



Dunfermline Gilbert and Sullivan Society

DGASS H.M.S. Pinafore – Audition Dialogue

Sir Joseph

- SIR JOSEPH.** **You've a remarkably fine crew, Captain Corcoran.**
- CAPT.** *It is a fine crew, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH** **(examining a very small midshipman). A British sailor is a splendid fellow, Captain Corcoran.**
- CAPT.** *A splendid fellow indeed, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **I hope you treat your crew kindly, Captain Corcoran.**
- CAPT.** *Indeed I hope so, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **Never forget that they are the bulwarks of England's greatness, Captain Corcoran.**
- CAPT.** *So I have always considered them, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **No bullying, I trust – no strong language of any kind, eh?**
- CAPT.** *Oh, never, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **What, never?**
- CAPT.** *Well, hardly ever, Sir Joseph. They are an excellent crew, and do their work thoroughly without it.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **Don't patronise them, sir – pray, don't patronise them.**
- CAPT.** *Certainly not, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **That you are their captain is an accident of birth. I cannot permit these noble fellows to be patronized because an accident of birth has placed you above them and them below you.**
- CAPT.** *I am the last person to insult a British sailor, Sir Joseph.*
- SIR JOSEPH.** **You are the last person who did, Captain Corcoran.**



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- SIR JOSEPH.** **Captain Corcoran, I am much disappointed with your daughter. In fact, I don't think she will do.**
- CAPT.** She won't do, Sir Joseph!
- SIR JOSEPH.** **I'm afraid not. The fact is, that although I have urged my suit with as much eloquence as is consistent with an official utterance, I have done so hitherto without success. How do you account for this?**
- CAPT.** Really, Sir Joseph, I hardly know. Josephine is of course sensible of your condescension.
- SIR JOSEPH.** **She naturally would be.**
- CAPT.** But perhaps your exalted rank dazzles her.
- SIR JOSEPH.** **You think it does?**
- CAPT.** I can hardly say; but she is a modest girl, and her social position is far below your own. It may be that she feels she is not worthy of you.
- SIR JOSEPH.** **That is really a very sensible suggestion, and displays more knowledge of human nature than I had given you credit for.**
- CAPT.** See, she comes. If your lordship would kindly reason with her and assure her officially that it is a standing rule at the Admiralty that love levels all ranks, her respect for an official utterance might induce her to look upon your offer in its proper light.
- SIR JOSEPH.** **It is not unlikely. I will adopt your suggestion. But soft, she is here. Let us withdraw, and watch our opportunity.**