

## Act II

(Scene: Pavilion in the Court of Barataria. Marco and Giuseppe, magnificently dressed, are seated on two thrones and are occupied in cleaning the crown and the sceptre. The Gondoliers are discovered dressed, some as courtiers, officers of rank, etc., and others as private soldiers and servants of various degrees. All are enjoying themselves without reference to social distinctions— some playing cards, others throwing dice, some reading, others playing cup and ball, morra, etc.)

## No. 11. "Of happiness the very pith"

## Opening Chorus and Solos

Men, Marco, and Giuseppe

Allegretto

The musical score is written for piano accompaniment in 6/8 time. It consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a first ending bracket labeled '1'. The second system starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The third system features a piano (*p*) dynamic followed by a crescendo (*cresc.*). The fourth system concludes with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

Men  
TENOR *f*

Of hap - pi - ness the ver - y pith In

BASS *f*

Of hap - pi - ness the ver - y pith In

Ba - ra - ta - ria you may see: A mon - ar - chy that's tem - pered with Re -

Ba - ra - ta - ria you may see: A mon - ar - chy that's tem - pered with Re -

pub - li - can E - qual - i - ty!

pub - li - can E - qual - i - ty! *mf* This form of gov - ern - ment we find The

*mf*

A des - po - ti - sm strict, com - bined With  
 beau i - de - al of its kind:

ab - so - lute e - qual - i - ty, With ab - so - lute e - qual - i - ty!

*f*

Of hap - pi - ness the ver - y pith In Ba - ra - ta - ria

*f*

Of hap - pi - ness the ver - y pith In Ba - ra - ta - ria

you may see: A mon - ar - chy that's tem - pered with Re - pub - li - can E -

you may see: A mon - ar - chy that's tem - pered with Re - pub - li - can E -

*cresc.*

qual-i - ty, Re - pub - - - li - can E - qual - i - ty!

qual-i - ty, Re - pub - - - li - can E - qual - i - ty!

*f*

*mp* Marco *staccato; smile*

Two kings, of un - due pride be - reft, Who act in per - fect

*mp* Giuseppe

Two kings, of un - due pride be - reft, Who act in per - fect

*p*

u - ni - ty, ·Whom you can or - der right and left With ab - so - lute im -

u - ni - ty, ·Whom you can or - der right and left With ab - so - lute im -

pu - ni - ty, Who put their sub - jects at \_ their ease By do - ing all they can to please, And

pu - ni - ty, Who put their sub - jects at \_ their ease By do - ing all they can to please, And

*mf*

*mf*

*portamento*

thus, to earn their bread - and - cheese, Seize ev - 'ry op - por - tu - ni - ty, And

thus, to earn their bread - and - cheese, Seize ev - 'ry op - por - tu - ni - ty, And

*f*

*f*

*more portamento*



Chorus

Of hap - pi-ness the ver - y pith In

Of hap - pi-ness the ver - y pith In

Ba - ra - ta - ria you may see: A mon - ar - chy that's tem-pered with Re -

Ba - ra - ta - ria you may see: A mon - ar - chy that's tem-pered with Re -

pub - li - can E - qual - i - ty, Re - pub - - - li - can E -

pub - li - can E - qual - i - ty, Re - pub - - - li - can E -

qual-i - ty, tem-pered with E - qual-i - ty!

qual-i - ty, tem-pered with E - qual-i - ty!

**Marco:** Gentlemen, we are much obliged to you for your expressions of satisfaction and good feeling— I say, we are much obliged to you for your expressions of satisfaction and good feeling.

**All:** We heard you.

**Marco:** We are delighted, at any time, to fall in with sentiments so charmingly expressed.

**All:** That's all right.

**Giuseppe:** At the same time there is just one little grievance that we should like to ventilate.

**All:** (*angrily*) What?

**Giuseppe:** Don't be alarmed— it's not serious. It is arranged that, until it is decided which of us two is the actual King, we are to act as one person.

**Giorgio:** Exactly.

**Giuseppe:** Now, although we act as *one* person, we are, in point of fact, *two* persons.

**Annibale:** Ah, I don't think we can go into that. It is a legal fiction, and legal fictions are solemn things. Situated as we are, we can't recognize two independent responsibilities.

**Giuseppe:** No; but you can recognize two independent appetites. It's all very well to say we act as one person, but when you supply us with only one ration between us, I should describe it as a legal fiction carried a little too far.

**Annibale:** It's rather a nice point. I don't like to express an opinion off-hand. Suppose we reserve it for argument before the full Court?

**Marco:** Yes, but what are we to do in the meantime?

**Marco & Giuseppe:**  
We want our tea.

**Annibale:** I think we may make an interim order for double rations on their Majesties' entering into the usual undertaking to indemnify in the event of an adverse decision?

**Giorgio:** That, I think, will meet the case. But you must work hard—stick to it—nothing like work.

**Giuseppe:** Oh, certainly. We quite understand that a man who holds the magnificent position of King should do something to justify it. We are called "Your Majesty", we are allowed to buy ourselves magnificent clothes, our subjects frequently nod to us in the streets, the sentries always return our salutes, and we enjoy the inestimable privilege of heading the subscription lists to all the principal charities. In return for these advantages the least we can do is to make ourselves useful about the Palace.