



# CHILPERIC;

# Extrabaganza.

### FOUNDED UPON THE CELEBRATED

# OPERA BOUFFE,

COMPOSED BY

# HERVÉ.

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### CHILPERIC;

#### MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA IN FIVE SCENES.

#### PERSONÆ.

CHILPERIC Kin	g of the	e Gauls,	who, going	after a little	game, misses a fox
as	nd catch	ies a dear			
FREDEGONDA The	petite	cherie in	n question-	-an ambitiou	s Rustic, who fain

would marry both Landry and Chilperic-in fact would "buckle two."

SIEGBERT ..... Chilperic's hen-pecked brother.

BRUNEHAUT .... The hen that pecked him.

GALSWINDA... A Spanish Princess, contracted to Chilperic, and therefore Fredegonda's rival.

DON NERVOSO. Her escort, a needy Noble, who talks in broken Spanish, and deals in Spanish Bonds.

SENNA...... Court Physician, and keeper of the royal digestion.

FATOUT ...... Chamberlain to Chilperic, and Grand Referee in Etiquette subsequently enamored of Fredegonda.

LANDRY ..... A young Peasant, Fredegonda's lover.

DIVITIACUS.... The Arch-Druid—a sporting prophet.

ALFRED. ..... The pet Page.

Chorus of six or eight Druids to change to Courtiers. Corps of six or eight Pages. Chorus of six or eight Peasant Girls to change to Ladies of Court. N. B.—These numbers may be augmented or diminished according to size of stage.

#### PROPERTIES.

Oak wreaths for Druids; sickle and bunch of mistletoe on oak; long rustic stick for Landry; small market basket for Fredegonda; hunting whip for Chilperic; three or four switches for Brunehaut, Alfred, &c.; daggers for Pages; pepper, mustard, pickle-pot; Fortnum and Mason hamper, with plate, knife and fork, and napkin; bag and live cat; parti-colored umbrellas for all in 1st scene; vial for Senna; pomatum, oil bottle, hand mirror, gold basin, soap and towels, boot and blacking brush, hair brushes, bird cage and two band-boxes, gold stick for Fatout, swords and jewels for Courtiers, gilt drinking cups, small hand truck with gridiron, saucepan, coal scuttle, mop, trunk, etc., on it; antimacassar, straws, stick with bundle of ballads.

CHILPERIC.

OVERTURE.





M. 3139

























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#### ACT I.

. . turesque. Lightning is seen occasionally at back through trees.

SCENE.—A Forest. L 2 K a huge oak, at the foot of which is a rude stone banch. The whole scene rugged and pic-DIVITI. (with a golden reaping-hook.)

DIVITIACUS and Chorus of Druids.

SOLO & CHORUS - " PRIESTS OF THE GROVE," No. 1. (DIVITIACUS & DRUIDS.) Andante maestoso.



















II



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His brother His brother And who's the lady f His brother His broth



Siegbert.

FRED.

No. 3.

## HUNTING SONG - "OH, RAREST SPORT."



<sup>(</sup>CHILPERIC & CHORUS).

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SIEG.	You're fond of bunting, brother f	1	And when he's well secured thus, take by rote
CHIL-	Well, for me		And ram each nasty tinful down his throat.
	There's not enough female society	BRUN.	[Guards hurry away FATOUT gasping. Brother-in-law, don't waste that lot of meat ; it
	About the chase ; still, with my taste, it goes Better at least than war.	DAUN.	Will do quite well for Siegbert ; he can eat it.
SIEG.	So I'd suppose.		At home he cats the scraps.
CHIL	In war one meets no women.	CHIL-	He might refuse
SIEG.	Not Odd's life.		To chew such stuff.
UTEUT	You wouldn't say that if you had my wife.	BRUN.	He chews just what I choose.
BRUN.	Siegbert !!	(to SIE	G.) Take home these tins; thereon to-night you II sup.
SIEG.	My love, as I was saying first,	1	No more hot joints till these are all cleared up.
	Chilperic ought to marry.		[Attendants remove the hampers of provisions.
BRUN.	Oh, he must.	CHIL	Has anybody seen the Druids yet
	All men should marry when they're ordered to,		Whom we should meet, our certain tip to get
	As you did, dear, when I commanded you.	ALF.	About the war we think of undertaking f This is the spot, sire, famous for their making
	sighing.) I did.	aur.	Their incantations. There's their oak, you see-
BRUN.	You'd ne'er have wed without, that's plain.	CHIL	Are there no signs of them about the tree?
CHIL.	Is that the etiquette, Lord Chamberlain?	Chile	[ALFRED goes to oak to look.
FAT.	Sire, the rules are-if I may so express 'em-	ALF.	A man! Come out.
	No man would wed but for the ladies-bless 'em.	LAND.	(dragged forward.) Oh lor'!
Dr. S.	Quite so. And marriages, with their succession,	ALF.	A girl!
C	Are strongly countenanced by our profession.	CHIL	Great powers !
CHIL.	I'll think about it. Meanwhile where's the lunch f		I haven't seen a girl for several hours.
	[ALFRED and pages unpack hampers and		Bring her to me. Egad ! she 's pretty, too.
A /5	produce sandwiches, &c. anding sandwiches.) Veal and ham.		[FREDEGONDA is conducted forward.
	waylaying a page with flash.) Just a nip. (BRUNE-		(aside.) A bold jade !
cards fr	HAUT pinches him.) Don't pinch.	CHIL	How now, damsel?
ALF. (A	anding liquor.) Cold punch.	FRED.	How d'ye do?
	Sicgbert, it doesn't suit you. (Relieves kim of flask,	CHIL,	One of my subjects-subjects I'm a friend to.
	and helps herself)	Farm	You need not tremble, girl. I don't intend to.
SIEG. ()	rwefully.) You know best.	FRED. BRUN.	
	You know, my love, you feel it on your chest.	SIEG.	Pshaw! let her go. Yes, do ; I'll see her clear
SIEG.	I hain't a chance (taking sandwick).	SIEG	Of this.
BRUN.	Don't touch that ham-pray think.	BRUN.	Siegbert! you drop it!
	Doctor, explain he shouldn't eat or drink.		submissively.) Certainly, my dear.
	[Dr. SENNA takes him aside, and warns him.	CHIL (	to FRED.) Are you related to this simple lout?
CHIL.	Hang it ! this sandwich brings my teeth to grief.	LAND.	Please, sir, she's my affianced bride.
	What is it made of ?	FRED.	Get out 1
ALF.	Hem-Australian beef:		It's true, sir, he has paid me marked attention,
	We have a lot more made up in a pasty.	1	But that's too insignificant to mention-
C	[Brings forward a pie.	CHIL	Save in a law-court, damages to carry.
CHIL-	It seems to me the pasty's deuced nasty.	FRED.	Yes. Girls who sue on promises to marry
	[He extracts a long stringy substance.		Do so, not 'cause their hearts are seared and frosted,
ALF.	Is this rare fossil your idea? Sire-no.		But 'cause they had a single chance, and lost it.
ALT.	The Chamberlain knows all about it.	CHIL (	hurriedly.) There is a guileless candour in your tone
CHIL (	grimly.) Oh1	4	Which-hush! we must speak further, and alone.
cure (	Chamberlain, step this way.	(IO ALS	<ul> <li>Alfred, you 'll take this clown (indicating LANDRY),</li> </ul>
			and bring to us
	rembling.) Most gracious king		The David director Divitie and
			The Druid tipster, Divitiacus.
CHIL.	Do you consider this the sort of thing	LAND	He'll show you where to find-
		LAND. CHIL	He'll show you where to find
	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry?	LAND. CHIL	He'll show you where to find
	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry? P'r'aps you suppose our teeth are ironmong'ry.		He'll show you where to find— But I don't know! Silence! Your head shall answer for it. Go. [ALFRED takes LANDRY off.
CHIL	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry? P'r'aps you suppose our teeth are ironmong'ry. Speak, slave! don't stare (stamping)! Sire-mercy, I implore! It came from our Co-operative Store,		He 'll show you where to find- But I don't know! Silence! Your head shall answer for it. Go. [ALFRED takes LANDRY off. Doctor, there are some plants and things about
CHIL	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry? P'r'aps you suppose our teeth are ironmong'ry. Speak, slave! don't stare (stamping)! Sire-mercy, I implore! It came from our Co-operative Store, Is guaranteed by our physicians chief,		He'll show you where to find— But I don't know! Silence! Your head shall answer for it. Go. [ALFRED takes LANDRY off.
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CHIL.	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry? P'r'aps you suppose our teeth are ironmong'ry. Speak, slave! don't stare ( <i>stamping</i> )! Sire-mercy, I implore! It came from our Co-operative Store, Is guaranteed by our physicians chief, And twopence cheaper than the native beef. (angrily.) Ho, wards ! remove this fellow from his		He'll show you where to find— But I don't know! Silence! Your head shall answer for it. Go. Doctor, there are some plants and things about This forest, and I wish you'd look 'em out And catalogue 'em, and all that. Begin it
CHIL.	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry? P'r'aps you suppose our teeth are ironmong'ry. Speak, slave! don't stare ( <i>stamping</i> )! Sire-mercy, I implore! It came from our Co-operative Store, Is guaranteed by our physicians chief, And twopence cheaper than the native beef. <i>angrify.</i> ) Ho, gaards! remove this fellow from his king's	CHIL Dr. S.	He'll show you where to find— But I don't know! Silence! Your head shall answer for it. Go. [ALFRED takes LANDRY of. Doctor, there are some plants and things about This forest, and I wish you'd look 'em out And catalogue 'em, and all that. Begin it At once. These fellows will assist you in it. Gladly, your Highness. I shall seek with glee The flora of these parts —
CHIL.	Do you consider this the sort of thing To offer to a monarch when he's hungry? P'r'aps you suppose our teeth are ironmong'ry. Speak, slave! don't stare ( <i>stamping</i> )! Sire-mercy, I implore! It came from our Co-operative Store, Is guaranteed by our physicians chief, And twopence cheaper than the native beef. (angrily.) Ho, wards ! remove this fellow from his	CHIL Dr. S. CHIL	He 'll show you where to find- But I don't know! Silence! Your head shall answer for it. Go. [ALFRED tables LANDRY off. Doctor, there are some plants and things about This forest, and I wish you'd look 'em out And catalogue 'em, and all that. Begin it At once. These fellows will assist you in it. Gladly, your Highness. I shall seek with glee

Dr. S.	No-flora-flowers-you know.	SIEG.	Good
CHIL-	Go-go, sly dog,	CHIL.	The deuce I do!
	To Flora Flowers ; but mind the catalogue.	SIEG.	My boy, don't bid defiance :
[Hunting Song, PP. Dr. SENNA exit, accompanied by all except CHILPERIC, FREDEGONDA, SIEGBERT,			Affairs of state show cause for this alliance. She's set upon it, and she'll have her way.
	and BRUNEHAUT.		[Pointing to BRUNEHAUT.
ZRUN.	We will not go.	CHIL.	And what if I have mine instead ?
SIEG.	Just so-	SIEG.	Nay, nay.
BRUN.	That girl might yet,		You've enemies. Her pa would turn uncivil,
	If we should leave them, all our plans upset.		And join the Huns, and play the very divule.
CHIL-	Now, pretty maid	CHIL.	I must dissemble.
FRED. (pointing to the others.) Hush !		SIEG.	Do.
CHIL. (to kis relatives.) Aren't you going ?		CHIL.	to BRUN.) In my breast
BRUN. No.			Rise thoughts imagined easier than expressed.
	To leave you two alone ain't comme il faut.		Meanwhile permit a kingly heart thus laden
	This maid has no duenna.		To catechise this young and artless maiden
CHIL I can be		1	On household topics-butter, eggs, and cows-
	That. Pray, do-enna folks object to me ?		Things int'resting to a prospective spouse.
FRED.	Perhaps it's me she would as flighty class?	BRUN.	Well-if that 's all
	Innocence has come to a pretty pass !	SIEG. (	aside.) His earnestness grows comical.
	I can't be trusted, can't I? Oh, my word !	CHIL.	Oh, ma'am, my views are strictly economical.
	Where's then the strength of purity ?-Absurd !	1.000	Damsel, what name do lovers call you by i
BRUN	. Look here, King Chilperic, it's understood	FRED.	Met Fredegonda.
	You wed my sister, dear Galswinda.	CHIL	List, then, and reply.

# No. 4. QUARTETT. — " O, FREDEGONDA, FAIREST."

(CHILPERIC, FREDEGONDA, BRUNEHAUT, & SIEGEERT).

















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CHIL. (aside to BRUN.) Well, when she comes with Neustria and Spain, Miss Fredegonda can go back again.

I've a large warehouse of wild oats on hand Which must at once be sown, you understand, If I'm to wed. Here goes for sowing some. Sweet Fredegonda, you to Court shall come. FRED. And Landry?

CHIL. Shall have anything that suits. We'll make him clean the knives and black the boots.



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Yes.

The king has given you a post. What ? Guess.

FRED.

LAND. Couldn't.



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(Enter DIVITIACUS and Druids R.) CHIL. Is that old party, then, the Prophet-Bard f DIVIT. The same original antique c'reck card, Down to all moves, to every plant well up, From skittle-sharping to the Chester Cup. There's no event where money's to be won But what the old man's game to put you on. Set down the coin, and he'll predict to thee Under which little thimble is the pea. CHTL. Propound, O sagest 'mid the downy ones, Shall I go forth and smite those bums of Huns?

















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miz-zle, too. We had best miz-zle, too. No more mo - ments











10 -



	SCENE 2 Ante-Room of the Palace.	1	That's in your
6	Enter Dr. SENNA, wiping out an empty bottle.)	Dr. S.	It is. Propour
Dr. S.	Since Fredegonda's settled at the Court,	FAT. (d	rinking from SE
	I 've scarce a minute's peace of any sort.		A speedy exit.
	A few more patients with such queer complaints	Dr. S.	H
	Would quite destroy the patience of the saints.	FAT. (a)	fler wry face.)
	She's at me day and night-" Doctor, I'm sinking !"		We are united-
	" Doctor, look !- My left eyelid's took to winking !"	Вотн.	
	"Oh, Doctor ! I've a singing in my toes ! "		(Enter SIEG
	"Don't you think I look pale about the nose?"	BRUN.	Encore !
	" I feel in need of something-just a cup	Dr. S.	. We're
	Of tea, with a few drops to keep me up."	BRUN.	
	So I prescribe the drops ; they suit her well.	SIEG.	
	We call them steel : slander would say Martell.		For we have so
	[holding up bottle.	1	We, too, are un
		1	Which is-I do
	This, when she's low, she says, brings back her pith. "A fourth of Mixture as before-warm with."		But my wife kn
			I've a bad heat
FAT.	(Fnter FATOUT.)	BRUN.	Idiot !
	How is your patient, Doctor ?	SIEG.	Yes-a
Dr. S.	Worse, sir, worse.	DIEM	It's a small plo
	But that it's unprofessional to curse,	BRUN.	re s a sman po
	I'd say, Confound her nerves! hang her pathology!	DROB.	The fact is, Do
	She'd wear the epiderm off osteology.		This Fredegon
FAT.	Oh-ho! What says the king?	1	(So long as she
Dr. S.	Why, he's a scoffer	1	Therefore we n
	At nerves, and I think's growing weary of her.	1	With Chilperic
FAT.	A good thing, too. She plays the deuce with me.		
	Since she's been here there's no propriety	FAT.	And manage, w
	Kept up at Court. She, like her low-lived set,	BRUN.	'Tis a good sch
	Mocks at all rules, infringes etiquette.		the set of the V V
	Think, sir! she eats-the sight near makes me		thoughtfully.) I
	swoon-	BRUN.	My sister's on
	Mustard with mutton; scoops peas with a spoon;	FAT.	
	Pours tea into the saucer ; scorns all thesis	BRUN.	
	Of grammar, and calls watercresses "creases,"	1	She's coming
Dr. S.	Horrid !		From Spain to
FAT.	Her language leaves me weak and limp.	Dr. S.	
	She talks of "rum srub"-speaks about a "srimp."		If the king like
	She won't improve, despite my warning face.	BRUN.	And chase out
	At whist she always trumps her partner's ace.	FAT.	Then this Gals
	And when I speak, she cries, with visage cross,	BRUN.	Exactly; and t
	To me, the Chamberlain, " Dry up, old hoss!"		I 've sent Galsv
Dr. S.	Oh, this must have an end!		To Fredegonda
FAT.	So I desire ;		"The king is w
	But how?	SIEG.	Whence got yo
Dr. S.	Ay, how?	Dr. S.	Carte? 'Twas
FAT.	Suppose, sir, we conspire ?	BRUN.	'Twill make her
Dr. S.	Won't it affect my practice?		Speechless to s
FAT.	Not a bit.	Dr. S.	Luck to the Sp
	Fredegonda's influence at Court don't fit	SIEG.	•
	With our own int'rests. What do we? In short,	FAT.	The dark outsid
	Remove that influence, sir, from the Court.	Dr. S.	

	That's in your line as medical practitionet.	
Dr. S.	It is. Propound your motion.	
FAT. (d)	rinking from SENNA'S vial.) Well, here's wishin' her	
	A speedy exit.	
Dr. S.	Hear, hear!	
FAT. (a)	(ler wry face.) In this bond	
	We are united-	
Вотн.	Down with Fredegond 1	
	(Enter SIEGBERT and BRUNEHAUT.)	
BRUN.	Encore!	
Dr. S.	. We're lost!	
BRUN.	Not so ; you're found.	
StEG.	It's true.	
	For we have sought accomplices like you.	
	We, too, are undertaking a small plot,	
	Which is-I do not quite remember what,	
	But my wife knows. Ask her. You must unite.	
	I 've a bad head for schemes : but it 's all right.	
BRUN.	Idiot !	
SIEG.	Yes-about idiots. All serene.	
	It's a small plot.	
BRUN.	You are a little green.	
	The fact is, Doctor and Lord Chamberlain,	
	This Fredegonda's presence is a stain	
	(So long as she's a-stayin') on our morals ;	
	Therefore we must foment her rows and quarrels	
	With Chilperic-get him to make her start,	
_	And manage, with deep art, that she depart.	
FAT.	'Tis a good scheme ; but how?	
BRUN.	Means will come later.	
	thoughtfully.) If I could be called in to vaccinate her!	
BRUN.	My sister's on her way	
FAT.	Galswinda ?	
BRUN.	Yes.	
	She's coming with a royal train-express	
	From Spain to visit me.	
Dr. S.	Then I infer,	
-	If the king likes her, he will marry her ?	
BRUN.	And chase out Fredegond for evermore.	
FAT.	Then this Galswinda opens that gal's door.	
BRUN.		
	I 've sent Galswinda's carte, on a post-card,	
	To Fredegonda, and beneath it written :	
0	"The king is with this lovely creature smitten."	
SIEG.	Whence got you the idea a carte to choose?	
Dr. S.	Carte ? 'Twas an inspiration of the mews.	
BRUN.	'Twill make her rage : she'll grow as I desire-	
Dr. S.	Speechless to see the carte, and hoarse for ire.	
SIEG.	Luck to the Spanish princess!	
FAT.	We all pray for it.	
Dr. S.	Which shall beat the favourite.	
A	which shan beat the lavourite.	

- "

















[Symphony of next number to open Scene. Enter ALFRED, and pages two and two, and form across stage, with properties mentioned in dialogue.



















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LAND.	What mock'ry is boot-shining, is at not, When in one's own fate there's no shining spot? A dark-souled king's my foe. Would I were whack-
	ing

That dark king with the ease I rub this black-king ! He stole my love one day-smote pain my heart in : Curse on that day, and this day, and this (s)martin' ! (sobs.)

ALF Landry, you 're crying ! LAND.

No-the effect of onions.

[Placing boots at the door of CHILPERIC'S bedroom.

There are his boots-and may they blight his bunions !

[CHILPERIC comes out of his bedroom, in dressing-gown and slippers, and wielding two hairbrushes. All the pages wish him " Good morning," and bow.

My faithful Landry, thanks ! Now, kindly say CHIL. If I can recompense you any way? Speak ! if there's aught my kingdom can afford To prove the thankfulness of its liege lord. But, as the royal purse is not too deep, Remember, when you ask, to draw it cheap-LAND. One boon you might bestow.

CHIL. Will it cost much f

LAND. That's as may be. Monarch, withdraw your clutch On my possession-mine, king-once I own'd her-I had one tender ewe-lamb, and you boned her! CHIL 1 bone a lamb!

ALF. He means, sire, you unlawfully Took Fredegond, his bride. He goes on awfully About her in the kitchen.

CHIL (aside.) Oh : I scent A tat. (to LANDRY.) And she's the ewe-lamb your lam-ent? M. 3139.

LAND.	She was my joy. Of that you spoil'd all traces,	
-	And now whene'er I meet her, she pulls faces.	
CHIL.	Go, Landry ; 1 forgive you.	
LAND	You are kind !	
CHIL.	I cut you out in courting-never mind :	
	I bear no spite ; you in no dungeon fling.	
	I think that's pretty tidy for a king.	
	A bientot. (Brushes his hair.)	
LAND.	Then you won't restore	
CHIL.	Go, go.	
	I'll think about it first, and let you know.	
	[Exit LANDRY, mournfully. CHILPERIC used	
	the hairbrushes vigorously.	
	My looking-glass.	
	[A page gives him a hand-glass.	
	The future's full of toil,	
	Trouble, and turmoil, what I may term	
	(to pages.) Oil! (Uses the oil.)	
	Freddy and I must sever. I await	
	The day we part, and (to pages.) Is the parting	
	straight?	
	There'll be a scrimmage. I don't care a rush,	
	But this here scrimmage-(to pages.) Here, take that 'air brush.	
	[Hands hairbrushes to page.	
	She'll slang me; but then, women are beneath	
	Reply. She'll cast my old vows in my teeth-	
(to page	rs.) My tooth-brush. Bah ! mere constancy I flout ;	
	I wash my hands of it. (to pages.) Pour water out,	
	A page presents a basin, kneeling.	
	I 'm going to wed Galswinda, and can cope-	
	With Freddy. While there's life there's hope	
	[Page gives it-then towel.	
	And now from sweet to sweet and sweet I'll fly-	
	A larger specimen of butterfly !	





























	[The last sixteen bars of second verse are repeated	
	in chorus, and excunt omnes after CHILPERIC,	
	dancing off as they sing R.	
	(Enter Dr. SENNA and FATOUT, L.)	
Dr. S.	Our project will succeed. The king receives	
	His Spanish bride, and Fredegonda leaves.	
FAT.	Alas! in contradictions men abound.	
	My sentiments have turned completely round.	
Dr. S.	What sentiments ?	
FAT.	For Fredegonda. Yes,	
	When prosp'rous I disliked her. In distress	
	I feel a warm, diffusive sensibility,	
_	Mild-maundering-Is it love ?	
Dr. S.	No ; imbecility.	
FAT.	'Tis sad, 'tis melting, as a mournful strain is-	
-	Is my heart soft'ning?	
Dr. S.	I should say your brain is.	
	I must take you in hand. You're in grave plight.	
	My Medicated Baths will put you right.	
	Go, now, to Chilperic's bedchamber. Say	
	Princess Galswinda's train is on the way.	
FAT.	I daren't. That means all's up with Fredegond.	
n. e	And oh! my spirits, Doctor dear, despond.	
Dr. S.	Muff! / shall tell him. As for you, you'd best cut;	
	Get your head shaved, and order a strait-waistcoat. [Exit Dr. SENNA.	
FAT.	He thinks I'm going cracked. I think so, too.	
FAL.	Oh Fredegonda, Fredegonda 1 you	
	Are all the cause of this! And I despised her,	
	Thought her low-vulgarsneered and criticised her!	
	Ha, ha! Oh, madness! Love! Remorse to fol-	
	low ! (slapping his forehead.)	
	Ha, ha ! my head ! And oh, don't it sound hollow !	
	(Enter FREDEGONDA R. U. E.)	
	She comes !	
FRED.	How now, old Goldstick-in-the-mud !	
FAT. (a.	ride.) Playful expression ! 'Tis her warm young blood	
	Scorns the control of speech, and soars slap bang	
_	Into the wild and buoyant sphere of slang-	
FRED.	Where is the governor ? Go, fetch him to me.	
FAT. (d	side.) How little she suspects those prospects gloomy	
	Which are before her. (Aloud ) Ma'am, life's full	
	of care : '	
FRED.	We're here to-day, and gone	
FAT.	But in the hour of trial, when forsook,	
PAL.	You'll find a friend where now you never look.	
	O woman ! in your hour of ease,	
	A spoilt pet, a domestic tease,	
	Who is your best friend, if you please ?	
FRED.	My mother !	

FAT. When pain and anguish wring the brow, Through jinks which morals don't allow,

Who'll be your friend and pitcher now ! The Chamberlain I [Stamps tragically off. FRED. That party's drunk or mad. It's a drawn match With him 'twixt Cogni-ac and Colney Hatch. [CHILPERIC enters in full dress, R., with Dr. SENNA, and crosses the stage. CHIL When the princess comes, let Fatout announce her ; Then bring the Court in. [Exit Dr. SENNA at opposite side. There's my rustic bouncer, Fresh as a ray of sunlight-(advancing towards her.) FRED. Come, I say! Talking of that, pray, what means this array ! You wear a new dress-coat! CHIL (kaughtily.) Madam, I do. FRED. Madam, indeed! A new address, sir, too ! It was once "Freddy." CHIL. So it shall be now. You always are half-ready for a row. FRED. What if I am ? CHIL. Why, simply, it's ill-bred To a throw a tea-cup at a monarch's head, As you did yesternight. FRED. Your words were coarse, sir. And pert. I threw the tea-cup for your sauce, sir. I had good grounds. CHIL. Yes, in the cup you started ; But I deny that they were good. They smarted. FRED. I threw my lover over for you. CHIL. Bosh! FRED. I refused Landry. CHIL. Landry ! That won't wash. FRED. (aside.) I'll have a cry, and put him in a fix-(aloud.) Oho ! His tricks will bring on hys-ter-ics ! I'm going. Ow-yah-aah! (screams.) Confound this riot ! CIIIL. Here's some one coming. Freddy, do be quiet! [FREDEGONDA continues to scream and stamp her feet. Enter BRUNEHAUT and SIEGBERT. BRUN. What is all this? It's me he would insult ! FRED. [Continues screaming. Siegbert, bring in the garden hydrapult. CHIL FRED. (recovering herself.) What for ? CHIL. For your recovery, my own. FRED. Thankee ; but the attack I shall postpone. BRUN. (In CHIL aside.) Galswinda's coming. CHIL (aside.) Oh, I'm in for it ! BRUN. You'd best this creature notice give to quit. (Enter FATOUT.)





Eatout makes a sign ; enter the Court, retainers, &-c.









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75 .



BRUN. Well, are you satisfied ? CHIL. More—I'm delighted. At once our troth shall mutually be plighted. SIEG. (aside.) Poor victim !

CHIL (to ALFRED.) Go-the wedding favours make. Doctor, you'll superintend the bridal-cake. Dr. S. I'll make it heavy.

CHIL. Do ; important this is.

See, too, the prime gooseberry-champagne fizzes.

Dr. S. Oh, I can trust my carbonate of soda!

CHIL. Now strike a chorus up-with joyous coda.













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	SCENE 4 Corridor in Palace.	LAND.	Inquest I fear
	(Enter LANDRY, reading a sheet of paper.)		There'll be, if you excite yourself so, dear.
LAND.	The king has ordered me, through this epistle, To give poor Fredegonda her dismissal.	Here comes the king. On him turn your emotion. (axide.) I shall go off, for there 'll be an explosion (Exit LANDRY. (Enter CHILPERIC.) FRED. So, sir, I hear that you have dared to wed! CHIL. Madam, you've struck the right nail on the head. FRED. (grimly.) luvil. Not on the head, though, in that case;	
(reads)			
FRED	Chil Oh, it's you !		But I'll strike sundry nails upon the face.
LAND.	Yes, dear.	CHIL	Oh, but I'll tear her eyes out ! What's the use
FRED	Don't call me dear here.		To try to terrorise me with abuse f
	Your back was turned : I thought 'twas your superior.	FRED.	Pah! I could lynch you both, you wretched cuss!
	(righing.) Hah !		You and your wife lynch. (Changing her tone.)
FRED.	What now?		Why flinch from me thus I
LAND.	Nothing : my heart-strings expand. It was <i>soupir yer</i> cannot understand.		Am I so ugly grown that you forsake me? Where are the tender oaths you once did make me?
FRED.	Stand by. I seek your master.		You vowed you loved ; yet cast me off you now will;
LAND.	It won't do.		Say, is this consonant with that avoual ?
-	Though I stand by, he'll no more stand by you.	CHIL	She talks like Lindley Murray.
FRED.	What mean you ?	FRED.	Well, I'm flurried.
LAND.	It's all up, my Fredegonda ;		From mood to mood I vio-lintly am (h)urried.
FRED.	You've a successor. Ha! Where !	CHIL. FRED.	Your mood is too intense, and out of place.
LAND.	Over yonda.	CHIL	'Cause there's another person in the case. What case ?
_	Chilperic's married.	FRED.	Objective.
FRED.	'Tis a lie!	CH1L.	Your objection state.
LAND.	Oh, no.		Parse on.
Free	'Tis no ally of yours ; more like a foe.	FRED.	Indicative present : "I HATE!"
FRED.	Oh, agonies / Why, 'twas his aunt, he said! You 'll find she's an ant-agonis(t) to dread.		Imperfect: "I was loving." Future: "I
LAND,	You'll have to go.	CHIL	Will scratch !"
FRED.	With stifled rage I'm choking.	FRED.	We'll conjugate that by and by.
I KAD.	The king-show me the king.	FRED.	Why did you swear to Freddy, since you loathe her, Full many an oath, and go and wed an-oather t
LAND.	Her passion's sho-king.		Can you wreck all a woman's peace, false king ?
FRED.	I go in quest of him-		Can you <i>wrecall</i> what I 'm about to sing !























M. 3139















covered grouped lying and sitting, drinking wine. Symphony of next number to open scene. Segue chorus. LANDRY enters dejected, in time for his solo.









#### No. 16. LAMENT OF FREDEGONDA -" FAREWELL."









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Cutt What means this nonsense? Dr. S. Both insane, that's clear. [FREDEGONDA, having stuck an anti-Maccassar on her head fantastically, distributes the contents of her truck, à la Ophelia. FRED. There's rosemary ; that's for remembrance, dear. [Hands CHILPERIC a gridiron. There's pansies ; that's for thoughts. [Hands GALSWINDA a mot. And here is rue. You'll wear it with a difference. [Sticks a coal-scuttle on Dr. SENNA's head. Dr. S. I do ! CHIL. Fatout-here, take her (or you'll earn a scoldin') To Bedlam, or-FAT. (tearfully, offering song.) " Jerusalem the Golden." BRUN. Oh, they are mad ! GAL. Both mad ! A shocking thing ! SIEG. Mad as March hares. CHIL. LAND. (bursting forth.) I tell thee, churlish king, A "leading lady" shall my sweetheart be, When thou art cast for dull " utility ! " FRED. It is his voice ! It is. Oh, Freddy, come. LAND. Leave this false Court : like most courts, 'tis a slum. Alles / Back with me to our rural groves, Our humble household loves and home-baked loaves; M. 3139-

rall.

Come to the thatched roof, far from titled blokes, Where no cloud lowers save when the chimney smokes ;

Where lime-trees, pine-trees, axle-trees stand high, And ev'ry Monday clothes hang out to dry. Come, and we'll cull the wild bloom of our bowers, The corn-flow'rs, flow'rs of brimstone, cauliflowers. Hence! let us leave these swells and their high livio'. Return at once, and all will be forgiven. FRED. I do-I will! Now thank the stars for that ! CHIL. Take her, good Landry, and our blessing pat. Talking of pats, whate'er your cows supply Of butter and of eggs, why, we will buy. LAND. A bargain ! Send your poultry. We won't scrooge CHIL. The price. That seems a *poultry* subterfuge. SIEG. BRUN. Silence! We're rid of her. CHIL. (to FATOUT.) Do you design, Fatout, to stick yet to the ballad line ? FAT. (sadly.) No; as she's lost, the retail I'll vacate But make me Laureate. That lore I hate. CHIL

However, be it so. Now that all's righted, If our friends are contented, we're delighted.

(Form in lines for FINALE.)















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