me, my beloved cantile navy was recruited solely from her orphan asylums, which

merciless ;

ALL. Poor lad! poor lad! (All weep.)

Field. There's my difficulty. Until twelve o'clock I wouldn't. Was ever a man placed in so

(Ruth comes down C.)

RUTH. And Ruth, your own Ruth, whom you love so well and who has won her middle-aged way into your boyish heart-

King. Oh, he will take you with him. FRED. Well, Ruth, I feel some little difficulty about you. It is true that I admire you very much, but I have been constantly SAM. True, and until then you are bound to protect our in- at sea since I was eight years old, and yours is the only woman. face I have seen during that time. I think it is a sweet face.

RUTH. It is—oh, it is! FRED. I say I think it is—that is my impression. But as I KING. True.

FRED. What a terrible thing it would be if were to marry

as to take her from you. In justice to her and in consideration make them. for you I will leave her behind. (Hands Ruth to King.)

KING. No, Frederic, this must not be. We are rough men, who lead a rough life, but we are not so utterly heartless as to panying me back to civilization! deprive thee of thy love. I think I am right in saying that there is not one here who would deprive thee of this inestimable treasure for all the world holds dear.

All. (Loudly.) Not one!

KING. No, I thought there wasn't. Keep thy love, Frederic

this innocent person, and then find out that she is, on the whole, plain!

King. Oh, Ruth is very well—very well indeed.

King. Oh, Ruth is very well—very well indeed.

King. Well, it's the top of the tide, and we must be at. Farewell, Frederic. When your process of extermination begins FRED. Do you really think so? Then I will not be so selfish let our deaths be as swift and painless as you can conveniently

> FRED. I will. By the love I have for you, I swear it. Would that you could render this extermination unnecessary by accom-

King. No, Frederic, it cannot be. I don't think much of our profession, but, contrasted with respectability, it is comparatively houest. No, Frederic; I shall live and die a pirate king.







After Song, the King, Samuel, and all the Pirates, except Fred-ERIC and RUTH, go off R. and R. U. E. FREDERIC comes a fine woman.

down C., followed by RUTH.) RUTH. Oh take me with you! I cannot live if I am left

behind. FRED. Ruth, I will be quite candid with you. You are very looks for a wife of seventeen.

RTH. A wife of seventeen! You will find me a wife of a (Chorus of girls heard in the extreme distance, "Climbing over rocky mountaine," etc. See entrance of girls.) tl ousand!

FRED. No, but I shall find you a wife of forty-seven, and that is quite enough now. Ruth, tell me candidly and without approach our all but inaccessible lair? Can it be custom house? reserve; compared with other women, how are you?

RUTH. I will answer you truthfully, master: I have a slight cold, but otherwise I am quite well.

Filld. I am sorry for your cold, but I was referring rather to your personal appearance. Compared with other women, are all that's marvellous, a bevy of beautiful maidens von beautiful?

Ruth. (Bashfully.) I have been told so, dear master.

FRED. Ah, but lately?

RUTH. Oh no; years and years ago.

FRED. But what do you think yourself?

RUTH. It is a delicate question to answer, but I think I am

FRED. That is your candid opinion?

RUTH. Yes: I should be deceiving you if I told you other-

FRED. Thank you, Ruth, I believe you, for I am sure you would not practise on my inexperience. I wish to do the right you are considerably older than I: a lad of twenty-one usually thing, and if-I say, if-you are really a fine woman, your app shall be no obstacle to our union. (Shakes hands with her.)

FRED. Hark! surely I hear voices. Who has ventured to

No, it does not sound like custom-house. RUTH. (Aside.) Confusion! It is the voices of young girls!

If he should see them I am lost. FRED. (Climbing rocky arch R. C. and looking off L.) By

RUTH. (Aside.) Lost! lost! lost!

FRED. How lovely, how surpassingly lovely, is the plainest of them! What grace! what delicacy! what refinement! and Ruth-Ruth told me she was beautiful!

No. 4. RECITATIVE & DUET—Ruth & Frederic.































KATE. What a picturesque spot! I wonder where we are? EDITH. And I wonder where papa is? We have left him ever so far behind.

ISABEL. Oh, he will be here presently. Remember, poor papa is not as young as we are, and we came over a rather dif- arrive with the luncheon? (All listen and come down.)

EDITH. We are quite alone, and the sea is as smooth

ISABEL. Except the mermaids: it's the very place for mermaids-

KATE. Who are only human beings down to the waist-EDITH. And who can't be said, strictly, to set foot anywhere. Tails they may, but feet they cannot.

KATE. But what shall we do until papa and the servants EDITH. We are quite alone, and the sea is as smooth as glass

LATE. But how thoroughly delightful it is to be so entirely Suppose we take off our shoes and stocking and paddle? alone! Why, in all probability we are the first human beings

ALL. Yes, yes—the very thing!

(The proper to carry out the suggestion. They have all ta

(They prepare to carry out the suggestion. They have all taken of me shoe, when Frederic comes forward from cave.)





No. 7. ARIA—Frederic & Chorus of Girls.













No. 8.

AIR-Mabel & Chorus.













(METE, KATE, and girls retire up, and sit two and two, facing such other, in a line across the stage.) (CHATTERING CHORUS (during which FRED and MARKI fondle.

No. 10. DUET-Mabel & Frederic, & Chorus of Girls



(During this the girls continue their chatter pianissimo, but tisten ing eagerly all the time.) MABEL. CHORUS. dim. ppp How















No. 12. RECITATIVE—Mabel, Major-General, Samuel, & Chorus.



No. 13 SONG-Major-General & Chorus.















GENERAL. And now that I've introduced myself, I should like to have some idea of what's going on.

KATE. Oh, papa! we-SAMUEL. Permit me; I'll explain it in two words: we propose to marry your daughters.

GENERAL. Dear me

GIRLS. Against our wills, papa—against our wills!
GENERAL. Oh, but you mustn't do that. May I ask—this is a picturesque uniform, but I'm not familiar with it-what are

you ?

KING. We are all single gentlemen.

GENERAL. Yes, I gathered that. Anything else? King. No, nothing else.

Edith. Papa, don't believe them. They are pirates—the I ask you, Have you ever known what it is to be an orphan! famous Pirates of Penzance!

mous Pirates of Penzance!

See Firstes of Penzance!

I have often heard repeating the word "orphan" to show that you understand me.

KEG. I dolln't repeat the word" often.

KEG. I dolln't repeat the word "often." Mabel. Yes, all except this gentleman (indicating Fred-

ERIC), who was a pirate once, but who is out of his indentures to-day. GENERAL. But wait a bit. I object to pirates as sons-in-

law we waive that point; we do not press it, we look over it.

GENERAL. (Aside.) Hah! an idea! (Aloud.) And do you meau to say that you would deliberately rob me of these the sole remaining props of my old age, and leave me to go through the remainder of life unfriended, unprotected, and alone?

hing. Wall, yes; that's the idea.

GENERAL. Tell me, have you ever known what it is to be an orphan? ALL THE PIRATES. (Disgusted.) Oh, dash it all !

King. Here we are again!

General. I ask you, Have you ever known what it is to be an orphan?

King. (Sighing.) Often. GENERAL. Yes, orphan. Have you ever known what it is to

be one? KING. I say, often.

All. (Disjusted.) Often! often! often! (Turning away.)
General. I don't think we quite understand one another.

General. Pardon me; you did indeed.

King. I only repeated it once. GENERAL. True, but you repeated it.

King. But not often.

w. General. Stop! I think I see where we are getting con-King. We object to major-generals as fathers-in-law. But fused. When you said "orphan" did you mean "orphan," a person who has lost his parents, or "often," frequently?

KING. Oh, I beg your pardon! I see you mean frequently. GENERAL. Ah, you said "often" frequently.

KING. No, only once.

GENERAL. Exactly, you said "often, frequently," only once

Finale—Act I.

Mabel, Kate, Edith, Frederic, Samuel, King, Major-General, Ruth, & Chorus.













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(GIRLS and GENERAL go up rocks L. Group while Pirates indulge in a wild dance of delight on stage R. and R. C. The GENERAL produces a British flag, and the PURINE KING (on arched rock R. C.) produces a block flag with skull and crossbones. Picture.)

IND OF AGT L

ACT II.

SCENE.—A ruined chapel by moonlight. Aisles C., R., and L., divided by pillars and arches; ruined Gothis windows at back. by his daughters.

No. 1. INTRODUCTION. SOLO—Mabel & Chorus







(FRED enters R. U. E. and down C.)

MABEL. Oh, Frederic, cannot you reconcile it with your concience to say something that will relieve my father's sorrow?

FRED. I will try, dear Mabel, but why does he sit, night after night, in this draughty old ruin?

General. Why do I sit here? To escape from the pirates' clutches I described myself as an orphan, and I am no orphan. I came here to humble myself before the tombs of my ancestors, and to implore their pardon for the disgrace I have brought upon them.

FRED. But you forget, sir. You only bought the property sear ago, and the stucco on your baronial castle is scarcely dry.

GENERAL. Frederic, in this chapel are ancestors; you cannot deny that. I don't know whose ancestors they were, but I know whose ancestors they are, and I shudder to think that their descendant by purchase (if I may so describe myself) should

have brought disgrace upon what I have no access was an unstained escutcheon.

Fred. Be comforted. Had you not acted as you did, then reckless men would assuredly have called in the nearest clergy man, and have married your large family on the spot.

GENERAL. I thank you for your proffered solace, but it is unavailing. At what time does your expedition march against these seoundrels?

FRED. At cleven, and before midnight I hope to have atoned for my involuntary association with these pestilent scourges by sweeping them from the face of the carth.—And then, my Mabel, you will be mine!

GENERAL. Are your devoted followers at hand?

FRED. They are; they only wait my orders.

(Enter Police, marching in single file from L., 2d E., and file in line, facing audience.)

No. 2. RECITATIVE—Frederic & Major-General.





No. : CHORUS-With Solos for Mabel. Edith. & Sergeant.































(MAREL tears herself from FRED, and exits R., followed by her sisters, consoling her. The GENERAL and others follow the Folice off L. FREDERIC remains alone.)

















(AL throw themselves back on seats, exhausted with laughing.)

Upon my word, this is most curious

Most absurdly whinsical. Five and a quarter!

No one would think it to look at me. You are glad now, I'll be bound, that you spared us

You would never have forgiven yourself when you discovered that you had killed two of your comrades. FRED. My comrades?

King. I'm afraid you don't appreciate the delicacy of your You were apprenticed to us-

FRED. Until I reached my twenty-first year. King. No, until you reached your twenty-first birthday (producing document), and, going by birthdays, you are as yet only five and a quarter.

that?

KING. No, we merely remind you of the fact, and leave the rest to your sense of duty.

FRED. (Wildly.) Don't put it on that footing. As I was merciful to you just now, be mercitus to me. I implore you not to insist on the letter of your bond just as the cup of happiness is at my lips.

RUTH. We insist on nothing. We content ourselves with pointing out to you your duty.

FRED. Well, you have appealed to my sense of duty, and my duty is only too clear. I abhor your infamous calling, I shudder

at the thought that I have ever been mixed up with it, but dues

Kino. Bravely spoken! Come, you are one of us once more.

Frep. Lead on, I follow! (Suddenly.) Oh, horror! KING and RUTH. What is the matter?

FRED. Ought I to tell you? No! no! I cannot do it; and yet, as one of your hand-

KING. Speak out, I charge you, by that sense of consosen tiousness to which we have never yet appealed in vain.

FRED. General Stanley, the father of my Mabel-KING and RUTH. Yes! yes!

FRED. He escaped from you on the pica that he was as orphan?

King. FRED. It breaks my heart to betray the honored father of Fred. You don't mean to say you are going to hold me to the girl I adore, but as your apprentice I have no alternative

It is my duty to tell you that General Stanley is no orphan. King and Ruth. What?

FRED. More than that, he never was one! KING. Am I to understand that to save his contemptible life he dared to practise on our credulous simplicity? (FRED nods as he weeps.) Our rovenge shall be swift and terrible. We

will go and collect our band and attack Tremorden Castle this very night.

FRED. But-

King. Not a word! he is doomed!

No. 6. TRIO—Ruth, Frederic, & King.











No. 7. RECITATIVE & DUET-Mabel & Frederic.



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MARCL. Sergeant, approach. Young Frederic was to have ted you to death and glory.

ALL That is not a pleasant way of putting it. MABEL. No matter. He will not so lead you, for he has

allied himself once more with his old associates. ALL. He has acted shamefully!

MABEL. You speak falsely; you know nothing about it. He has acted nobly! ALL He has acted nobly!

regard him in that light. He has done his duty; I will do

All. Very well.

SERGEANT. This is perplexing.

ALL. We cannot understand it at all. SERGEANT. Still, if he is actuated by a sense of duty- . ALL. That makes a difference, of course. At the same time

we repeat we cannot understand it.

SERGEANT. No matter. Our course is clear; we must to our best to capture these pirates alone. It is most distressing to us to be the agents whereby our erring fellow-creatures are do MABEL. Dearly as I loved him before, his heroic sacrifice to prived of that liberty which is so dear to all, but we should have





No. 11. SOLO—Sergeant, & Chorus of Pirates & Police.



PTRATES.



(Police conocal themselves in aisle L. As they do so the Pirates, & with RUTH and FREDERIC, are seen appearing at ruined win-

dow C. They enter sautiously, and come down stage on tiploc. The KING is laden with burglarious "ols and pistols, etc. etc.)







No. 13. Frederic, King, Major-General, Police, & Pirates.





No. 14. SONG-Major-General & Chorus (Pirates & Police).

































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