

Nº. 23a Chant*: Mabel, Sergeant and Police

Mabel *(Spoken)*
Sergeant, approach! Young Frederic was to have led you to death and glory.

Police (Basses) *(Chanted)*
That is not a pleasant way of putting it.

No matter; he will not so lead you, for he has allied himself once more with his old associates.

Mabel *(Spoken)*
You speak falsely. You know nothing about it. He has acted nobly.

Police (B.) *(Chanted)*
He has acted shamefully! He has acted nobly!

Dearly as I loved him before, his heroic sacrifice to his sense of duty has endeared him to me ten-fold; *(but if it was his duty to constitute himself my foe, it is likewise my duty to regard him in that light.) He has done his duty; I will do mine. Go ye and do yours. *(Exit Mabel.)*

Sgt. *(Spoken)*
This is perplexing. Still, as he is actuated by a sense of duty—

Police (B.) *(Chanted)*
Right oh! We cannot understand it at all. That makes a difference, of course. At the same time, we repeat, we cannot understand it at all.

Sgt.
No matter; our course is clear. We must do our best to capture these pirates alone. It is most distressing to us to be the agents whereby our erring fellow creatures are deprived of that liberty which is so dear to all—but we should have thought of that before we joined the Force.

Police (B.) *(Chanted)*
We should! It is! late now!
attacca

* Mabel's dialog is spoken throughout. The Police dialog is chanted throughout on the notated pitches
** Words in parentheses were cut after the first night, but are occasionally restored in performance.