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# "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.

@@

A C T III.

Ball - opening.

Entire Chorus

Popoff  
Mascha  
Aurelia  
Alexius



Opening Position  
Mascha + Popoff c.

8 girls round them  
24 Couples

Officers + Bridesmaids	1st Row
Officers + Girls	2nd "
Peasants + Girls	3rd "



A C T 111.

1.

(Entire Chorus Discovered)

Time:- Same day as Act 11. Afternoon.

Place:-Same day as Act 11.

Scene:- Same as Act 11.

(Discovered, STEPHAN, KATINKA, the entire male and female chorus grouped in couples. BUS: of flirtation, etc.,)

No. 15. A. Entire Act and Curtain Music.

No. 15. B. Opening Chorus.

KATINKA, STEPHAN, ENTIRE CHO SMALL PARTS .

Sweetheart!

I love you only. (A swaying motion)  
My heart is true

Sweetheart!

My life is lonely,  
When gone as you.

Sweetheart!

(.Break.)

Naught can efface you  
My heart is happy now I embrace you.

(BUS, hands on heart) Thou art divine! - (Turn to partner)

Sweetheart!

I love you only,  
Sweetheart mine! (Front)

(All waltz)

(8 ladies round Popoff, dances off C.)

POPOFF ENTERS C. waltzing with MASCHA. They dance C. down stage. after waltz) All couples waltz off- leaving 8 officers and 8 Bridesmaids- finally. Officers leave bridesmaids who bow to them then turn to Popoff and Mascha.

MASCHA. (C) Did Aurelia teach you that dance?

POPOFF. No. I learned that and this (Embraces Mascha)  
From a pretty Viennaise.

(Girls) (The eight bridesmaids surround Popoff and Mascha)  
Oh, naughty, naughty Kasimir!

POPOFF: Girls, girls by the wholesale.

AURELIA (In house loudly.) off L.) Kasimir !!

POPOFF My wife!  
(Male and female chorus EXEUNT  
quickly laughing R. L. and C.)  
MASCHA EXITS R.U.)

POPOFF I'm afraid this wholesale business has spoiled  
me for the retail trade. (Girls run off R. L.)

AURELIA Kasimir!! (ENTERS from house r. goes C.)  
Do you realize that our daughter has been  
publicly repudiated by the man who was to have  
been her husband? Have you forgotten that this  
was to have been Nadina's wedding day?

POPOFF No!

AURELIA Then why do you dance and sing?

POPOFF No man tells his wife everything.

AURELIA (Bursting with rage) If he did he'd lose her.  
(Goes L.)

POPOFF Come, pretty one -

AURELIA (Interrupting passionately) If you call me pretty one  
again I swear I'll never speak to you as long as I live.

POPOFF (Quickly) Pretty one.

AURELIA (That's done it  
(EXITS in house L.)

POPOFF I wonder if she'll keep her oath.

AURELIA (Calls off L.) Kasimir! Come here at once.

POPOFF She's broken it!  
(EXIT S in house L.)

MASCHA (ENTERS R.U. looks after POPOFF) Oh, these men! There's  
not one of them to be trusted, especially heroes.  
(Goes to and sits on bench R.)

ALEXIUS (ENTERS C. to music) A very pretty girl. I

really admire her.

MASCHA

(Looks at him) Alexius.  
(Aside) Has he divined my thoughts? I hope so.

ALEXIUS

Mascha, what think you now of the higher love?

MASCHA

(With decision, rises) It's too good to be true.  
(Crosses him to L.)

DUE - ALEXIUS and MASCHA.

ALEXIUS

Oh, when you smile and feel like dying,  
And you cannot tell the reason why.  
You're in love when you smile while you are crying,  
Or when you laugh when you would rather sigh.

MASCHA

I am no schemer, nor a foolish dreamer,  
I am a girl - a girl of common sense,  
But could I find a true and honest lover,  
I would love him with a love intense.

ALEXIUS

I am he! Yes, I am he; the loved one you seek.

REFRAIN

MASCHA

Oh, when you smile and feel like dying,  
Or when you laugh while you are sighing,  
And you can give no reason why,  
But still you long to sing and cry.

ALEXIUS

When loud the woods to you are calling,  
It is a sign that you are falling,  
Falling in love, yes, deep in love.

BOTH

Falling, falling, deep in love.

ALEXIUS

Then when at night you should be sleeping,  
You restless lie and toss about the bed  
You're in love when you watch the shadows creeping  
Or, when at dawn, you rise with aching head.

(The rest as before and dance)

ALEXIUS (Folding his arms across chest)  
Mascha, you love me.

MASCHA (Satrically) Indeed! Pray, why should I?

ALEXIUS Because to you at least I am a hero.

MASCHA I wonder! are you really a brave man?

(NADINA appears)

ALEXIUS (Dropping his attitude and speaking unaffectedly and emotionally) I am. I doubted it myself while charging the enemy's batteries but as soon as I discovered that they could not fire their guns, the heroic feelings that surged through me convinced me of my undying courage!

MASCHA (With feeling) Alexius, I am almost proud of you.

ALEXIUS Mascha, you desire me to kiss you?

MASCHA Yes - (BUS) after we are married.

NADINA (Places writing materials on table C.)  
Are you proposing again?

ALEXIUS (Proudly) I never propose. I'm about to bestow my hand on this maiden who doesn't entertain chocolate soldiers alone at night nor give them her photograph.

NADINA She doesn't eh? (Takes Mascha's photograph out of bosom, goes L. of ALEXIUS, hand him photo)  
Whose picture is that?

ALEXIUS Mascha? (Looks at her)

- MASCHA (Goes quickly on his R.) Give it to me!  
(He stays with gesture)
- NADINA Read what she wrote on it.
- ALEXIUS (Reads aloud) "From Mascha to the Swiss who  
could go far once without" (Speaks) Without what ?
- NADINA (Whispers in his ear, he starts. BUS) trousers.  
She goes laughing to table)
- MASCHA It was a joke!
- ALEXIUS A joke! (Goes up C.) I never go without!  
(EXITS C. off L.U. followed up C by  
MASCHA)
- MASCHA Oh, Alexius, Alexius - He's gone.
- NADINA It would have been all right if the Swiss had  
been a Scotchman.  
(Sits rear of table L. takes up pen)
- MASCHA (Angrily, comes down C.) It would have been all  
right, but for your meddling in my affairs.
- NADINA Why did you interfere in mine?
- MASCHA Alexius will marry me in spite of everything.  
(Goes up R.)
- NADINA I hope he will.  
(MASCHA turns R.)  
I can conceive of no greater punishment.
- MASCHA Indeed! (Comes C.) Why don't you send for your  
Chocolate Soldier and punish him?



NADINA

I am about to write to him to bid him farewell forever!

MASCHA

I don't believe you! (Goes R.U.) I don't believe you. I'll hear that chocolate drop yet.  
(EXITS R.U.E. laughing)

NADINA

He'll never forget this letter.

(Nadina sits back of table. Five bars 2/4 pantomime writing. On the sixth bar of the 2/4 she takes up letter, sings.)

No. 18 - A. "Letter Song".

NADINA

My dear Sir Mister Bumerli:-  
Most hateful you are now to me.  
The reasons why I'll plainly state,  
The first one is you came too late.  
And secondly you're much too smart  
To please a simple maiden's heart,  
And thirdly you're an awful flirt;  
Your manner is too flip and pert.  
Mh! Mh! Mh!  
Mh! Mh! Mh!

(Nine bars expressive pantomime writing in which she shows the pleasure she derives from stating her opinion of BUMERLI. Then takes up letter, sings)

No girl would care to meet you twice,  
And this to you is my advice:-  
If you would cease to make folks smile,  
Adopt a less conceited style,  
And try to act, that's if you can  
Less like an ass; more like a man.  
Read further and you'll plainly see,  
That you are nothing, sir, to me.  
Don't let me see you anymore,  
No, no, not anymore,  
With scorn,  
Nadina Popoff!"

(One bar BUS: Triumph, preps paper with pen) There!

(She underlines the words "Nadina Popoff" )  
There!!

No. 19. B. Scene and Melodrame and Duet)

(Sevens bars panto., during which she glances over what she has written, smiling gleefully. BUMERLI appears at C. gates from L.U. then goes back of wall R. of C. gates)

BUMERLI

(On seventh bar drops from wall into garden, NADINA rises quickly, startled and angered. He bows, sings gaily)

No. 4. D. Good -day! Good-day! Good -day! (Salutes)  
I just dropped in to say "Good-day".  
(Comesdown C. gaily)

NADINA

(Sternly) Didn't I forbid you to enter my gate?

BUMERLI

(Clicks his heels together, salutes) You did.  
(As if he had obeyed)  
That's why I came over the wall.  
I'm an excellent climber.

NADINA

(Contemptuously)  
Yes, and a marvellous runner.  
(She crosses to R.)

BUMERLI

Thanks, dear lady, thanks.  
(Sauntersto table L. smiling)

NADINA

(Behinds his back, shakes her fist at him)  
You say you dropped in to see me?  
(Suspiciously)

BUMERLI

(Turns to her, bowing) Yes, dear lady, I did.

NADINA

(Goes close to him, angrily) You did not!

BUMERLI

Very well then. I did not.

NADINA

(Scornfully) Humph! I thought so. (She goes C.)

BUMERLI

To tell the truth -

- NADINA            (Turns to him swiftly) Can you tell the truth?
- BUMERLI            Yes, with difficulty. I came to see -  
(Slight pause)
- NADINA            (Scornfully) Ye-es?
- BUMERLI            This pretty chair -  
(Indicates chair rear of table)  
on which you sat.
- NADINA            (Angrily, tapping her foot) I'd like to sit onyou!
- BUMERLI            (Going quickly on her L.)  
How I wish you would!
- NADINA            You came to see Mascha.
- BUMERLI            (Delighted) Ah, you are jealous.
- NADINA            (Enraged) If Jealous? Jealous of you? Bah!  
(She stamps her left foot, apparently striking his right foot. She crosses to L.)
- BUMERLI            (Exclamations of pain) Oh! Oh! Oh!  
(She turns and regards him with a grim smile as he limps a step or two to R. then turns to her)  
Dear lady, I would not have you at my feet.
- NADINA            (Can't restrain her smiles) Idiot!  
It's impossible to take you seriously.  
(Goes C.)
- BUMERLI            (Bagerly, goes C.)  
I don't care how you take, so long as you take me.
- NADINA            (Contemptuously) Take you?

BUMERLI

Why not? You won't find a better man anywhere!

NADINA(Snappishly) I think there's a surprise coming to you.(Goes to table L., takes up letter)

Here's a letter I was about to send you. Oh, but can you read?

BUMERLI

Yes, love letters.

NADINA(Holds out letter) Then read this one.BUMERLI(Goes to her, takes letter sweetly) This was to call me?NADINA

Yes, call you several things.

(Leans against table L.)No. 18. G.BUMERLI(Sings from letter. Goes C.)

My dear sir, Mister Bumerli:-

Most hateful you are now to me.

Mh, mh, mh, mh, mh, mh,

Mh, mh, mh, mh, mh.

(He hums while glancing over letter, nodding head with an appreciative smile)NADINA

And thirdly you're an awful flirt,

Your manner is too flip and pert.

(Smiling: BU:) Mh, mh, etc.,NADINA(Significant, satisfied smile, tossing head)Mh, mh, mh!BUMERLI(Approvingly) Mh, mh, mh.

If you would cease to make folks smile

Adopt a less conceited style.

(Purses lips, thoughtful look)

Mh, mh, mh, etc.,

BOTH(She goes on his L. points at letter, sings)

And try to act, that's if you can,  
Less like an ass, more like a man.

NADINA

Don't let me see you anymore  
No, no, not anymore.

BUMERLI

With love, Nadina Popoff. Ti's right there.

NADINA

No! (They turn to each other)

BOTH

Ti's right

NADINA

With scorn, Nadina Popoff - /there.

BUMERLI

With love, Nadina Popoff, ti's right there.

(During closing bars BUMERLI, as if  
delighted with letter, kisses it, clicks  
heels, bows)

BUMERLI

Dear lady, I thank you.

NADINA

For what?

BUMERLI

The delicate manner in which this letter confesses  
your love for me.

NADINA

Love.  
(She goes C.)  
I despise you!!

BUMERLI

(Not heeding her words but regarding the letter  
rapturously, as he goes slowly to garden seat R.)  
What tender thoughts! What graceful imagery!  
(Sinks on seat)  
Forgive me, I am quite overcome.

NADINA

(Furious) If you don't leave here at once,  
I'll call the servants and have you thrown out.  
Do you hear me?  
(She goes on his L. snatches letter out  
of his hand)  
You contemptible coward!  
(Tears letter to pieces, goes up L. to  
chair throws pieces on stage.)

- BUMERLI She's wildly in love with me. (Rising)
- NADINA Are you going?  
(By chair rear table L.)
- BUMERLI No! (Goes C.)
- NADINA Then I am.  
(Sits rear of table L.)
- BUMERLI Twice lucky chair.
- NADINA (Rises quickly) Mr. Bumerli -
- BUMERLI (Quickly goes on her R.)  
Dear lady, one moment, you have convinced me of your love; permit me to prove mine.
- NADINA (Putting her hands to her temples) For heaven's sake, shut up! (Crossing to R.)  
This man will drive me mad.
- BUMERLI (Following to C.) To prove my love, dear lady, to prove my love.
- NADINA (Turns on him, interrupting)  
You dare to speak of love to me! You who placed my photograph in the family vault! You! who had in your pocket another woman's picture!
- BUMERLI (Interrupting quickly) Which I also placed in the vault, don't forget that.
- NADINA You talk of love to me!
- BUMERLI I would die for you.
- NADINA (Goes R. he goes L.)  
Then the quicker you do the better.

MASSAKROFF (ENTERS through garden gates C. comes quickly down C. Salutes) Ha!

(NADINA & BUMERLI turn to him)

BUMERLI Why do you make that unpleasant noise?

MASSAKROFF (C.) Excuse me, do I interrupt?

BUMERLI (L.) That's the best thing you do.

NADINA (R.) Do you wish to see my father?

MASSAKROFF No, this man. (Indicates Bumerli)

BUMERLI What about?

MASSAKROFF A duel!

BUMERLI (Draws sword) You wish to fight me? (Goes C.)

MASSAKROFF (Jumps back to R.) !? Heaven forbid. I am the bearer of a challenge.

NADINA From whom?

MASSAKROFF (Pompously) From Major Alexis Spiridoff!

BUMERLI (Laughingly, as he sheathes his sword) Oh, that's very different.

MASSAKROFF (Fiercely) Ha!

BUMERLI You really ought to take something for that.

MASSAKROFF What are your weapons, swords or pistols?

BUMERLI Both!

NADINA (Crossing to R. of BUMERLI, a little frightened.  
MASSAKROFF goes R.)  
Are you going to fight Alexis?

BUMERLI (Smiling Cross C.) N--o, I think not;  
but I accept his challenge.

MASSAKROFF (Astonished) What do you accept?

BUMERLI Certainly.

MASSAKROFF But Major Spiridoff doesn't expect you to fight

BUMERLI That's why I do.

NADINA (Goes to L. of Bumerli C.)  
Alexius will kill you.

BUMERLI Well, don't you wish me to die for you?

NADINA No.

BUMERLI Then, I'll have to die for myself.  
(Crosses to down L.)  
(POPOFF ENTERS from house L.)

NADINA (Sees him, runs to him)  
Papa, he wants to fight a duel!

POPOFF (Seeing only MASSAKROFF R.) Who, Massakroff?  
(Crossing quickly to him)

MASSAKROFF (Jumps R.) No! Major Alexis sent me to challenge Lieutenant Bumerli.  
(Indicates him L.)



POPOFF

(Turns, sees BUMERLI)  
 What! Bumerli fight?  
 (Roars with laughter.)

NADINA

(Goes L. of BUMERLI C.)  
 There, you see! Even Papa laughs at the idea  
 of your fighting.

BUMERLI

(Consolingly) Papa means well, but he doesn't  
 mean much. (Cross C.)  
 Colonel, (Salute) I ask you to be my second.  
 Any arrangements you make will be satisfactory  
 to me.

(Goes up to gates C.)

Dear lady, I love you - I love you!  
 (Salutes, EXITS C. off R.U.)

NADINA

(Runs up to gate, calls after him)  
 I hate you- hate you!  
 (Runs to L. of POPOFF R.C.)  
 Papa don't let him fight.

POPOFF

Who, Alexius?

NADINA

(Disgusted) No- Bumerli! (Goes L.)

POPOFF

(Greatly surprised) But you hate him.

NADINA

(Turns to him) And love him.

POPPEF

Are you crazy? (Goes C.)

NADINA

(Goes on his L.) I love him because I hate him,  
 and hate him because I love him!  
 (Desperately)  
 Can't you understand?

POPOFF

No, I'll be damned if I can! Can you?

NADINA

No, I'll be - oh, would that I could.

(EXITS in house L.)

- POPOFF (Laughs as he goes to L.) She nearly did.
- MASSAKROFF (Goes C.) I propose pistols.
- POPOFF (Starts, looking at him alarmed) Pistols for what?
- MASSAKROFF The duel. You're Bumerli's second.
- POPOFF (Sits L.) Oh, yes, I forgot. But pistols are more dangerous to the seconds than to the duellists.
- MASSAKROFF (Gravely) That's so.  
(Whispers loudly)  
But we could hide behind the trees.
- POPOFF (Indignantly rises) No, I'll be hanged if I do!
- MASSAKROFF (Laconically) You'll be shot if you don't.
- POPOFF (Decidedly) Then, I decide against all firearms.  
(Goes R.)
- MASSAKROFF How about swords?
- POPOFF (Turns to him angrily) Swords! Why the devil do you insist on deadly weapons?
- MASSAKROFF (Expostulating) Colonel, I -
- POPOFF (Interrupting) You tell ~~my~~ late son-in-law that was to be, that my future son-in-law that is to be, will fight him with daggers at eighty paces.  
(Goes R.)

MASSAKROFF Agreed! Daggers at that distance will be most agreeable to my principal.  
(Salutes goes to C. gates)

POPOFF Massakroff!

MASSAKROFF (Turns to gates)

POPOFF Find Lieutenant Bumerli and ask him to come here to consult with me!

MASSAKROFF Yes, Colonel! Ha!  
(Salutes, EXITS C. gates off L.)

AURELIA (ENTERS from house L. greatly excited)  
Oh, Kasimir, what do you think? Nadina is in love with that chocolate soldier!  
(She goes on his L.)

POPOFF (Incredulously) What gave you that idea?

AURELIA She's afraid he'll get hurt if he fights Alexius!

POPOFF Should this duel come off, which I very much doubt, it will be a running fight and result in the survival of the fleetest and I'll back Bumerli to win any Marathon. I have sent for him to ascertain if he is worthy of an alliance with my family; in other words - how much has he got?

BUMERLI (ENTERS C. gates) You wished to see me Colonel?

POPOFF Yes, come in.  
(BUMERLI goes down R. POPOFF calls)  
Nadina!  
(She enters from house L.)

NADINA What is it, papa?

# Ball

Entire Chorus

Stage Band

Soldiers

Flagbearers

Alexius

Massakroff.

POPOFF

(Gets garden chair from L. of garden gates, places it E.C.)  
 Sit here.

NADINA

(Stiffly) Coming down stiffly)

Yes, papa.

(She sits, AURELIA sits at table L.)

POPOFF

(Gets chair from R. of garden gates, places it R.C.) Mr. Bumerli, be seated.

(BUMERLI goes to and sits on chair. POPOFF sits on garden bench R.)

POPOFF

(Gets chair from R. of garden gates places it R.C.) Mr. Bumerli, be seated.

(BUMERLI goes to and sits on chair. POPOFF sits on garden bench R.)

POPOFF

Do you know why Major Spiridoff challenged you?

BUMERLI

(Indifferently) No.

AURELIA

He believes my daughter wants to marry you.

NADINA

(Scornfully) I marry him!

BUMERLI

How does she know I'm not married already?

NADINA

(Rises, anxiously) Oh! Are you?

BUMERLI

No, not as yet.

NADINA

That doesn't concern me. (Sits)

POPOFF

(Rises) But it concerns me!

BUMERLI

(Rises) In that case, Colonel Popoff, I beg to go

propose formally for your daughter's hand.

NADINA

(Rises) I positively refuse!

POPOFF

Let us sit down and talk it over.

BUMERLI

Without prejudice.

(POFF, BUMERLI NADINA, sit)

AURELIA

(Superior tone) Our daughter has been most expensively educated.

BUMERLI

(Thoughtfully) I see no particular objection to that.

POPOFF

(Boastingly) She has always had the very best of evrything!

BUMERLI

(Pleased) Then she will better be able to appreciate me.

NADINA

(Contemptuous laugh) Ah ha!

POPOFF

May, I ask Mr. Bumerli whether - I desire to put it delicately - whether you can afford to keep a wife?

AURELIA

In the style Nadina has been accustomed to.

BUMERLI

One moment please.

(Takes note-book out of pocket, BUS)  
Has your daughter seven hundred hats?

AURELIA

(Rising) Gracious goodness! Seven hunderd hats, No

BUMERLI

My wife can have anyohe or all of them.

POPOFF

(Rises) Seven hundred! What would she do with them?

- BUMERLI Change her hat every time she changes her mind.
- NADINA (Rises) I shall never change my mind about you.
- BUMERLI (Rises pleasantly) I hope not. I would not have you change your good opinion of me for anything in the world.
- POPOFF Let us sit down and discuss the subject more fully.
- BUMERLI Without prejudice.
- POPOFF Without prejudice.
- (All resume seats)
- BUMERLI My wife can also have innumerable lingerie, walking, dinner and ball costumes. Russian sables, sealskins, and other furs, four thousand eight hundred and sixty three robes de nuit;  
(Explanatory tone!)  
they're nighties.
- NADINA (Frigidly) We speak French.
- BUMERLI I don't, but I can yodel.  
(BUS: with note-book)  
Six thousand pairs of silken hose -
- POPOFF (Rises) Hold on - how many legs do you think my daughter has?
- BUMERLI (Innocently) I don't know. I never counted them.
- NADINA  
AURELIA (Rise) Sir!
- POPOFF (Angrily) Who said you did?

BUMERLI (Rises) No offence meant, I assure you.

POPOFF Then let us sit down and arrive at some conclusion.

BUMERLI Without prejudice?

POPOFF Without prejudice.

(They resume their seats, NADINA last)

BUMERLI (Reads note-book)  
I can offer my wife every kind of horse vehicle, also every make and style of motor car, the best products of the earth from every land; a palace in Italy, a ducal estate in Germany, a number of Swiss Chalets and a castle in Spain; all fully furnished and ready for immediate occupancy.

(Rises)  
I offer everything from a needle to an elephant. I keep sixty men busy counting my money.

AURELIA (RISES) Who are you sir?

POPOFF (Rises) A Croesus?

BUMERLI I am the senior member of the firm of Bumerli & Co the largest Universal Providers on the Continent!

POPOFF (Offering his hand) My dear Son-in-law.

BUMERLI (Grasping his hand) Then it's settled?

POPOFF (Slaps him on back) Yes, go and kiss Nadina.

BUMERLI With all the pleasure in the world.  
(Goes R. of Nadina)



NADINA(Springs up furiously)

Don't you dare to touch me! Don't you dare!

(Goes to Aurelia L. who embraces her.)

Mother! Mother! Save me! Save me!

AURELIA(Soothingly) There, there, there! He won't hurt you!(POPOFF takes chair R.C. places it B. of C. goes down R. gates. BUMERLI takes chair L.C. places it B. of C. gates, sits.)NADINA(Sabbingly) I-won't-be-sold-to-the -highest-bidder I don't want to marry a universal provider.AURELIA(Consolingly) Marriage isn't half as bad as it seems.(ALEXIUS followed by MASSAKROFF ENTERS C gates from R.U. He comes down C. MASSA remains in gateway)ALEXIUS(As he enters, not seeing BUMERLI)

Where is this Swiss who can go for once without?

(BUMERLI remains seated L. of gates C.NADINA quickly crosses to L. AURELIA stands defiantly by table L.)POPOFF(Down R.C. angrily) Go for once without what?ALEXIUS(Going to POPOFF) That's his tailor's business - not yours. Where is he hiding?NADINA(Indignantly, down L.) He's not hiding from you!ALEXIUS(R.C. Indeed)AURELIA(Angry) He'll fill you full of lead!ALEXIUS(Contemptuously) Chocolate, you mean.

POPOFF                    (Thoughtfully) I think he'll slice off your ears.

ALEXIUS                    (Goes on POPOFF's L.)  
Slice off my ears? Why, I'll - I'll.

MASSAKROFF                (Intending to attract ALEXIUS' attention to BUMERLI  
Ha! )

BUMERLI                    (Seated quietly) Massakroff -  
(All look at him)  
If you make that noise again I shall insist upon  
having your tonsils removed.  
(He rises)

ALEXIUS                    (R.C.) You have accepted my challenge?

BUMERLI                    (Indifferently) comes down L.C.) Ye-es.

ALEXIUS                    Why?

BUMERLI                    Because I don't believe you'll fight.

POPOFF                    Bumerli wins in a canter.  
(Goes to MASSA: up E. takes weapons, goes R.  
of BUMERLI, MASSA: goes L. of ALEXIUS)

ALEXIUS                    Well you're mistaken. I'll fight you here and  
now.

BUMERLI                    (Quietly) That suits me.  
(Takes largest sword offered)  
And so does this.

MASCHA                    (Runs on R. goes R. of ALEXIUS) What't he matter?

POPOFF                    (L.C.) Nothing. They are only bluffing.

BUMERLI                    (Quietly) Draw.

NADINA

(Who has been watching proceedings most anxiously,  
runs to L. of BUMERLI)  
No! No! You shan't fight him.

MASCHA

(R. of ALEXIUS) I forbid you to fight,

ALEXIUS

(To MASCHA) Thank you.

BUMERLI

Well, Major -

ALEXIUS

I never -

BUMERLI

(Interrupting) Fight.

ALEXIUS

No - refuse to accede to a lady's wishes.

BUMERLI

(Sheathing his sword) I accept your apology.

MASAKROFF

(Goes R. POPOFF L.) Ha!

POPOFF

Ha!

BUMERLI

Ladies and gentlemen and heroes, I have the  
honour to bid you all a very good -day.  
(Salutes, goes up to C. gates)

NADINA

(Quickly) Don't go!

BUMERLI

(Turns up C.) You refused me.

NADINA

(Indignantly) I refused the Universal Provider!

BUMERLI

(Goes down C.) Well, how about the Chocolate  
Soldier?

NADINA

(Quickly) Oh, Bumerli!  
(Falls into his arms)

General Chorus Entrance

Stage Band March on house steps  
staying

Chorus ladies enter R. & L. U

Peasants & Bridemaids R. I. & L. I.

Officers C. from R & L.

Soldiers at back

Flagbearers at back.

MASCHA Oh, Alexius!  
(Halls into his arms)

AURELIA Oh - Kasi -  
(BUS:)

POPOFF (Interrupting her)  
Never mind - we're married.

MASSAKROFF Ha!

POSITIONS:- MASSAKROFF ALEXIUS MASCHA BUDERLI  
NADINA POPOFF AURELIA LOUKA.

(Repeat first movement of No. 15 during STEPHAN  
and CHORUS ENTER)

OMNES.

(Repeat second and closing movement of No. 15.)

C U R T A I N .

No. 15. "Thank the Lord the War is Over" sung <sup>once</sup> ~~twice~~

through with March of Chorus -

SECUE. into,

Waltz Song and dance. Slow Curtains and picture

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*slow curtain*