

*A Kalmus Classic Edition*

**GILBERT  
and  
SULLIVAN**

**H.M.S. PINAFORE**

An Operetta in Two Acts

for Soli, Chorus and Orchestra  
with English Text

VOCAL SCORE

K 06183





## DRAMATIS PERSONAE

THE RT. HON. SIR JOSEPH PORTER, K. C. B. . . . . *First Lord of the Admiralty*  
CAPTAIN CORCORAN . . . . . *Commander of H. M. S. Pinafore*  
RALPH RACKSTRAW . . . . . *Able Seaman*  
DICK DEADEYE . . . . . *Able Seaman*  
BILL BOBSTAY . . . . . *Boatswain's Mate*  
BOB BECKET . . . . . *Carpenter's Mate*  
JOSEPHINE . . . . . *The Captain's Daughter*  
COUSIN HEBE . . . . . *Sir Joseph's First Cousin*  
LITTLE BUTTERCUP . . . . . *A Portsmouth Bumboat Woman*  
FIRST LORD'S SISTERS, HIS COUSINS, HIS AUNTS, SAILORS, MARINES, ETC.

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Scene: Quarterdeck of H. M. S. Pinafore, off Portsmouth

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ACT I—Noon

ACT II—Night

## ARGUMENT

Some time before Act I opens, Ralph has fallen in love with Josephine, the daughter of his commanding officer, Captain Corcoran. Likewise, Little Buttercup, a buxom peddler-woman, has fallen in love with the Captain himself. Class pride, however, stands in the way of the natural inclinations of both the Corcorans to reciprocate Ralph's and Buttercup's affections. The Captain has, in fact, been arranging a marriage between his daughter and Sir Joseph Porter, First Lord of the Admiralty, who is of the social class above even the Corcorans.

When Act I opens, the sailors are merrily preparing the ship for Sir Joseph's inspection. The generally happy atmosphere on deck is marred only by Little Buttercup's hints of a dark secret she is hiding, by the misanthropic grumbling of Dick Deadeye, and by the love-lorn plaints of Ralph and Josephine. Sir Joseph appears, attended by a train of ladies (his relatives, who always follow him wherever he goes). He explains how he became Lord of the Admiralty and examines the crew, patronizingly encouraging them to feel that they are everyone's equal, except his. Like the Captain, he is very punctilious, demanding polite diction among the sailors at all times.

Josephine finds him insufferable; and, when Ralph again pleads his suit and finally threatens suicide, she agrees to elope. The act ends with the general rejoicing of the sailors at Ralph's success; only Dick Deadeye croaks his warning that their hopes will be frustrated.

Act II opens with the Captain in despair at the demoralization of his crew and the coldness of his daughter towards Sir Joseph. Little Buttercup tries to comfort him, and prophesies a change in store. But Sir Joseph soon appears and tells the Captain that Josephine has thoroughly discouraged him in his suit; he wishes to call the match off. The Captain suggests that perhaps his daughter feels herself inferior in social rank to Sir Joseph, and urges him to assure her that inequality of social rank should not be considered a barrier to marriage. This Sir Joseph does, not realizing that his words are as applicable to Josephine in relation to Ralph as they are to himself in relation to Josephine. He thinks that she accepts him, whereas actually she is reaffirming her acceptance of Ralph; and they all join in a happy song.

Meanwhile Dick Deadeye has made his way to the Captain, and informs him of the planned elopement of his daughter with Ralph. The Captain thereupon intercepts the elopers; and, when he learns that Josephine was actually running away to marry Ralph, he is so incensed that he cries, "Damme!" Unfortunately, Sir Joseph and his relatives hear him and are horrified at his swearing; Sir Joseph sends him to his cabin in disgrace. But when Sir Joseph also learns from Ralph that Josephine was eloping, he angrily orders Ralph put in irons.

Little Buttercup now comes out with her secret, which solves the whole difficulty: she confesses that many years ago she had charge of nursing and bringing up Ralph and the Captain when they were babies. Inadvertantly, she got them mixed up; so the one who now was Ralph really should be the Captain, and the one now the Captain should be Ralph. This error is immediately rectified. The sudden reversal in the social status of Ralph and the Corcorans removes Sir Joseph as a suitor for Josephine's hand and permits her to marry Ralph, and her father to marry Buttercup. Sir Joseph resigns himself to marrying his cousin, Hebe.

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# H. M. S. Pinafore

or

## The Lass That Loved A Sailor

W. S. GILBERT

ARTHUR SULLIVAN

### Overture

Allegro

The musical score is written for piano in a 6/8 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a forte (*f*) dynamic. The score is organized into five systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The second system includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The final system includes a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic marking. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplet patterns in the bass line.