



Dunfermline Gilbert and Sullivan Society

## DGASS H.M.S. Pinafore – Audition Dialogue

### Josephine

- CAPT.** My child, I grieve to see that you are a prey to melancholy. You should look your best to-day, for Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., will be here this afternoon to claim your promised hand.
- JOS.** **Ah, father, your words cut me to the quick. I can esteem – reverence – venerate Sir Joseph, for he is a great and good man; but oh, I cannot love him! My heart is already given.**
- CAPT.** (*aside*). It is then as I feared. (*Aloud.*) Given? And to whom? Not to some gilded lordling?
- JOS.** **No, father – the object of my love is no lordling. Oh, pity me, for he is but a humble sailor on board your own ship!**
- CAPT.** Impossible!
- JOS.** **Yes, it is true – too true.**
- CAPT.** A common sailor? Oh fie!
- JOS.** **I blush for the weakness that allows me to cherish such a passion. I hate myself when I think of the depth to which I have stooped in permitting myself to think tenderly of one so ignobly born, but I love him! I love him! I love him! (*Weeps.*)**
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- RALPH.** Josephine, I am a British sailor, and I love you!
- JOS.** **Sir, this audacity! (*Aside.*) Oh, my heart, my beating heart! (*Aloud.*) This unwarrantable presumption on the part of a common sailor! (*Aside.*) Common! oh, the irony of the word! (*Crossing, aloud.*) Oh, sir, you forget the disparity in our ranks.**



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**RALPH.**

I forget nothing, haughty lady. I love you desperately, my life is in your hand – I lay it at your feet! Give me hope, and what I lack in education and polite accomplishments, that I will endeavour to acquire. Drive me to despair, and in death alone I shall look for consolation. I am proud and cannot stoop to implore. I have spoken and I wait your word.

**Jos.**

**You shall not wait long. Your proffered love I haughtily reject. Go, sir, and learn to cast your eyes on some village maiden in your own poor rank – they should be lowered before your captain's daughter!**