“THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER”

With Apologies to Mr. BERNARD SHAW for an unauthorised Parody on one of his Comedies

Written by BERNAUER and JACOBSON

English Version by STANISLAUS STANGE

Music by OSCAR STRAUS
"THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER"

"The Chocolate Soldier" is booking well for its engagement at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, next week. The opera was produced in London in September 1910 at the Lyric Theatre where it is still drawing crowded houses. "The Chocolate Soldier" is a real comic opera in three acts, the libretto founded on Bernard Shaw's comedy, "Arms and the Man", while the music is by Oscar Straus. The waltz song, now a feature of all musical pieces, occurs in the first act and is entitled: "Come, come, my life is lonely." The scene of the opera is a Bulgarian village in the Balkan Pass and the period 1885, when there was a war between the Servians and Bulgarians. The story opens in the boudoir of Nadina, daughter of a Colonel in the Bulgarian army, in her apartment seeking refuge from her pursuer comes a Servian soldier "The Chocolate Soldier" of the play, who after rest and food departs in disguise. Nadina and her women friends, who have her to secure the stranger, call him the Chocolate Soldier, because he has taken mostly of chocolates and caramels while in the house. Nadina is engaged to a Bulgarian soldier, who returns at the close of the war to brag about his victories, and there also comes claiming her favour the Chocolate Soldier, whose presence is accountable for some very amusing scenes through which the opera proceeds to a happy close.

Exceptionally strong cast includes: Mr. Charles Wain, Mr. McKeown, Mr. Arthur Reynolds, Mr. Jack Martin, Miss May Clarke, Miss May Tomlinson and Miss Margaret Ismay.

Mr. Herbert Carter.

Mr. Herbert Carter, the general manager to the Company, is a Hammersmith man, and for some years was well known in West London musical circles as a clever entertainer and concert manager. He has now taken up the stage as a profession, and has played parts and managed various companies in London and the provinces. He took the famous comic opera, "Amusia," on tour, and is now just completing his third tour through the British Isles with "The Chocolate Soldier."
‘THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER’

A COMIC OPERA

Adapted for broadcasting from Stanislaus Stange’s English version of the libretto by Adolph Bernauer and Leopold Jacobsen

MUSIC BY OSCAR STRAUS

CHARACTERS IN ORDER OF THEIR APPEARANCE:

Nadina Popoff, daughter of Colonel Popoff .... Anne Ziegler
Aurelia, wife of Colonel Popoff .............. Amy Augarde
Mascha, her cousin.................... Betty Huntley-Wright
Bumerli, Lieutenant in the Servian Army . . . Horace Percival
Massakroff, Captain in the Bulgarian Army . . . Franklyn Kelsey
Kasimir Popoff, Colonel in the Bulgarian Army . . . Percy Heming
Alexius Sparidoff, Major in the Bulgarian Army . . . Jan van der Gucht

The Wireless Chorus and
The B.B.C. Theatre Orchestra (Leader, Montague Brearley)
Conductor, Stanford Robinson


Act 3—Scene: As in Act II. Time: Afternoon.

Adaptation and Production by Gordon McComnald

TONIGHT AT 8.0
THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER.

ACT II.
Call & offering
Entire Chorus
Supert
Stage Band
Popoff
Alexius
Miszakoff
Nadina
Aurelia
Marcha
ACT II.

PLACE: The courtyard, garden and exterior of Popoff’s house.

TIME: Earl in May, 1836. Morning.

SCENE: get full stage. The backdrop represents a small town and the perspective the mountains of the Dragoman Pass. A wall runs across stage from L. to R. in 4. This is the centre by an arch which has two 4 foot doors; these doors are painted a dull green and open on stage to R. and L. The wall is made to represent a light yellow stucco and its coping is a reddish brown.

Over the doors is a sign made of various colored flowers, which reads: "Welcome Heroes". From L.U. to L. 1.2. is an exterior of the house, Eastern in its architecture, and coloring. The doorway is in a line with about 2 1/2. Down L. is an arch leading to a rose garden, from R.U. to R.1. columns leading to the vineyard and park gardens of the house. Roumanian, Bulgarian and Russian Flags depend from borders.

Rose vines clamber over rear wall and house and around columns R. The ground cloth represents tiled courtyard.

Down R. is a garden bench, painted dull green. The entire scene to be semi-oriental in coloring. There are four garden chairs up R. and L. of C. doors and down L.1. An oval shaped table about five feet long by 2 1/2 feet wide, covered with oriental tablecloth is off L.U. On table are cups, glasses, Cognac, decanters, rolls, etc.

(Before Curtain rises chorus cheer)

(Discovered: (1) Eight chorus ladies, in various parts of stage, shaking hands exultingly and talking about approaching soldiers.

(2) Troops are seen marching past closed gates from R. to L. behind wall.

(3) Eight Chorus ladies ENTER from R. 1.2.3. and L. 1.2.3. They cross to the groups on stage, back and forth)

(4) STEPHAN

(Throws C. gates open and ENTERS) They are coming!

OMNES. Hurrah! Hurrah!

(5) VERMUSCH - chorus lady - ENTERS from house L. followed by three chorus ladies. -
MERNOCK: Stephan, what news?

STEPHAN: Our heroes come!

OMNES: (BUS: shaking hands) Hurrah! Hurrah!

(TELL -talking)

(7) JECAKO: (ENTERS C. gates with three Bulgarian peasants) They are here! - the victors!

OMNES: Hurrah! Hurrah!

(Applaud -laugh as they go to positions)

(8) TASKA
MARIINSKA

LATOKA: Oh, such handsome men!!

OMNES: Hurrah!

MARIINSKA: I - I feel like getting married!!

OMNES: Mariinska! Mariinska!

(Laugh and applaud)

POSKI
NERMITZ: (ENTERS C gates with two Bulgarians) Bulgaria for ever!

OMNES: Bulgaria!

NERMITZ: The glory is ours.

OMNES: Hurrah! (Laugh and applaud)

(1ONATINKA: (ENTERS C. with seven chorus ladies) Colonel Poyoff and Major Alexius!!

OMNES: Hurrah!!!
Order of entrance:
Peasants
Band
Officers
Flaps
Soldiers
(Appland, laugh, BUS: for all)

(11) (ENTER 16 Officers C. Each officer takes two GIRLS as he enters. Each two go R and L. alternately form lines down front to up back.)

(12) (ENTER Flag bearers, headed by MASSAKROFF, they go C. up stage)

(13) (Officers march around flags saluting with swords. go to positions)

(14) (ENTER SOLDIERS (Regulars) who march around flags presenting arms, then go to positions)

(15) NADIMA

(ENTERS from house L. goes L.)

(16) AURELIA
MASCHA

(17) POPOFF
ALEXIUS

OWNES

(Except first principals) Hurrah! Our heroes come! Hurrah! Hurrah!

(POPOFF and ALEXIUS pay no attention to the greetings, but pose as if they were their due, and not worthy of notice. The thirty two chorus ladies have small Bulgarian flags which they wave)

No. 7. "The Fatherland is Free."

Male and Female Chorus.

Then shout hurrah, then shout hurrah!
For our heroes shout in glee.
Our enemies are conquered
And the fatherland is free!

Then shout hurrah! Then shout hurrah!
Let us sound their praises loud.
Our Soldiers are victorious
And of them we are proud!

Hurrah! Hurrah! Our land you save!
Hurrah! Hurrah! Our flag shall wave!
Hurrah! Hurrah! Our heroes brave!
Dr. Aurelia Alex Mad Murakoff Manka
(Spoken)  Hurrah! Hurrah!! Hurrah!!!
" Long live our Heroes!!!
(The Girls pass through soldiers to officers
and form one large semi-circle- on final note
of music, the girls curtsy - flags held as
aprons.

[ALEXIUSS and POPOFF slightly incline their
heads]

No 8.  SEXETTE & CHORUS "The war is Over"

No enemy lives when Alexius is nigh
In battles I'm always victorious,
No hero of old more courageous than I,
Not one ever lived half so glorious.
The deeds I have done I can scarcely believe,
My foes how they grieve;
You cannot conceive!
I tell you the truth, for I never deceive!
I never deceive!

MASSAKROFF, ALEXIUSS, POPOFF, MALE CHORUS.

Never deceive!

you
Our enemies all have put to the rout!
Of that there's no doubt!

MADINA, MADHA, AURELIA, FEMALE CHORUS
Of that there's no doubt.

(GROUS dawde C and comes foward
in four lines)

Your praises, great heroes, full loudly you shout,
Of that there's no doubt!

A hero must go without sleep without rest.
I always was first in the fighting.

That's true? Certainly! For I forced you to.

AURELIA
You thought of me only when you were away?
The truth, tell I pray.

By night and by day.

I trust this is true for I trusted in you.

MASCHA, NADINA, AURELIA, FEMALE CHORUS.
I hope (she hopes) this is true; for I (for she) trusted in you.

ALEXIUS

When they saw me charging, they all of them hid sir. I cut them to pieces, My Heaven I did, sir.

POPOFF

You did! Assuredly you did!
Thank the Lord the war is over;
(MASCHA crosses to MASSA : L. NADINA & ALEXIUS go up C.)

Now our heroes are in clover;
All the fighting finished; done!
We're prepared for love and fun.
So away with melancholy,
Let us kiss and all be jolly.
We will sing and dance and play,
Both night and day.

(OMNES do a dance movement with above)

ALEXIUS

(NADINA)

(Come down C.)
We both adore heroic deeds,
'Tis little that the hero needs;
If you forever sound his praise,
Then he'll be happy all his days.

ALEXIUS

Oh, lucky maiden then is she,
Whom fate permits my bride to be.

NADINA

(Aside)
The outlooks not so very bright
For me it holds no great delight.
POPOFF

Thank the Lord the war is over
Now we heroes are in clover.
All the fighting finished, done,
We're prepared for love and fun.
So away with melancholy,
Let us kiss and all be jolly!
We will sing and dance and play,
Both night and day.

ALL PRINCIPALS & CHORUS
(With dance movement)

Thank the Lord the war is over,
Now we (these) heroes are in clover,
All the fighting, finished, done,
We're prepared for love and fun.
So away with melancholy, let us kiss and all be jolly,
We will sing and dance and play,
Both night and day!
With care away!
Sing, dance and play,
Night and day!
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!!!
(Girls go up to men)
Long live our Heroes.

NADINA

(To ALEXIUS) My hero!

ALEXIUS

(With folded arms)

AURELIA

(To POPOFF) My hero!

POPOFF

(Same Bus: as ALEXIUS)

NADINA

(To ALEXIUS, hurt) You are not very demonstrative.

ALEXIUS

(L.C.) I am never-demonstrative.
AURELIA
(To POPOFF) Can’t you even pretend to be affectionate?

POPOFF
(Laughing) When you’ve caught your hare, the chase is over. (CHORUS laugh)
(Bidden change of manner as he sees NASCHA down L. very unctuous)
Ah, Mascha, my pretty cousin!
(Starts to go to her, with arms outstretched)

AURELIA
(Seizes him by sword, puts him on her L.)
That’s a hare you don’t chase. The season for cousins is closed.
(CHORUS laugh)

POPOFF
(R.C.) Alexius, what say you to that? (Poses)

ALEXIUS
(Posing) Thes season for heroes is never closed

POPOFF
Did you hear that?

AURELIA
I heard it. But your license has run out. (CHORUS laugh)

ALEXIUS
(L.C.) Colonel Popoff! (Salute)

POPOFF
(R.C.) Major Spiridoff! (Salute)

ALEXIUS
It was agreed between us that if I came back victorious your daughter should become my wife on the day of my return.

POPOFF
You’re right.

ALEXIUS
I am never wrong. Am I, Nadina?
Alex Nad Potoff
Anochia Marcha

Stage Band play march
so from house to G there
of at gates to L and
ever bridge preceded by
Soldiers... followed by

Manakoff, Officers... girls... peasants
NADINA

(I. of ALEXIUS with feeling)
Never, Alexius, never.

POPOFF

(R.C.) I'm never wrong, am I, Aurelia?

AURELIA

(On his R. with deep conviction)
Always Nasimir, always. (CHORUS laugh)

POPOFF

Always? Remember, I married you!

AURELIA

You were right then.

POPOFF

No - I was left. (CHORUS laugh)
Friends, we'll celebrate this joyous occasion!

(A. C. laugh)

CHORUS

(With delight) Ah!

POPOFF

(Later!

CHORUS

(Disappointed) Oh!!

POPOFF

I invite you all to be present, at the wedding daughter.

CHORUS

Hurrah! Hurrah!

(MASSAKROFF g. e. c. Salutes POPOFF, ALEXIUS - follows band u. c.)

(MASSAKROFF goes L. MASSAKROFF, MALE and FEMALE chorus march off 44 through gates; using for exit March of No. 5. MASCHA sits L. on bench. POPOFF goes L. AURELIA L.G. ALEXIUS goes R. NADINA goes on his L. regards him in a worshipping attitude. He smiles condescendingly)

(ALEXIUS cross to NADINA, POPOFF cross to AURELIA, MASCHA cross and sits)
POPOFF

(Stretching himself) Ah, what I need is a long drink, and a long, long sleep.

AURELIA

(Coyly and sweetly) Nothing else, Kasimir?

POPOFF

(I looks at her) Yes, a good hearty dinner.

(AURELIA falls back a little)

(Suddenly fumbles with sword belt)

Mascha, help me to get rid of this sword.

(AURELIA views him frigidly)

MASCHA

(Springing up goes to him) Yes, Cousin, dear.

(Unbuckles belt, takes off sword)

POPOFF

(Patting her cheek) Ah, you grow prettier every day. Oh, you Rogue, (Pats her cheek)

AURELIA

(Starnly) Kasimir!

(POPOFF falls back, then down L)

(MASCHA C. with sword laughing)

MASCHA

(Cross to AURELIA) Mischievously)

Aurelia, don't be so foolish, he's my cousin, I after all.

AURELIA

(I. significantly) Yes, after all expresses it exactly.

(MASCHA EXITS in house L. laughing)

For an old man, you surprise me.

POPOFF

For an old man, I surprise myself.

(Indicates NADINA and ALEXIUS)

Look, isn't that a perfect picture?

(AURELIA crosses to R.C.)

NADINA

My hero! (Holds out her left hand)

(ALEXIUS smiles, slightly inclines his head dubiously, POPOFF looks off L.I. suddenly sees something that greatly interests him, goes near L.I. AURELIA C.)

NADINA

ALEXIUS, do you believe in the higher love?
ALEXIKUS

The highest!
(SITS on bench R.)

AURELIA

(Goes R. of POPOFF, tenderly)
Kasimir, do you believe in the higher love?

POPOFF

(Booking off L.I.) Yes, yes, who is the pretty girl on top of that ladder?

AURELIA

(Acidly) Never mind her, listen to me.

POPOFF

(With delight to AURELIA)
Why, she's Katinka - little Katinka. I must hold that ladder till she comes down. It's dangerous. She might fall!
(Calls off)
Katinka, don't move till I reach you. I'll help you down.
(EXITs L.I.)

AURELIA

(Angry) Kasimir! You old fool, come here!
(EXITs L.I.)

NADINA

(Sits L. of ALEXIKUS, sighs)
I ought to be very proud of you.

ALEXIKUS

Indeed you ought.

NADINA

Are you proud of me?

ALEXIKUS

I am nevr proud.

NADINA

(Rises, hurt) You forget yourself.

ALEXIKUS

I nevr forget mysehf.

NADINA

(Goes C. bitterly)
At least, that's true.
ALEXIUS: You never before spoke to me like this. *(Goes on her R.)*
Have you ceased to love me?

NADINA: *(Puzzled)* I don't know. I try to feel towards you the same as I have always felt; I admire your picture and wear your ring, but— *(Indicates ring on her engagement finger)*

ALEXIUS: Any girl would consider herself most lucky to be my future wife.

NADINA: You, certainly, have every good opinion of yourself.

No. 9. DUET ALEXIUS AND NADINA

"Never was there such a lover".

ALEXIUS: For ever I am undefeated.

NADINA: Perhaps that's why he's so conceited.

ALEXIUS: I never make the least concession;

NADINA: That's why he leaves a bad impression.

ALEXIUS: I never care what folks are thinking;

NADINA: That's why I see them winking.

ALEXIUS: On ev'ry pleasure quickly seizing,
I never do what is displeasing. *(Takes two steps L. When I say "I'll marry you")*

NADINA: Must I be delighted?
Should I say "You will not do".

ALEXIUS: Then you are benighted
When I say "your love is here".

NADINA: Must I be enchanted?
Should I say "I thank you dear?"

ALEXIUS: That I take for granted,
Never am I under cover,
Never was there such a lover,
Never was there suhh a lover!

REFRAIN
(Crossing R.)
My Maiden's heart it jumps!
It thumps! It bumps!

(Going to L.)
My hero's heart ties out "Hooray"
Oh, happy happy wedding day.

TOGETHER (Both C.)
My maiden's heart it jumps!
It thumps! It bumps!
It's beating fast; it's beating slow,
But why it does, I'd like to know.

ALEXUS
My hero's heart it jumps,
It thumps!
It's beating fast; it's beating slow
But why it does, I'd like to know.

2nd Verse.

ALEXUS
I never am myself denying.
Perhaps that's what makes him do trying.

NADINA
I never cheat myself of pleasure,
I think I'm getting now, his measure

ALEXUS
I never could you be deceiving,

(Smiling) Excuse me, that's past all believing.

NADINA
I never falter, never waver
I never ask any favour! (NADINA Goes up to him)

ALEXUS
Should I say to you "good-day"

NADINA
You will not, I'm certain
Bid your hero go away.

ALEXUS
Then let's drop the curtain.

NADINA
Never am I under cover
Never was there such a lover
Never was there such a lover.
(Repeat refrain as before)

(At end of duet, NADINA runs into rose garden L.I.)

ALEXUS
(Goes R.twirling his moustache)
All women are simply crazy to get me.
(ENTERS through arch L.U. followed by STEPHAN and KATINKA who bring table, as described in propes. She goes R.C. up stage)

Place the table there.
(Indicating C. SERVANT: place table C.
She gets chair from R. of C., gate, places it at L. end of table. During this TUS:) Kasimir wants his breakfast out here—he’s so used to camping out. You look tired, Major?
(Slyly)

ALEXIUS

I'm never tired

MASCHA

Indeed! (Laughes)
Hurry Katinka, with the coffee. Stephan, don't forget the brandy.

(STEPHAN and KATINKA EXEUNT in house R. She bustes herself rear of table, looking out of the corner of her eye smilingly at ALEXIUS)

ALEXIUS

(Smiling vainly)
Mascha, do you believe in the higher love?

MASCHA

(Behind table C.) I Don't believe in anything. I can't see. Give me something to take hold of.

ALEXIUS

Just so. One needs a little recreation now and then, eh?
(Smiles at her)

MASCHA

(Busy at table) Nadina thinks so.

ALEXIUS

(Suspiciously) What do you mean by that?

MASCHA

(Goes to him) Would you really like to know?

ALEXIUS

Yes.

MASCHA

(Snippishly) Then I won't tell you. (Goes C.)
ALEXIUS  (Goes on her R.)  
You are jealous of Nadina, you wanted me yourself.

MASCHA  
You flirted with me even after you were engaged to Nadina.

ALEXIUS  
You enjoyed it, didn’t you?

MASCHA  
Of course I did; I’ll flirt with you now, if you like.

NADINA  (ENTERS down L.I.E.)  
Mascha, isn’t the breakfast ready yet?

MASCHA  
It will be very soon.  
(Goes back of table, makes face)

NADINA  (CROSSES to L. of ALEXIUS)  
Poor Alexius must be very hungry.

ALEXIUS  I am never hungry – but what have you got?

AURELIA  (ENTERS from house L.)  
Well them to hurry Mascha, Kasimir’s coming.

MASCHA  Poor Kasimir! If he only knew!  
(Runs off through arch L.U. laughing)  

(AURELIA goes back of table)

POPOFF  (ENTERS from house L.)  
Well, what are we waiting for?

AURELIA  In a minute, dear. They’re getting the coffee.

NADINA  (To ALEXIUS)  That uniform must be very uncomfortable?

ALEXIUS  I am never uncomfortable?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALEXIUS</th>
<th>You have no military spirit.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>(Goes to chair L. end of table, laughing) No he enjoys it!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>(Goes to chair R. end of table)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>(Sits L. end of table) No, thank Heaven! You've got enough for both and to spare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASCHA</td>
<td>(Enters L.U. with tray on which are coffee pot, decanter of brandy. She places them on table.) Here we are!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AURELIA</td>
<td>(Chuckling) There's the girl for me!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>Well, Aurelia, how have you been during my absence?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AURELIA</td>
<td>Oh, I've had one cold after the other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>(Decidedly) That comes from taking a bath every month! Am I right, Alexius.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>Our best Bulgarian families deem the injudicious use of water, both externally and internally, very bad form; and my physician considers it most debilitating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>There you are! Take for example my father. Since boyhood he never put a drop of water inside or outside of him, and he never had a cold in all his life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>He is a very strong man.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POPOFF
Yes, and growing stronger every day!

NADINA
Papa, tell us about the cavalry charge at Slivinski.

POPOFF
(Laughing) No, let Alexius tell you — he loves to talk about himself.  (Laughing)

ALEXIUS
I never talk about —

MASCHA
(Interrupting as she hands him coffee)
Anything else?  (DUS:)

ALEXIUS
(Sternly) Thank you — no!

NADINA
Please tell us, Alexius.

ALEXIUS
If you wish it, certainly.
(Demonstrating with glasses on table)
There were the enemy's batteries; here stood here stood our cavalry; [ - at their head. Suddenly a voice within me cried out: "Capture the Servian cannon, Alexius, capture them!" No sooner said then done — and do you know why?

NADINA
(Marked emphasis) Because Servians couldn't fire their guns. plate Bus

POPOFF
(Drops his cup, coughs violently, laughing)

ALEXIUS
(Rises) What do you mean to imply?

NADINA
(Laughing) Imply? Oh, nothing. (Bits)

POPOFF
(Laughing) Nadina guessed right, Alexius. The Swiss told us th Servians (all look at each other)
didn't have the proper ammunition.

(ALEXIUS) That wasn't my fault.

AURELIA

A Swiss?

POPOFF

(Stirring coffee)

Yes, but a jolly good fellow, and clever, too! He was with the Servian commissary department. We met him after the war was over, and he introduced us to a lot of women.

(Forgetting himself, laughs. Suddenly stops)

(MASCHA laughs)

AURELIA

(Rises, to POPOFF) Woman?

NADINA

(Rises to ALEXIUS) Women?

POPOFF

Oh, they were all old and ugly - weren't they, ALEXIUS?

ALEXIUS

Very old and ugly.

AURELIA

I don't believe you. (Sits)

NADINA

(Majestically to ALEXIUS) You, ALEXIUS, whom I thought of by day and dreamed of by night.

(MASCHA mischievously laughs.)

ALEXIUS

(Insinuatingly) Without any recreation?

NADINA

(Slightly nervous) What do you mean to imply?

ALEXIUS

Imply? Oh, nothing. (NADINA resumes her seat)

MASKHA

(R.) Tell us more about the Swiss.
He seems to interest you?

Oh, he did.

What?

I mean — he does.

Oh! (Sit)

(Laughing) He was a funny dog; that Bumerli.

Bumerli?— {

(Laughing) Yes. Oh, the stories he told us.

Alexius, you remember the one about his escape after the Slinski affair?

You mean his adventure with the three Bulgarian woman whose names he would not reveal? (Laugh)

(MASCHA, NADINA, AURELIA, sit)

(Laughing) That's the one.

(laugh) He was running away from us when he was seized by one of our officers, Massakroff, whose face he slapped — broke away and eluded his pursuers by climbing up to and entering the sleeping apartment of a pretty Bulgarian miss who his and protected him.

(Laugh heartily)

She fell in love with him because he was the only man she'd seen in years.

NADINA, MASCHA, AURELIA.

Shocking!!!
1st: **hadria Amelina mashua (gestures)**

2nd: **hadria plate buemi**
   - Amelina
   - mashua dust dress

3rd: **hadria Chai, bus**
   - mashua foot bus; Amelina bottle bus.
(Laughing) The fair lady received him in her night robe. Then her mother and a girl friend got on the scent, and the three fought as to who should take care of him. (Laughs)

ALEXIU(Laughing) He said the young lady's friend sat on the bed with him.

MASCHE (Rises) She did not! I mean (BUS) no lady would.

ALEXIUH said the maiden in the night robe kissed him. (laughs)

NADINA (Rises) It's a lie! That is - I don't believe it. Sit

POPOFF (Laughingly) puts cup down. (Rises) Then he said the mother, whom he described as a flirtatious old dame, held his hand and stroked his hair. (Almost dies laughing)

AURELIA (Rises) The impertinent puppy! (Sits)

POPOFF (Almost choking with laughter) And when he left in the morning the flirtatious one disguised him in her husband's house-coat, saying: "the old fool he'd never know." (Suffocates with laughter) Wasn't that funny?

AURELIA Not very funny for the old fool.

POPOFF Well, I think I'll put on my house coat. (all stand)

ALEXIU(Almost goes to house!) Rises, come with me. I want to discuss the marriage settlements. Ah, the old fool!! (EXITS In house L. Long scene BUS: ALEXIUS, MADINA, AURELIA) All rise)

ALEXIUH (Salutes) Pardon me.

(EXITS in house L. During following scene STEPHAN and KATINKA ENTER) replace chairs
(in their original positions and take table off L.U. arch)

(Goes down L.) Bumerli! This is a fine mess!

(Goes down R.) Bumerli! Whose life I saved!

Bumerli! A boomerang! (C.)

He left wearing Kasimir's coat and never returned it. Oh, if Kasimir should suspect - discover!

Or Alexis!

What about the coat?

(Off L.) Aurelia, where's is my house-coat?

AURELIA, NADINA, MASCHA

Oh, Heaven!

(Off L.) Aurelia.

COMING, DEAR.

(EXITS in house L.)

POPOFF

Mascha!

COMING, KASIMIR, COMING.

(EXITS in house L.)

NADINA

(Going near bench R.)

Oh, that confounded coat will ruin everything.

BUMERLI

(ENTERS C. from L. Wears smart uniform, carries small dress suit case, sees her. Places suit case C. up stage, comes down quickly L. of NADINA)
BUMERLI: Dear lady—

NADINA: (Sees him) You—ah! (Faints in his arms)

BUMERLI: How she loves me! (Seats her on bench R.)

NADINA! Nadina! She hears me not! (Starts to go C.)

MASCHA: (Enters hurriedly from house L., goes to C.) Here's a fine kettle of fish! (Sees Bumerli)

BUMERLI: Don't faint! Don't faint!

MASCHA: You—ah! (Faints in his arms)

BUMERLI: She loves me too! (Takes her to chair L. sits her on chair) Bumerli, you ought to be ashamed of yourself.

NADINA: (Unconsious—tremulously) O-o-oh!

BUMERLI: (Runs to Nadina)

She's coming to? No, she's not. (Starts for house L.)

AURELIA: (Enters from house L. hysterical) That coat! Oh dear, what shall I do? (Sees him, shrieks)

You—ah! (Faints in his arms)

BUMERLI: (Desperately) They all love me.

MASCHA: (Recover—rise.) Wretch!

NADINA: (Recover—rise.) Wretch!

AURELIA, NADINA, MASCHA.

Miscreant, how dare you return?
(NADINA on his R. AURELIA in front of him, MASCHA on his L. push him up towards C. gates) Go away! Go at once. Get out! Get out!

(Up C.) Wait, dear ladies, wait! I came to return the coat you so generously lent me.

NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA.
The coat!

Where is it?

(BUMERLI with valise) Comes down C. In here!

(About to open valise, AURELIA on his R. NADINA on his R. MASCHA on NADINA’s R.)

POPOFF (ENTERS from house L. MASCHA goes L., he goes L.) Where is— oh, where is my coat?

BUMERLI (Forgetting, indicating valise) In—

POPOFF (Throwing up his arms) You!!!

BUMERLI (C.) Don’t faint, don’t faint.

POPOFF (L.C.) Laughs. Ta funny Swiss. (Goes to him, shakes hands) My dear Bumerli, did you expect to find me in?

BUMERLI I didn’t expect to find you out, you old rascal.

POPOFF (Crosses to C. BUMERLI goes L.C.) You young rogue! I must introduce you to my family.

(Aindicating AURELIA on his R.) This is my old lady. (BUMERLI salutes)

AURELIA Kasimir.
POPOFF

(Apologetically) I mean the old lady is my wife.

(Indicates NADINA R. of AURELIA)

This is my daughter, NADINA,

(BUMERLI salutes. She bows stiffly)

And my cousin Mascha, a very nice girl.

(MASCHA curtsseys elaborately)

BUMERLI

Charmed, dear ladies. (Bow-ing)

POPOFF

You're just in time for the fun. You must remain with us until after the wedding.

BUMERLI

(With dread) What wedding?

POPOFF

The wedding of my daughter Nadina, to the heir of Slivinski Alexius Spiridoff!

BUMERLI

(Quietly)

I'm afraid I can't! (Picks up valise)

POPOFF

(Goes to him, snatches bag from his right hand)

Nonsense, you must. Give me your valise.

AURELIA

No! I'll take that valise.

(Takes it from Popoff, stares angrily at BUMERLI) EXIT house L.

POPOFF

(Laughs) To BUMERLI.

You've made a hit with the old lady. (laugh) she took a fancy to you at first sight.

BUMERLI

How do you know? - I mean I hope so.

MASCHA

No does Nadina.

(Goes L. of POPOFF, takes him arm)

Yes, he's got to stay. Hasn't he Cousin Kasimir?

(The strokes his chin)
(laughs) Of course. You—you—oh, come along.  
(They EXEUNT in house L.)

Bumerli  
(C.) Dear lady—

Nadina  
Don't speak to me.  
(Crosses to L.)

Bumerli  
(R.C.) What have I done?

Nadina  
(L.C.) Why did you tell my father the story of our meeting?

Bumerli  
To prevent me from ever seeing you again.

Nadina  
Then why did come?

Bumerli  
Because I couldn't keep away. For your sake I'd become even a hero.

Nadina  
(Goes C.) A hero—you—a chocolate soldier?

Bumerli  
At least you could eat me. Wouldn't you like to?

Nadina  
I don't like your kind of chocolate!  
No. 11. DUET—THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER.

Nadina  
To tell the truth, I never knew, There were heroes such as you.

Bumerli  
Really, I am not unsightly.

Nadina  
But you act most impolitely.  
To tell the truth you will not: do Heroes never were like you.

Bumerli  
Now, I know you're only chaffing;
NADINA | Such a soldier sets me laughing.  
A soldier is brave, sir!

BUMERLI | That am I (Salute)

NADINA | To ladies a slave, sir!

BUMERLI | That am I!

NADINA | His foes all affrighting,  
His sweethearts delighting.

BUMERLI | Affrighting,  
delighting!

NADINA | A soldier must fight; sir!  
When he must.

BUMERLI | Be he wrong or right, sir!  
I am just.

NADINA | He sword he draws first, sir,  
For blood he does thirst, sir.

BUMERLI | I am first!  
And I thirst!

REFRAIN.

NADINA | Ei! Ei!  
In battle a soldier am I.

NADINA | Oh, yes. A chocolate soldier man.  
Oh, you little chocolate soldier man  
You're far too sweet and pretty.  
Oh, you funny chocolate soldier man,  
For you I feel great pity.  
Oh, you silly chocolate soldier man  
Just made to please young misses,  
So sweet you'd melt, if you ever felt,  
A full grown maiden's kisses.

(She repeats above)

BUMERLI | (During above) I'm her chocolate soldier man.
She thinks me sweet and pretty,
I'm her chocolate soldier man
For me she feels great pity.
I'd like to try your kisses. (Balance in score)
(She pushes him off)

Good-bye, I can't witness your marriage to another.
(C. Before you go, please return my photograph.

(Astonished) Your photograph?

Yes, my photograph. I wrote on it "From Nadina

to her Chocolate soldier", and placed in the
pocket of my father's house coat. Didn't you
find it?

No! I placed the contain our family vault
until I could safely return it.

(Alarmed) Then my picture is still in the
pocket?

I suppose so.

(Falls back)
Oh, if my father finds it I am ruined.
(Goes R. sinks on bench, covers face with
hands)

(ENTRIES from house L. not seeing MASCHA and NADINA)
Mr Bumerli, you - you can't remain here.

I realise the impossibility.

But before you go return my portrait.

(Starts, stagers up stage R.)
Yours, too? I'll bet you wrote on it.

(Smiles) I did. "From Aurelia to her poor dear.
(Goes on her R.) And placed it in the pocket of Kasimir's house coat.

Yes.

Well, it's still there!

(Astounded - blinking her eyes)
Oh, if he finds it I'm ruined.

If he finds it, we're all ruined.
(Aside) That's more than I am!

(Grabs BUMERLI on shoulder)

You'll stir up things a bit for us, won't you?

It looks that way!

(Crossing to bench R)

Oh, it feels good to be home again.

(He sits on bench R. BUMERLI near him on his L., MADINA comes down R.C. AURELIA C. MASCHA comes down L.C. ALEXIUS sits L.)

No. 12 - SEVENTH :- MADINA, BUMERLI, MASCHA ALEXIUS AURELIA, POPOFF.

"THE TALE OF A COAT".

Oh, I tell you there's no greater pleasure
Than when you're completely at your ease.
When all things you take at your leisure
And do just whatever you please.

BUMERLI, MADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA, ALEXIUS.

Oh, I tell you there's no greater pleasure,
Than when you're completely at your ease.

POPOFF

When all things you take at your leisure
And do just whatever you please.

NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA. (Aside)
If in his pocket he should feel
My doom at once he'd quickly seal.

MASCHA

My picture's there.

(Aside) I'm in distress.

BUMERLI, MADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA. (Aside)
Indeed this is a pretty mess.
NADINA, MASCHA

(Aside) My picture's there!
   Oh! what a mess!

NUMERLI, NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA
Oh, most unlucky coat!

POPOFF
Oh, comfortable coat!

POPOFF
Oh, I tell you there's no greater pleasure
   Than when you're completely at your ease;
When all things you do at your leisure
   And do just whatever you please.

NUMERLI, NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA, ALEXIUS.
Oh, I tell you there's no greater pleasure
   Than when you're completely at your ease.
When all things you find at your leisure,
   And do just whatever you please.
   Pipes of peace now we'll be smoking
   Let's forget all else in joking.

(MUS: with pipe, packing tobacco down.)

NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA  (Aside)
If in his pocket he should feel
   Our doom he once he'd quickly seal.

NADINA
(As before) My picture's there -

MASCHA
(As before) I'm in distress.

AURELIA, NUMERLI, NADINA, MASCHA  (Aside)
Indeed this is a pretty mess.

NADINA, MASCHA.  (Aside)
My picture's there -
   Oh! what a mess!

ENSEMBLE
NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA
Oh, most comfortable coat.

POPOFF
(Down R.) All would be right
If I now had a light,
A-ha. (Rise)

(Is about to put L. hand in pocket of coat - NADINA, AURELIA, MASCHA almost collapse.)

BUMERLI
(Grasps POPOFF's L. arm firmly with his R.)
Hold!

POPOFF
(Scarred) What's wrong? What is it that you fear?

BUMERLI
(Produce match safe)
You need a match sir,
It is here!
(Strikes match)

POPOFF
Many thanks, oh, many thanks.
Many thanks, many thanks.
(BUMERLI hands him match, he lights pipe)

NADINA
((C) To BUMERLI) Many thanks. (Relieved)

AURELIA
(Same BUS:) Many thanks!

MASCHA
(Same BUS:) Many thanks!

NADINA? AURELIA, MASCHA
We did that very well.

BUMERLI
I did that very well.

ENSEMBLE
NADINA
He did that very well:
He did that very well: (All up stage and down again)

AURELIA
He did that very well,
He did that very well.

MASCHA
Yes, did that very well, He did that very well,
BUMERLI | I did that very well.  
Yes, did that very well.  

POPOFF | (Sneezes)  
Kerchew! Kerchew!  

AUERLIA, BUMERLI, NADINA, MASCHA, ALEXIUS.  
Here's your very good health!  

POPOFF | If I catch cold there's no relief.  
Where is, where is my handkerchief?  
(About to put hand in L. pocket.)  

BUMERLI | (Seizes his arm as before)  
Hold!  
(Cross to L. of POPOFF)  

POPOFF | Again? what is it that you fear?  

BUMERLI | (Producing silk handkerchief)  
You need a handkerchief - this here.  

POPOFF | I have my own, Kerchew! Kerchew!  

BUMERLI | Pray, you take mine, oh do; oh do!  
(POPOFF takes handkerchief.)  
Many thanks!  

NADINA | (To BUMERLI) Many thanks!  

MASCHA | Many thanks!  

AUERLIA | Many thanks!  

NADINA, AUERLIA, MASCHA.  
He did that very well!  

BUMERLI | I did that very well.  

ENSEMBLE | He did that very well.  
He did that very well.
AURELIA
He did that very well.
He did that very well.

MASCOTA
He did that very well,
He did that very well.

BUBEKLI
I did that very well.
I did that very well.

ALEXUS
(Who has been watching the proceedings critically, rises from his seat L.L.) Nadina!

NADINA
(Fearfully) Alexius!

MASCHA
Oh, timid modest maid!

POPOFF
(Rises—suspicious) Aurelia!

AURELIA
(Frightened) Kasimir?

MASCHA
(To ALEXUS on his L.) I think they're both afraid.

ALEXUS
Nadina!(He crosses to her L, MASCHA goes L.)
It did not take me long, dear,
To know that something's wrong, dear.
Pray tell me, don’t decline.

NADINA
IT's no concern of mine.
( Goes up stage, followed by BUBEKLI)

POPOFF
(Crosses to R. of AURELIA)
Not did it take me long? dear,
To guess that something's wrong, dear —
Pray tell me, don't decline.

AURELIA
It's no concern of mine. ( Goes up stage)

ALEXUS
'Tis something very wrong.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Character(s)</th>
<th>Lines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>Yes, something very wrong.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>I will find out ere long -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>I will find out ere long -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>It may call for our vengeance dire.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>Yes, may call for our vengeance dire.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>This does me much upset.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>I'll make them all regret.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>Yes, make them all regret.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>This does me much upset.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>POPOFF</td>
<td>Take care! Beware! Don't play with fire!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>(MASCHA comes down L.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>(Goes to MASCHA L.) Pray have no fear, Come tell me, dear. What is wrong here!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MASCHA</td>
<td>(Pretended innocence) I nothing know. (Crosses to C.)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALEXIUS</td>
<td>That is not so! You lie! You lie! It did not take me long dear, To know that something's wrong, dear, Pray tell me, don't decline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MASCHA</td>
<td>It's no concern of mine. (She crosses to R.C. ALEXIUS and POPOFF C. BUMERI comes down on Mascha's R.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There's something very wrong.

Yes, something very wrong.

I will find out ere long!

I will find out ere long!

(To Mascha) Mascha, don't tell tales out of school.

Am I a fool.

But not their fool.

Tis something very wrong.

Yes, something very wrong.

I will find out ere long.

I will find out ere long.

(MADINA comes down L. of POPOFF; AURELIA comes down rear of POPOFF; MASCHA goes on his R.)

Beware, you play with fire.

(Positions: Bumerli, Mascha, Aurelia, Popoff, Nadina, Alexius)

(T. of Popoff)

Kindly tell me what is the matter. Would you have our dear friends all chatter?

(Grandiloquently) Why should they chatter?

Why should they chatter? To the wedding, they're invited.
POPOFF
To see our friends, I shall be most delighted.

(R.) What, in that coat? Twould never do!

POPOFF
(Aside) There’s something wrong which must be righted; what if my wife should prove untrue.

(MASCHA, AURELIA, NADINA. R. of him, try to remove his coat)

MASCHA, AURELIA, NADINA.
No, no, no, no, no, no.
To wear that coat would never do!

POPOFF
(Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.
Oh, if my wife should prove untrue?

MASCHA, AURELIA, NADINA.
It will not do, it will not do.

POPOFF
(Aside) Oh, if my wife should prove untrue!
(After Nadina has taken photo, POPOFF goes R. of ALEXIUS.)

(During following music, MASCHA, AURELIA, NADINA strive to remove coat from POPOFF.
They don’t succeed, but MASCHA gets NADINA’s photo from one coat pocket while
NADINA gets MASCHA’s photo from another pocket, which they secrete unseen without
looking at photos, AURELIA assures her own. POPOFF goes R. of ALEXIUS L.)

MASCHA
(Aside) My honor’s saved.

NADINA
(Aside) once more care-free.

MASCHA, AURELIA, NADINA.
Now, we can happy, happy be.
(They laugh)

ENSEMBLE

MASCHA, AURELIA, NADINA.
We did that very well,
We did that very well!
Yes, did that very well.
Indeed, yes, very well.
We did that very well.
Ball
Entire Chorus
& Bridesmaids
Madina

Warning for Chorus

X Call
What do they think of that?
I think they smell a rat,
A rodent large at that.
I think they smell a rat,
Yes, smell a great big rat.

What do you think of that
I think I smell a rat
A rodent large at that,
I think I smell a rat,
Yes smell a great big rat!

(After SEXTET MASCHA runs off L.2.
AURELIA L.C., MADAIA L., BUMERLI sits on bench R., lighting a cigarette. POPOFF and ALEXIUS L.C. shake their heads dubiously)

These women have been up to something.

Something? Everything!

Wait, I have an idea. BUMERLI shall ferret out the truth. He's a smart one.

Too smart for us.

Broach the subject.

I never broach!

(Cross to R.) Bumerli, you're very clever.

(Rather surprised) Who told you that?

I did.

Then, you do know something.
POPOFF
Have you noticed anything peculiar about the
women of my household?

BUMERLI
(Positively) I have.

POPOFF
(What) (Quickly)

& ALEXIUS
I suspect -

POPOFF
Yes?

& ALEXIUS
That they're all right.

BUMERLI
(Katinka L.I.E. appears)

ALEXIUS
(Crossing to R. of BUMERLI)
I'll interrogate Mascha.
(EXITs in courtyard)

POPOFF
And I'll investigate.
(EXITs L.I.E. after Katinka)

BUMERLI
(Throws away cigarettes)
And I'll find out what time the twelve thirty
train leaves.
(Rises, starts to go up R.C)

NADINA
(ENTERS from L.C.) What have you told my father?
(Goes L.C.)

BUMERLI
Nothing. Farewell.

NADINA
(Slizzingly) You are saying "good-bye" again?

BUMERLI
(Seriously) Oh, if you had only loved me.

NADINA
How do you know, I don't?

BUMERLI
Marry one man while loving another? Impossible.
Ball

Aurelia
Popoff
Marsha Photo
Bumerli
Madelia
Alexius
Massakoff
NADINA: Not at all. It's quite usual, I assure you.

No. 13 - DUET.

"THAT WOULD BE LOVELY"

BUMERLI: I never loved before dear; That's why I am so sad.

NADINA: If you could make that clear, dear; Then would my heart be glad.

BUMERLI: But you must wed another And I must sigh alone

NADINA: Yes, I must wed another, Leave you to grieve and moan.

BUMERLI: But if you were my wife You would most happy be Yes, very happy be.

NADINA: Be happy all my life If you were wed to me?

BUMERLI: Of that there is no doubt! I know what I'm about! Each morning you should have a kiss, At mid-day two, maybe. Then at night - if you were polite, Perhaps I'd give you three. Each morning you should have a kiss, At mid-day two, maybe - And if at night, you were polite Perhaps I'd give you three.

NADINA: That would most lovely be.

BUMERLI: That would most lovely be.

NADINA: The maiden said "I'm sorry, A hero, I must wed."
BUMERLI
Her lover said "Don't worry, Be glad you are not dead."

NADINA
The time is drawing nearer, The bells full soon will ring, To me you're growing dearer, The bells will sorrow bring.

NADINA
May be, and so would you;

BUMERLI
Then let him go; take me, You'll happy be; With me! He will leave you; That's true!

NADINA
Betray you; run away;

NADINA
There's plenty ev'ry day, So listen now, I pray. Each morning I can win a man, At mid-day two maybe, axi Then at night, if things go/right For ev'ry finger three. Each morning I can win a man Or any time I try. And so farewell, my dearest friend Adieu, also good-bye!

BUMERLI
Adieu — also good-bye!

NADINA
Adieu — also good-bye!

NADINA
Adieu — also good-bye.

(Dance in which BUMERLI pantomimes how many kisses he would give her — almost getting one. NADINA pantomimes how many men she would win it she even raises her little finger) BUMERLI sits on chair R. NADINA runs off L. I. E. then re-enters)
Call
Soldiers
Flag Bearers
Massakoh

8 Peasant girls enter & form a ring.
8 Peasant men enter & form a ring.
8 Officers & girls enter & form a ring.
and go down L. forming circles.
8 Officers & girls enter & form a ring.
and go down R. forming circles.
NADINA: Mr. Bumerli, Mr. Bumerli.
(Produces photo of MASCHA)
I'll give you my picture again, if you promise
not to put it in the family vault.
(Looks at photo, starts)
What's this? (Reads)
"Mascha to the Swiss who could go far once without"
Without what?

BUMERLI: (Embarrassed) These.
(Indicates trousers)

NADINA: (Enraged) Mascha gave this to you?

BUMERLI: She placed it in Kasimir's coat. Let me explain -

NADINA: (Going to house L.I.) There is nothing to
explain. (Nothing!!)
(EXIT L.)

BUMERLI: Nadina! Nadina!
(EXIT L.)

No. 14. FINALE.

(Male and Female Chorus and small parts. As
they ENTER and go to positions) CHORUS in
outer and inner circle, more in opposite direc-
tions)

People! People! ENTER in!
Soon the feasting will begin;

CHORUS: People! People! Enter in
Soon the feasting will begin. (Men turn girls round
Wedding bells will ring out gay
Our Nadina weds to-day. (Change hands turn af

(Turn and move other way round)

Wedding bells will ring on gay, (ENTER AURELIA)
Our Nadina weds to-day. Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray!!

AURELIA: My mother's heart it jumps, it bumps; it thumps.

POPOFF: My father's heart is light and gay. My father!
heart cries out hoo-ray.

(ENTER AURELIA and NADINA)

AURELIA

My mother's heart (My father's) it jumps, it thumps, it bumps!! Its beating fast it's beating slow, but why it is, I'd like to know.

(Performing "Russian Dance"

Sung: - Hi hi- hi hi!! hi hi - hi hi!!

(Finish) Hi!!

[Bars to position then CHORUS:]

"THE CHURCH BELLS"

CHORUS

The Church bells are ringing
Of love they are singing
Hail to the bride!

[ALEXIIUS ENTERS from house with NADINA on his R.
She wears bridal veil - they go L.C. AURELIA is R.
POPOFF R.C. BUMERLI ENTERS after ALEXIIUS and
NADINA, goes down L.]

The fond happy groom
They cry "NEVER falter;"
Oh, come to the altar.
Come side by side,
Oh, come to your doom.

[8 Bridesmaids form semi circle round NADINA
8 Officers form semi circle round ALEXIIUS]

POPOFF

For the church are you both prepared?

ALEXIIUS

(Proudly) I am prepared.

(Gives to R. of POPOFF)

NADINA

(Sadly) I am prepared.

BUMERLI

(Aside to NADINA) You will regret.

NADINA

(Determined) I'll not regret.

POPOFF

(To NADINA) If you'd be happy, never deceive;
(To ALEXIIUS)
If one another always believe.
Chorus

Officers

Bridesmaids

Alexius Popoff

Nadine
CHORUS

The church bells are ringing,

Of love they are singing
Hail to the bride!
The fond happy groom!

(Officers pass round Nadina. Bridesmaids pass round Alexius) Music during dialogue; the men shake hands with him, and the women shake hands with Nadina. Church bells —)

NADINA

(Aside to Bumerli) Why don't you congratulate me?

BUMERLI

Don't ask me.

NADINA

(Aside to him) If you don't, they may suspect something;

BUMERLI

(Aside to her) Oh, very well. (Completely engrosses her attention to the neglect of her women admirers)

POPOFF

(To ALEXIUS) Bumerli's telling Nadina one of his funny stories. (Aloud)
But come, let us to the firing line.

ALEXIUS

(Aside, jealously) And there I'll "fire" Bumerli. (He gives his arm to Aurelia. Popoff gives his arm to Nadina. Procession forms; Massakroff enters C. with (soldiers)

OMKES

Massakroff!!

MALE CHO:

Yes, Barbarians; yes, barbarians,
When they fight are all Bulgarians,
Proved in many many battles,
That our courage nothing rattles.

(Wig: Popoff kisses Nadina's hand.
Alex: kisses Aurelia's hand. Form for Procession)

MASSA:

MALE CHO:

Proved in many, many battles,
That our courage nothing rattles.
(OFFICERS) mark time with great vigour and delight.

MASSAK:

Most honoured sir; respected missus,
Massakroff wafts you kisses,
I must the bridegroom congratulate -
I envy him his fate; - Hal!
(Shakes hands with ALEXIUS)
(ladies come from, men back)

Congratulate!
(Shakes hands with AURELIA)

Congratulate!
(Shakes hands with POPOFF)

Congratulate!
(Shakes hands with NADINA)

Congratulate! Hal!
(Says BUMERLI L. starts suspiciously)

Ei, ei, to me this is most queer;
How came it that this man is here,
Your balcony he climbed one night,
And hid himself far from my sight.

(Goes C.)

(Positions: MASCHA, AURELIA, ALEXIUS, MASSAKROFF
POPOFF, NADINA, BUMERLI)

ALEXIUS

(Goes R. to MASSAKROFF) Who - he?

POPOFF

(Goes L. of MASSAKROFF) What? He?

ALEXIUS

Here there?

POPOFF

Here here?
(MASSAK: bows, goes up C.)

ALEXIUS

Ei, ei to me this is most queer!

MASCHA

(Crosses to R. of ALEXIUS, as AURELIA goes near
bench R.)
This photograph she gave to him,
When all the lights were dim.
(gives ALEXIUS NADINA's photo) Cross To AURELIA

ALEXIUS

(Reads, not sure)
"From Nadina to her Chocolate soldier"
(Sings) Ah, Betrayed!

OMNES

Betrayed!

ALEXIUS

And I loved her so!

AURELIA

Oh, I'm growing weak. (Sinks on bench R.)

ALEXIUS & CHORUS

Betrayed! Betrayed!

ALEXIUS

Every'thing I know:

POPOFF

What! What know you? Speak!

ALEXIUS

(Gives him Nadina's photo)

Your coat! The flying foe at night,
He who was hiding far from sight!

OMNES

My - his - your - coat! The flying foe at night,
He who was hiding far from sight.

ALEXIUS

POPOFF

Great guns who would have that believed?
To think that we should be deceived.

ALEXIUS

Deceived!

POPOFF

Deceived.
(Goes L. of AURELIA)

ALEXIUS

POPOFF

Deceived!

Who would have that believed? (AURELIA goes C.)
BUMERLI
Forgive, forgive, forgive,
Why was I there? I wished to live.
For me were soldiers running, gunning;
Their kind attentions I was shunning.
I climbed up there to save my skin;
That's why I refuge sought within.
Oh, what a sorry, sorry plight
Your daughter saved my life that night.
She also wished to see me live,
Forgive, forgive, forgive!

OMNIS
(Except BUMERLI)
Forgive, forgive, forgive!
Why was he there? He wished to live.
For him were soldiers running, gunning,
Their kind attentions he was shunning.

OMNIS
He (I) climbed up there to save my (his) skin;
That's why he (I) refuge sought within.

BUMERLI
(Solus) Oh, what a sorry, sorry plight;
Your daughter saved my life that night.
She also wished to see me live;
Forgive, forgive, forgive!
(BUMERLI Cross to POPOFF L.C.)

(ALEXIUS)
(-R. of C.)
In dreams I once was your hero,
Long, long ago.
But now I am at zero,
Yes that I know.
You, you, you have dismayed me.
You have deceived me,
You have betrayed me,
I loved but you! you!
NADINA  (L of C.)
You, You I thought you my hero,
   Long, long ago.
But now you are at zero!
   Yes, that is so!

BUMERLI  (L. of NADINA)
Come, come he would disgrace you
I love you only,
Let me embrace you
I love but you!

ENSEMBLE
NADINA  Where, where, where is my hero?
   Where is my ideal?

MASUHA:  Come, come, now be my hero;
   My true ideal?

AURELIA  Where, where, where is her hero,
   Her new ideal!

POPOFF  Hem he now is her hero,
   Her new ideal.

MASSAK  He, he now is her hero
   Her new ideal!

BUMERLI:  I, I, would be your hero
   Her true ideal.

CHORUS  See, see, see her new hero!
   Her new ideal!

CHORUS:  (Ladies come round Nadina)
We came here to a wedding feast,
This interests us not the least,
A marriage we would celebrate
Must we comâle, or gratulate?
(Cities come down)
Ah! (Runs up stage L.) That quickly you shall see.

(BUS: rin)
I set you free!

ALEXIUS
You set me free?
End all that binds me to you;
You to me?

ENSEMBLE

NADINA
I dreamt that he was my hero!
Yes, my ideal!

MASCHA:
I’ll dream that you are my hero!
Yes, my ideal.

AURELIA
She dreamt that he was her hero!
Yes, her ideal!

ALESIUS
Once her ideal!!

BUMERLI
I’ll dream I am your hero!
Yes your ideal!

POPOFF
She dreamt he was her hero!
Yes her ideal!!

CHORUS:
She dreamt that he was her hero!
Yes her ideal!!

(NADINA EXITS into house ALEXIUS and BUMERLI face each other C.)

QUICK CURTAIN.