

## Mr. D'Oyly Carte's "2nd *Pinafore* Company" 1880

('A' Company from 3rd August)

**1st – 4th January: Torquay**

**9th – 10th January: Bridgewater**

TOWN HALL. – *H.M.S. Pinafore*, produced on the 9th and 10th by Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company, under the direction of Mr. Herbert Brook, proved a great success, the Hall being crowded on both occasions, and the audiences delighted. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, January 18, 1880; Issue 2156.]

**12th – 17th January: No Engagement**

**19th – 31st January: Cork**

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. – Managing Director, Mr. James Scanlan. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* was performed, for the first time here, on Monday evening last. The audience was worthy of the occasion, the house being crowded in every part, and those who were fortunate in being present appeared to relish the opera exceedingly. The artists were all well up to their respective parts, and the performance altogether went very smoothly. Miss Petrelli, as Josephine, was excellent; and Miss Fanny Harrison did well as Buttercup. Mr. Mansfield was clever as the First Lord; and Mr. Cadwaladr sang and acted like a clever artist as Ralph Rackstraw. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, January 25, 1880; Issue 2157.]

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. – Managing Director, Mr. James Scanlan. – The *Pinafore* company, under the management of Mr. Herbert Brook, most deservedly did an enormous business here during the past week. Both opera and artists engaged in its production achieved a remarkable success. The engagement ended on Saturday evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, February 1, 1880; Issue 2158.]

**2nd – 7th February: Dublin**

GAIETY THEATRE

The pleasant and tuneful opera, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, was never performed at the Gaiety Theatre with greater success than by the troupe which now holds the stage. All the chief parts are admirably filled, and each representation is a complete success. The opera is announced for every night during the present week. On Saturday next there will be a midday performance for the benefit of the Dublin Charities Fund. [*Freeman's Journal and Daily Commercial Advertiser* (Dublin, Ireland), Monday, February 2, 1880; Issue N/A.]

GAIETY THEATRE. – Proprietor, Mr. Michael Gunn. – The popular *Pinafore* is again in course of presentation at this theatre. The present company, which is in many respects superior to those which have preceded it, appears to have been chosen with considerable care, and displays unusual excellence in the various parts. Mr. Cadwaladr (a very promising young tenor, who is already favourably known in Dublin musical circles) appears with success as Ralph Rackstraw, and Mr. R. Mansfield is quaintly amusing as Sir Joseph Porter. Mr. Billington is very effective as the objectionable Dick Deadeye. Master Fitaltamont displays astonishing precocity as the Midshipmite, and Mr. Lackner sings and acts admirably as the Boatswain. Miss Petrelli is a rather emotionless Josephine, although she acquits herself satisfactorily in

the vocal items. Miss Fanny Harrison is an excellent Little Buttercup, and Miss May a creditable representative of Hebe. A musical absurdity, *Four by Honours*, composed by Mr. Ralph Horner, precedes the nautical opera. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, February 8, 1880; Issue 2159.]

### 9th – 21st February: Belfast

#### "H.M.S. PINAFORE" AT THE THEATRE ROYAL

Metaphorically speaking, "H.M.S. Pinafore" arrived at this port last evening. Much talked of, and a subject of considerable [*illegible*], her name is now almost as well known as the fabled Argo. The interest attaching to the Pinafore is, however, altogether of an exceptional character. The bang of her loud nine pounders is only supposed to be heard on occasions of a visit from the First Lord of the Admiralty. On board of her there are the pleasantest good humour, the oddest and most improbable vagaries of Cupid, an almost farcical turning of the tables, and a continuous flow of as charming melody as Orpheus himself might have discovered. Her crew are the most good-natured of the jolly sons of Neptune, and present us with as diverting a picture of nautical life as any novelist could portray. On board one of the ships of Her Majesty's navy would be about the last of all places one would expect to hear such mirth-provoking and delicately conveyed bit of satire as is indulged in at the expense of the First Lord, who is never mentioned without being reminded of "his sisters and his cousins, whom he reckons up by dozens, and his aunts." The Pinafore must, therefore, we suspect enjoy an immunity altogether unique in regard to the degree of respect due to the powers that be. But, after all, the allusions to "the ruler of the Queen's navee" are of such a timeless character that the dignity of that important officer of State is scarcely likely to suffer, or any other effect be produced in his subordinates than an amount of hilarity and amusement that the veriest martinet could hardly take exception to as having a tendency to relax discipline. Nor do we imagine that many landsmen will be inclined to treat as very serious the golden rule which is laid down for their guidance should they aspire to attain the high rank of the Right. Hon. Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. Fame has long since taken the Pinafore under her patronage, and it was not surprising that on its advent among us there should be a widespread anxiety on the part of the public to obtain their first introduction to personages whose names are now as familiar almost as any to be found in the newspapers. Sir Joseph Porter, whose wonderful rise in life, with such extraordinary, or, rather, such slender, qualifications, might well animate the most drooping ambitions; Captain Corcoran and his "one fair daughter" Josephine; the members of the crew, and Little Buttercup. But, leaving the regions of metaphor, the comic opera "H.M.S. Pinafore" has been a most unqualified success, and has created quite a *furor* both at home and in the Far West. Written by Gilbert, the libretto is in his happiest style; while the fame of Sullivan is sufficient to speak for the music. The plot is of the flimsiest character, and in this respect the "Pinafore" is a marked contrast to "Les Cloches de Corneville," but what it lacks in construction, striking situations, and well defined characters, is amply redeemed by the light, graceful, and, at [*illegible*] pungent humour which pervades it, and [*illegible*] flows in the most easy and natural manner, continually keeping the audience on the best terms with themselves. The music is, of course, one of the principal attractions, sprightly and taking. Its interest never flags, and while it never descends to becoming commonplace, it does not rise to any exceptional brilliancy, and may be described as being, in the true sense of the word, popular. One of the principal elements in the success of the opera is its nautical character; the sea and every feature of maritime life possessing irresistible attractions

for the English race. Hence the sea has ever been a favourite subject for the song writers of the country from the days when the lyrics of Dibdin did so much to rouse the patriotism of the nation, and the deeds of Nelson, Hood, and Collingwood were that sung by our grandsires. "The Pinafore" was performed at the theatre last night by Mr. D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company. There was a crowded house, and though the audience did not indulge in those outbursts of enthusiasm with which the work was received in London and America, and the more prominent points failed to receive the acknowledgement that has been given to them elsewhere, yet the reception was such as to justify the belief that, as the delicate [*illegible*] and quiet humour are better known the approbation will be proportionate. All the principal parts were exceedingly well represented, especially from a musical point of view. The opening chorus received the attention which had been given to every part, the singing of the crew in praise of their ship very much above the standard of comic opera, and, throughout, the chorus was remarkable for thorough efficiency in every respect. The role of Josephine was taken by Miss Petrelli, who possesses a rich soprano of considerable range, over which she exercises perfect control. The encore that was given in the soliloquy "Sorry her lot" was but the forerunner of many similar compliments during the evening. Mr. Richard Mansfield as Sir Joseph Porter gave an inimitable rendering of the celebrated autobiographical sketch, in which he was encored, repeating the last two verses. Ralph Rackstraw, whose fortunes undergo such a complete transformation at the critical moment was impersonated by Mr. Cadwaladr, whose deportment was worthy of a gentleman, who, with the possibilities of becoming "a French, or Turk, or Proosian," receives the encomiums of his morose shipmate Dick Deadeye (Mr. Billington), because he "remains an Englishman." Miss Fanny Harrison as Little Buttercup was most effective, and the other members of the company worthily contributed to the success of the performance, which was in every respect unmistakable. The orchestra was well equal to every demand, and the mounting was faultless. The "Pinafore" will occupy the boards of the theatre during the present fortnight, a day performance being announced for Friday. [*The Belfast News-Letter* (Belfast, Ireland), Tuesday, February 10, 1880; Issue 20184.]

THEATRE ROYAL. – Proprietor, Mr. J. F. Warden. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's celebrated *Pinafore* company commenced a fortnight's engagement at this theatre on Monday last, under the pleasantest of circumstances, the audience being on the occasion extremely large and fashionable, and the enthusiasm all that could be wanted. The combination generally is most efficient, as the primary performance of this most popular opera indicated; and all those who favoured *H.M.S. Pinafore* with their patronage on the opening night will, we feel sure, extend it over others. *Four by Honours* is the preceding musical absurdity every evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, February 15, 1880; Issue 2160.]

### **23rd – 28th February: Greenock**

THEATRE ROYAL – Mr. Alexander Wright, Lessee and Manager. – We have this week been treated to a visit by one of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera companies with *H.M.S. Pinafore*, which has been largely patronised. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, February 29, 1880; Issue 2162.]

## 1st – 6th March: Glasgow

### THE GAIETY – "H.M.S. PINAFORE."

A large audience assembled last night in the Gaiety Theatre to hear the marvellously popular opera (words by Gilbert, the music by Sullivan) "H.M.S. Pinafore." The attraction of the evening was precluded by a so-called musical absurdity "Four by Honours." The plot we had some difficulty in making out, consisting as the farcical piece does of one or two scenes which do not hang well together. The music, written by Mr. Ralph Horner, follows good lines, well carried out, although it does not contain many original ideas.

As to the comic opera, "H.M.S. Pinafore," when first produced in Glasgow we stated that it was difficult to account for its immense popularity, taking it on its own merits. Neither as an acting piece nor as a musical composition can it be compared with Sullivan's previous works, "Cox and Box," "Trial by Jury," and "The Sorcerer," Yet "The Pinafore" has in popular esteem outdistanced all its predecessors, alike in this country and the United States. Last night's performance was somewhat unequal. The leading soprano part was taken by Miss Petrelli, who looked Josephine remarkably well and acted with fair intelligence. As to her singing, however, her voice sounded harsh, and at times was distinctly out of tune. Besides, the young *prima donna* did not seem at times to be in thorough earnest with her work, and consequently many of her passages were ineffective. Miss Fanny Harrison was an excellent Little Buttercup, and acted the part with considerable effect. The most artistic singing of the evening was that of Mr. Federici (Captain Corcoran). It would, however, improve the effect which he succeeds in making if he were to modify his enthusiasm and sing with greater calmness. The orchestra was not under thorough control, many slips occurring. The chorus, however, was in nearly every scene exceptionally good, and contributed not a little to the success of the evening. The opera was well put upon the stage. The audience insisted on several encores and recalls. [*Glasgow Herald* (Glasgow, Scotland), Tuesday, March 2, 1880; Issue 12542.]

GAIETY. – Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Bernard. – On Monday evening a full and fashionable audience assembled to welcome *H.M.S. Pinafore* and crew. The tuneful opera would appear to be – judging by the applause – as popular as ever in this city. Since the last production of the work here in the autumn the company has been reorganised, but the changes effected can scarcely be said to be for the better. Still, although not quite up to former representations of the piece, the performance was, upon the whole, a very fair one, and gave evident satisfaction, several of the principal members being warmly encored. Mr. Cadwaladr made a favourable impression as Ralph Rackstraw; and Mr. R. Brough was capital as Dick Deadeye. Bill Bobstay found a good exponent in Mr. Lackner; and the other male characters were represented by Messrs A. Wikinson, Federici, Blythe, &C. Miss Fanny Harrison is fully equal to the part of Little Buttercup; and Miss Petrelli gave an effective rendering of Josephine; Hebe being played by Miss May. Band and chorus were fairly efficient, and the deck set again excited much admiration. A musical absurdity entitled *Four by Honours* preceded, and created a good deal of laughter. The little piece was cleverly sustained by Misses May and Monmouth, Messrs Johnson and Hay. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, March 7, 1880; Issue 2163.]

[N.B. Rollins and Witts state that the company was in Glasgow from 1st to 13th March. Advertisements in *The Glasgow Herald* show that the Gaiety Theatre was

occupied by the English and Continental Comic Opera Company, presenting *La Petite Mademoiselle* from 8th March.]

### 15th – 20th March: Aberdeen

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE. – "H.M.S. PINAFORE." – That the last appearance of Messrs Gilbert and Sullivan's charming little opera had made a lasting impression in Aberdeen as elsewhere was clearly evinced by the warm and enthusiastic welcome accorded to it last night. Produced for the first time at the Opera Comique in May, 1878, it has enjoyed a lasting popularity, both in this country and America, unequalled or unapproached by any of its predecessors. The music and the theme, so catching and so thoroughly English, take at once such a hold on the sympathies of a kindred audience that it is little wonder – indeed it is but natural – that it should evoke so cordial a reception. Since the last visit the cast has been entirely renewed, and though a lingering prejudice for the first exponents of the work here no doubt remains, it cannot be denied that their successors lay claim to and drew forth a hearty appreciation. The story is by this time so well known that there is no necessity for entering upon it. The rendering of the various numbers was characterised perhaps by more spirited vitality than by refinement of intonation, and though one would look for hearty and vivacious lungs on board a British man-of-war, one at the same time expects a purity and delicacy of expression in the softer passages of such a work as the present. Travelling companies playing nightly of necessity acquire little idiosyncrasies in the development of the various parts which occasionally present sad difficulties to a stranger orchestra, and this was especially noticeable between Sir Joseph and his accompanists during his song "The Ruler of the Queen's Navee." Otherwise, the old ideas of the First Lord met with a due appreciative sympathy. As Captain Corcoran, Mr. Hogarth looked and walked the part to perfection, and, in the duet with Dick Deadeye, made a palpable hit. Ralph Rackstraw, the smart foretopman and hero of the piece, who was impersonated by Mr. Cadwaladr, and was in capital tune throughout, and, though at times there was an evident harshness discernible in his upper register in the final chorus in act first and the octette towards the close of act second, conveyed an exceedingly favourable impression. The palm of the evening must, however, be reserved for Miss Pierpoult [= Ethel Pierson?], who, as the bewitching captain's daughter, fairly stole the hearts of the audience. Her vocalisation throughout had a sweetness and correctness which was most pleasing, and, in her trio with Sir Joseph and the captain, elicited a hearty encore. Miss Fanny Harrison as Little Buttercup was a most typical bumboat woman whose buxom appearance and light hearted ways were dangerous temptations to place before our susceptible tars. The entertainment commenced with a musical absurdity which well merits the name, for it seemed to be a most utter absurdity, though the music was not unpleasing. The *Tout ensemble* of the company is really well worth a visit, and as it is to remain here the ensuing week one need not be at a loss to spend an most enjoyable evening. [*Aberdeen Weekly Journal* (Aberdeen, Scotland), Tuesday, March 16, 1880; Issue 7825.]

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE. – Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Gomersal. – Judging from the enthusiastic reception accorded by a splendid house to *H.M.S. Pinafore* when presented on Monday evening it seems to retain as firm hold as when it first dropped anchor here. Although Mr. D'Oyly Carte's crew on this occasion is an entirely new one the piece does not lack power in their hands. Little Buttercup has an admirable exponent in Miss F. Harrison; and Miss E. Pierson was a delightful Josephine, her acting and singing being both graceful and sweet. Mr. Cadwaladr

sustained the role of Ralph Rackstraw with much ability. Mr. W. Hogarth, as Captain Corcoran, looked and acted the part to the life. Mr. A. Wikinson was good as Sir Joseph Porter; while the repulsive Dick Deadeye was extremely well acted by Mr. R. Brough. The choruses were most efficiently rendered, the orchestra being under the able direction of Mr. Ralph Horner. The piece was well mounted. *Four by Honours*, a musical absurdity, was the opening item. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, March 21, 1880; Issue 2165.]

### **21st – 27th March: Edinburgh**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Logan; Acting Manager, Mr. John Gray. – On Monday evening *H.M.S. Pinafore* drew a large house, and, as the company now engaged have not appeared in Edinburgh before the performance had a certain amount of novelty for the majority of the audience. The cast was, on the whole, excellent, although some of the characters have been in better hands on previous representations, and the chorus was scarcely so numerous as usual. On this occasion the Captain Corcoran of Mr. W. Hogarth was the feature of the evening, his singing being much admired; and Mr. Robert Brough was both effective and amusing as Dick Deadeye, a character he thoroughly understands. Mr. Cadwaladr made a fairly good Ralph Rackstraw, but Mr. A. Wilkinson's Sir Joseph was very colourless throughout. As Josephine, Miss Ethel Pierson was highly successful, and sang the trying music of the part with the greatest possible effect, her acting being noticeable for its charming grace and refinement. Miss Fanny Harrison played Buttercup and Miss Millie Vere Hebe. The opera was preceded by a most absurd affair entitled *Four by Honours*, for which Mr. Ralph Horner has written some tasteful music. A morning performance on Saturday. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, March 28, 1880; Issue 2166.]

### **29th March – 3rd April: Newcastle**

Both the Newcastle theatres re-opened on Monday. At the Royal, Gilbert and Sullivan's highly popular comic opera "H.M.S. Pinafore" has been produced each evening by Mr. D'Oyly Carte's celebrated company. The fame of the opera has evidently preceded its production on Tyneside, for the house has been crammed every night from pit to ceiling. The well known songs and stirring choruses, in which there is a good deal of melody, and which have already been popularised by street minstrels, were admirably sung, and with such acceptance that many were encored. At the Tyne Theatre the well known play of "London after Dark" has been produced with its usual success. [*The Newcastle Courant etc* (Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England), Friday, April 2, 1880; Issue 10709.]

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. Charles Bernard. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company opened at this theatre on Monday evening before a large and enthusiastic audience, who seemed to heartily enjoy Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's increasingly popular comic opera, which was mounted with the usual care and completeness by the management. The leading parts were cleverly sustained as follows:– First Lord, Mr. Wilkinson, Captain Corcoran, Mr. Hogarth; Ralph, Mr. Cadwaladr; Little Buttercup, Miss Harrison; Josephine, Miss Pierson. *Four by Honours* has preceded the opera each night. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, April 4, 1880; Issue 2167.]

## 5th – 10th April: Middlesbrough

### "H.M.S. PINAFORE" AT THE MIDDLESBROUGH THEATRE.

When *La Fille de Madame Angot* was introduced to the British public it simply charmed them. Its music was pressed into service by all who could sing or play, and its favourite airs were soon heard almost everywhere. Since the Belgian composer's masterpiece came amongst us, we doubt if any comic opera has taken popular fancy to the same extent except "H.M.S. Pinafore," which anchored in the port of Middlesbrough this week. This good ship has done well for its designers and builders, as also for its owner and crew; and, though its sterling qualities have won it the admiration of the people through the length and breadth of the British Isles, it is even more popular on the other side of the Atlantic. A story is told of a New York physician who was constrained to write to the newspapers because one morning in every part of his house some one was either playing or singing selections from the opera; and yesterday the *Daily Telegraph* devoted a leader to a very pathetic story of the death of a little boy who had played the "midshipmite," and who expired with the well known line "He is an Englishman" upon his lips. A greater burlesque than "Pinafore" could hardly be conceived; its extravagant improbabilities amuse everyone, but afford intense delight to anyone familiar with the ways of the "Queen's Navee." What could be more absurd than the First Lord of the admiralty saying "If you please" when giving a command; or more ridiculous than this same First Lord giving sailors a song in which occurs "His energetic fist should be ready to resist A dictatorial word?" The richness of all this is appreciated when it is remembered that in the British Navy the discipline is Draconic in its severity, and that seamen hardly dare look at a superior officer, let alone demand that he should say "If you please." Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. (First Lord of the Admiralty), cleverly hit one of the greatest anomalies of the public service. The head of the first navy in the world is nearly always a civilian; the present one is – a successful news vendor. Sir Joseph, who was once an attorney's boy tells us in song that he always voted at his party's call and that they rewarded him by making him the ruler of the Queen's Navee. Mr. A. Wilkinson impersonates Sir Joseph, and with a full knowledge of the requirements of the part, which he is quite equal to. Mr. W. Hogarth is a captain whose learning would do credit to the Navy, and when stripped of stripes, gold lace, and epaulettes and cocked hat, he makes a stalwart seaman. Mr. Cadwaladr (Ralph Rackstraw) has a tenor voice of rare quality, which has undergone an excellent training. Both his singing and acting made a most favourable impression on Monday night. Mr Robert Brough (Dick Deadeye) is a clever actor, and possesses a good baritone voice. Mr. Federici (Bill Bobstay), Mr. Blythe (Bob Becket), and Mr. Fitzaltamont, junr. (Midshipmite), each played their part very creditably. Miss Ethel Pierson enacted Josephine, the captain's daughter. She has a sweet soprano voice, as clear as a bell, and sings with perfect intonation, She is exceedingly graceful – in fact, there is not only music in her voice, but in her every movement, as was seen in the splendid trio, "Never mind the why and wherefore" which was encored. She plays with verve, and is a most accomplished actress as well as a charming vocalist. Three lines from a ballad in the opera may truthfully be applied to her – "A maiden fair to see, The pearl of Minstrelsy, A bud of blushing beauty." Miss Millie Vere deserves praise for the way she plays the part of Sir Joseph's first cousin, as does Miss Fanny Harrison (Little Buttercup, "the plump and pleasing person"). We ought not to omit to state that the choruses were exceedingly well rendered; and when Sir Joseph's "sisters and his cousins and his aunts," together with the sailors, were on the stage a very pretty and effective scene

was produced, owing to the artistic arrangement of colour. Mr. Ralph Horner, a musician of no ordinary merit, conducts, and in a manner that must evoke admiration. "H.M.S. Pinafore" is preceded by a musical farce, "Four by Honours." [*The Daily Gazette* (Middlesbrough, England), Tuesday, April 06, 1880; pg. 3; Issue 3991.]

THEATRE ROYAL. – Proprietor, Mr. J. Imeson; Manager, Mr. C. King. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera company have appeared in *H.M.S. Pinafore* this week to crowded houses. The principal characters are sustained as follows:– Sir Joseph Porter by Mr. A. Wilkinson; Captain Corcoran, Mr. W. Hogarth; Ralph Rackstraw, Mr. Cadwaladr; Dick Deadeye, Mr. R. Brough; Little Buttercup, Miss F. Harrison; Hebe, Miss M. Vere; Josephine, Miss Ethel Pierson. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, April 11, 1880; Issue 2168.]

#### **12th – 17th April: West Hartlepool**

GAIETY THEATRE. – Proprietor, Mr. Midgley; Manager, Mr. Ed. Fowler. – The engagement of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company has proved a thorough success. The delightful opera is being performed nightly to houses crowded to overflowing. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, April 18, 1880; Issue 2169.]

#### **19th – 24th April: Sunderland**

#### **26th April – 1st May: South Shields**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. F. Cooke. – On Monday a treat was afforded by the engagement of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera company, who appeared in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and met with a cordial reception. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, May 2, 1880; Issue 2171.]

#### **3rd – 5th May: Dumfries**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. A. D. McNeill. – Dumfries playgoers have had a treat of no ordinary description this week in the appearance of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera company with *H.M.S. Pinafore*. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, May 9, 1880; Issue 2172.]

#### **6th – 8th May: Carlisle**

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. – A return visit was made last week by the *Pinafore* company, and a most successful one it was. Miss E. Pierson and Messrs. Cadwaladr and Hogarth maintained their former reputation, and the character of Little Buttercup, in the very capable hands of Miss Fanny Harrison, was much appreciated. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, May 16, 1880; Issue 2173.]

#### **10th – 13th May: Whitehaven**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. Edward Fletcher. – Another treat has been afforded us this week by our respected lessee by bringing Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company, which opened here on Monday for four nights. Exceedingly large and appreciative audiences have assembled [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, May 16, 1880; Issue 2173.]

#### **14th – 15th May: Lancaster**

#### **17th – 22nd May: Barrow**

ALHAMBRA THEATRE. – Proprietor, Messrs. Bell and Atkinson; Manager, Mr. T. Ramsey. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera company have appeared this week in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. The company is an excellent one in every particular, and a tremendous



week's business has been the result. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, May 23, 1880; Issue 2174.]

#### **24th – 29th May: Bradford**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mrs. Rice. – We have had no better representation of *H.M.S. Pinafore* than the one which Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company is giving this week to large and enthusiastic audiences. The mounting of the opera and the band (which is ably conducted by Mr. Horner) are all that could be desired. In Mr. A. Wilkinson we have a First Lord of the Admiralty with sufficient dignity to make the character imposing, yet with a touch of humour which is simply delicious. The old Bradford favourite Mr. W. Hogarth is the Captain Corcoran, and his songs are rendered with all his old vigour and excellence. Mr. Cadwaladr is an energetic Ralph Rackstraw, with an admirable tenor voice, which he knows how to use. Mr. Robert Brough's Dick Deadeye is a splendid performance. Miss Ethel Pierson is a graceful Josephine, and renders her songs with exquisite taste and skill. As Little Buttercup Miss Fanny Harrison is admirable. There is little wanting in "go" and dash in the whole representation, and the calls before the curtain are frequent and well merited. A musical absurdity called *Four by Honours* follows, the parts being undertaken by Miss May, Miss Monmouth, Mr. Le Hay, and Mr. E. Johnson. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, May 30, 1880; Issue 2175.]

#### **31st May – 1st June: Scarborough**

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE. – Proprietor, Mr. W. A. Waddington. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* anchored at this port for two nights, Monday and Tuesday, manned by a gallant crew, who on each occasion were visited by delighted crowds. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, June 6, 1880; Issue 2176.]

#### **2nd – 5th June: York**

H.M.S. PINAFORE AT THE THEATRE. – The crowded house which welcomed Mr. D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company in "H.M.S. Pinafore" at the theatre last night afforded ample proof of the popularity of this comic opera and of the judgement of Mr. Waddington in again making arrangement for its production in York. Last September it met with very liberal patronage, and there is no doubt on each evening this week this talented company will receive the support they thoroughly deserve. The company is not the same throughout as that which was here in September, Josephine, the Captain's daughter, being taken by Miss Ethel Pierson, Little Buttercup by Miss Fanny Harrison, and Sir Joseph Porter, First Lord of the Admiralty, by Mr. A. Wilkinson. As a notice of the opera was given so recently, it is unnecessary now to say more than that the acting and playing throughout is excellent, and such as to maintain the high character which the company has attained. [*The York Herald* (York, England), Thursday, June 03, 1880; pg. 7; Issue 7269.]

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. W. A. Waddington. – On Wednesday in last week Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company commenced a four nights' engagement. H.M.S. and her excellent crew appear to have lost none of their popularity, and capital business was the result. *Four by Honours* was the opening item. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, June 13, 1880; Issue 2177.]

#### **7th – 12th June: Hull**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. Wilson Barrett. – This week *H.M.S. Pinafore* has paid us a visit. She is manned this voyage, with one exception, by an entirely

different crew to that which sailed her on her previous cruise. The principals are fully equal to the task set them, and in fact each and all seem to strive to do the utmost justice to both music and acting. Miss Ethel Pierson is a charming Josephine, and Little Buttercup finds a thoroughly efficient representative in Miss Fanny Harrison. Mr. Cadwaladr's light tenor voice is heard to advantage in the part of Ralph Rackstraw, and one or two of his songs and the duet with Josephine, in the first act, were heartily encored. Mr. A. Wikinson's make-up and acting as Sir Joseph Porter are excellent. The capital chorus and band are ably directed by Mr. R. Horner. *In the Sulks* has been the preceding item each evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, June 13, 1880; Issue 2177.]

#### **14th – 16th June: Grimsby**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee and Manager. Mr. W. Raymond. – A great treat has been afforded to the Grimsby playgoers by *H.M.S. Pinafore* company, who paid us a return visit for three nights this week, the house being crowded to repletion every evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, June 20, 1880; Issue 2178.]

#### **17th – 19th June: ?**

#### **21st – 23rd June: Blackpool**

WINTER GARDENS. – Mr. W. Morgan, Manager. – The first three evenings of this week have been taken by Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte's company, playing *H.M.S. Pinafore*. This is the first time Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's popular comic opera has been produced in Blackpool. The success was indeed well deserved. At the conclusion of each performance the leading members were called before the curtain and rapturously cheered. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, June 27, 1880; Issue 2179.]

#### **24th – 26th June: Dewsbury**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Proprietors, Messrs. Shaw and Field; Manager, Mr. J. W. White. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera company appeared here on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (June 24th, 25th, and 26th) in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. The house was crowded on each evening, and the pretty music and intense humour of the opera combined to give the greatest delight to the audiences. *In the Sulks* preceded the comic opera. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, July 4, 1880; Issue 2180.]

#### **28th – 30th June: Wolverhampton**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Manager, Mr. A. E. Allen. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* has again put in at the Royal dock of the Black Country Metropolis, and large numbers of persons have paid it a visit and expressed their appreciation of all they saw and heard in a very hearty manner. Among the crew we noticed one or two fresh faces, but all on board discharged their duties in splendid style. *In the Sulks* was the initial piece, and was very cordially received. The vessel sailed away again on Thursday. Whilst at its moorings here Mr. Allen took care that all its surroundings were in first rate order. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, July 4, 1880; Issue 2180.]

#### **1st – 3rd July: Gloucester**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Dutton. – On Thursday, the 1st inst., *H.M.S. Pinafore* put in here for three nights, and received a right hearty welcome, the house being crowded from floor to ceiling at each representation of this popular nautical opera, the rendering of which by Miss Ethel Pierson as Josephine,

Miss Fanny Harrison as Little Buttercup, Miss Millie Vere as Hebe, Mr. Wilkinson as Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., Mr. Hogarth as Captain Corcoran, Mr. Cadwaladr as Ralph Rackstraw, and Mr. Billington as Dick Deadeye, and a full chorus, leaving nothing to be desired. On each occasion the opera was preceded by an original vaudeville entitled *In the Sulks*. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, July 11, 1880; Issue 2181.]

**5th – 6th July: Weston**

**7th – 8th July: Taunton**

**9th – 10th July: Ilfracombe**

**12th – 17th July: Devonport**

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE. – The greatest operatic success ever attained in this town was secured by Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company in their production on Monday and during the week of *H.M.S. Pinafore*. The completeness with which it was produced and the metamorphosis by which the Institute was transformed into a very pretty and nicely arranged bijou theatre were due to the admirable arrangements of Mr. Herbert Brook and Mr. John Snawdon, and, although there were certain disadvantages under which the company laboured, they were readily overcome by their determination, if possible, to excel themselves. A few changes in the company, decidedly advantageous, have occurred since they were last in the sister town of Plymouth a few months since, and the only regret is that the stay of the company is so brief. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, July 18, 1880; Issue 2182.]

**19th – 20th July: Truro**

**21st – 22nd July: Falmouth**

**23rd – 24th July: Penzance**

**26th – 28th July: Paignton**

PIER PAVILION. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* company recently gave three performances, and was largely patronised. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, August 1, 1880; Issue 2184.]

**29th – 31st July: Newton Abbott**

**3rd – 4th August: Guernsey**

THE "PINAFORE" COMPANY.

This company under the auspices of Mr. Wybert Rousby has appeared at St. Julian's Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings to crowded and enthusiastic audiences, even exceeding the popularity of the former visit. The crush was so great each evening that hundreds were unable to gain admission. Of the opera it is superfluous to say anything as on the previous occasion we gave an exhaustive *resumé* of its plot and composition, and we have only to add that on this visit it had lost none of its freshness and vitality, the familiar airs and choruses being applauded to the echo, everything going off remarkably well. There were two or three changes, though scarcely improvements, in the cast, but these were overlooked in the general excellence, and pleasing character of the entertainment. [*The Star* (Saint Peter Port, England), Thursday, August 05, 1880; Issue 25.]

ST. JULIAN'S HALL. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* company opened here on Tuesday evening to an overflowing audience. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, August 8, 1880; Issue 2185.]

**5th – 7th August: Jersey**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Proprietor, Mr. Wybert Rousby. – On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week the famous *Pinafore* company gave performances which were attended by the *elite* of the island and proved immensely successful. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, August 15, 1880; Issue 2186.]

**9th – 14th August: Southampton**

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. – Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Gordon. – The latest arrival is that of *H.M.S. Pinafore*, which came across the channel from Jersey on Monday and anchored here for the week, to the intense satisfaction of every one. The scenery is most appropriate, the dresses good, the principals thoroughly competent, and the choruses effectively rendered, much of the success of the latter being due to the able conductorship of Mr. Ralph Horner. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, August 15, 1880; Issue 2186.]

**16th – 18th August: Guildford**

**19th – 21st August: Hastings**

**23rd – 26th August: Margate**

THE THEATRE. – Miss Sarah Thorne, Lessee. – There were crowded audiences on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings to witness the production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*, by Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company. The several characters were most ably represented, and the stage accessories were complete in every respect. Josephine, Hebe, and Little Buttercup were respectively represented by Misses E. Pierson, M. Vere, and F. Harrison; while the First Lord of the Admiralty, Captain Corcoran, Ralph Rackstraw, and Dick Deadeye were represented with great ability by Messrs. A. Wilkinson, W. Hogarth, Cadwaladr, and R. Brough. Several of the songs were encored, and altogether the comic opera was well produced, and appears to retain all its well deserved popularity. Each evening *The Pinafore* was preceded by the vaudeville *In the Sulks*, the parts of which were sustained by Miss M. Vere and Messrs. Federici and R. Brough. On Friday evening Miss Sarah Thorne and her company appeared in *East Lynne*. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, August 29, 1880; Issue 2188.]

**27th – 28th August: Ramsgate**

GRANVILLE THEATRE. – On Friday Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company was announced to appear in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, August 29, 1880; Issue 2188.]

**30th – 31st August: Dover**

**1st – 2nd September: Folkestone**

**3rd – 4th September: Tunbridge Wells**

**6th – 7th September: Cambridge**

### **8th – 11th September: Ipswich**

H.M.S. Pinafore in Ipswich. – We are not early in the enjoyment of histrionic novelties in this town, and not apt at the fun at any time. The strong Puritanic and business flavour of Ipswich air is not favourable to dramatic art. But at last we have the great comic opera of the day with us. Not at the theatre. Oh, no! the managers are much too wide awake to take Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's fun to the theatre, and so they have engaged the Public Hall for a short season of three nights, of which this (Saturday) is the last. The Hall has been crowded in all seats, and the opera has been heartily enjoyed by many hundreds of people. The rollicking fun, allied to the finest music, have been rendered to the Public Hall audiences in such a style as to send them home each evening delighted, and in that frame of mind which prompts the asking for more. The Josephine of the company is Miss Ethel Pierson, who fills the role with all the archness and spirit that it so pre-eminently calls for. Mr. Wm. Hogarth is Captain Corcoran, and looks the part, to say nothing of the way in which he trolls out the charming, crisp little songs. The First Lord is Mr. A. Wikinson, who simulates pomposity, bounce, and brag in harmonious measures. The minor characters are all well sustained, and the provinces are to be congratulated on having this little *jeu d'esprit* so admirably placed before them. A morning performance will be added today. [*The Ipswich Journal* (Ipswich, England), Saturday, September 11, 1880; Issue 7878.]

PUBLIC HALL. – After having been closed for redecoration, this hall was opened last week by Mr. J. W. Boughton, *H.M.S. Pinafore* being powerfully represented and well patronised. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, September 19, 1880; Issue 2191.]

### **13th – 18th September: Norwich**

VICTORIA HALL. – Proprietors, Messrs W. and F.E. Hunter. We never – well, hardly ever – expected to see *H.M.S. Pinafore* in this somewhat antediluvian city; but, thanks to the enterprise of Mr. W. H. Poole, we have this week had that pleasure, and have fully appreciated it. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, September 19, 1880; Issue 2191.]

### **20th – 21st September: Kings Lynn**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. H. Jex. – On Monday and Tuesday Mr. D'Oyly Carte's opera company appeared at this theatre, and the nautical comic opera of *H.M.S. Pinafore* was performed in a first rate manner. The house was crowded to overflowing each evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, September 26, 1880; Issue 2192.]

### **22nd – 23rd September: Bedford**

### **24th – 25th September: Peterborough**

### **27th – 28th September: Boston**

### **29th September – 2nd October: Lincoln**

### **4th – 6th October: Huddersfield**

### **"H.M.S. PINAFORE"**

Nearly, if not quite, a year has elapsed since one of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's talented "Pinafore" companies visited the late Theatre Royal, and another visit of the company in question, this time to the Armoury, is drawing very large audiences.

Unfortunately the visit concludes this evening, and the interest which Messrs. Sullivan and Gilbert's very popular opera has evoked is all the more marked in consequence. With one or two exceptions the cast has undergone no change, Miss E. Pierson, in the part of Josephine, continues the charming and vivacious representation of the character she adorns so well, and sings with a voice as sweet and as full as of yore. Little Buttercup, however, has found another interpreter in the person of Miss Fanny Harrison, in whose hands the buxom but mystic lady brims over with the humour of her part, and who sings – as Miss Harrison is well known to sing – in excellent voice and style. Miss Vere, as Hebe, continues in a part which could not be well improved, and Mr. Cadwaladr repeats his Ralph Rackstraw with all the mock sentiment and tragedy of the character in his usual able manner and excellent voice. The Sir Richard Porter, K.C.B., [*sic*] of Mr. Wilkinson is an artistic caricature which everyone will admire. Mr. Wilkinson follows a very able Sir Joseph, but he gives the part a colouring which is not unworthy of its traditions. Mr. W. Hogarth again appears as Captain Corcoran, and brings to the drawback of a rather hoarse voice a goodly presence and dignified style equal to the demands of his cocked hat and sword. Mr. Robert Brough's Dick Deadeye is a capitally sung and acted character, and to the rendering of Bill Bobstay Mr. Federici brings a capital voice and style. Mr. C. M. Blythe is new to the minor part of the carpenter's mate, and does it well, and Master Fitzaltamont amuses considerably as the midshipmite. The band, under Mr. Ralph Horner, played most efficiently, and the chorus, both in singing and acting, entered heartily into the humour of the piece. The opera is preceded by Mr. Cellier's vaudeville "In the Sulks," sustained by Mr. Federici, Mr. Brough, and Miss Vere. The scenery for it is very pretty and neat, has been prepared by Mr. J. W. White (who also brought the "Pinafore" company, and who secured the armoury for other companies up to the end of December) for the new theatre.

THE ARMOURY. – A welcome oasis in the desert of dullness has been provided by Mr. J. W. White in another visit from Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company for three nights. The principal alterations in the cast comprise Little Buttercup, now played by Miss Fanny Harrison, and Sir Joseph Porter by Mr. A. Wilkinson. Miss Ethel Pierson, Miss Millie Vere, Mr. R. Brough, Mr. Hogarth, and Mr. Cadwaladr continue their effective impersonations, and, as on previous occasions, large houses have witnessed this comical production. *In the Sulks* has also been included in the programme. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, October 10, 1880; Issue 2194.]

#### **7th – 9th October: Halifax**

#### **11th – 16th October: Scarborough**

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE. – Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. A. Waddington. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* had a six nights' favourable cruise at this theatre, and was greatly applauded. *In the Sulks* preceded the opera each evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, October 17, 1880; Issue 2195.]

#### **18th – 23rd October: Stockton-on-Tees**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Cooke. – *H.M.S. Pinafore*, supported by the artists of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company was produced here on Monday evening. The part of Little Buttercup had an admirable exponent in Miss F. Harrison, and Miss E. Pierson was a delightful Josephine. Mr. Cadwaladr sustained the role of Ralph Rackstraw with much ability. Mr. W. Hogarth as Captain Corcoran looked and acted the part to the life. Mr. A. Wilkinson was good as Sir Joseph Porter,

while the repulsive Dick Deadeye was extremely well acted by Mr. R. Brough. The other parts were fairly filled, and the choruses were given with the greatest possible effect. The piece was well mounted. *In the Sulks* was the opening item. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, October 24, 1880; Issue 2196.]

### **25th – 27th October: Derby**

H.M.S. PINAFORE IN DERBY. – Pinafore is not yet worn out, and was displayed intact on the boards of the Corn Exchange on Monday evening. The company is one of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's and plays the familiar characters with fair average merit. There was no very conspicuous individual talent displayed, but Miss Ethel Pierson, with the assistance of some rather forced dramatic effort, infused a good deal of spirit into the part of the captain's daughter; Mr. A. Wilkinson followed the lines of Mr. Grossmith with some fidelity as the First Lord; Mr. W. Hogarth was a good Captain Corcoran, though lacking voice; Mr. Cadwaladr made himself ridiculous enough as the smitten hero and sang his lines well; Miss Fanny Harrison played the bumboat woman to the satisfaction of the audience; and Mr. Robert Brough was a really good Dick Deadeye. Dr. Sullivan's rattling music received justice from the band and chorus and the operas was, speaking generally, rendered well. The stay of the company extends over this evening (Wednesday). [*The Derby Mercury* (Derby, England), Wednesday, October 27, 1880; Issue 8651.]

CORN EXCHANGE THEATRE. – Lessee, Mr. James Harwood. – *H.M.S. Pinafore*, manned by a merry crew, dropped anchor here on Monday last, when there was an overflowing house of distinguished visitors. Miss Fanny Harrison is a Derby favourite, and she was most warmly received. The engagement extended over Tuesday and Wednesday, when, in spite of the miserable weather, the audience was even greater than on the opening night. Mr. Jolly Nash was announced to appear during the remaining three nights. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, October 31, 1880; Issue 2197.]

### **28th – 30th October: Lichfield**

#### **1st – 6th November: Hanley**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. J. H. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone. – A return visit of *H.M.S. Pinafore* has long been looked forward to by the music loving public of Hanley, and the announcement that Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte's company would occupy the boards this week was the means of attracting a large audience on Monday evening. The cast has undergone one or two alterations since the previous visit, some twelve months since. Miss F. Harrison now fills the role of Little Buttercup, formerly occupied by Miss F. Trevelyan. The acting and singing of Miss Harrison are alike admirable. Mr. A. Wilkinson supersedes Mr. R. Mansfield as Sir Joseph Porter. The opera was from first to last rendered in a manner that insured repeated applause. The orchestra was ably conducted by Mr. Ralph Horner. The performance commenced with *In the Sulks*. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, November 7, 1880; Issue 2198.]

#### **8th – 9th November: Chester**

MUSIC HALL. – Under the auspices of Messrs. Phillipson and Golder, one of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* companies paid us a flying visit of two nights in the Hall on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and attracted a crowded audience to each representation. The Dick Deadeye of the company (Mr. Robert Brough) has really caught the spirit of the part, and his acting is altogether free from that amateurishness

which mars several of the other impersonations. Miss Ethel Pierson, who represents Josephine, has a light but pleasing soprano voice, which she knows well how to use, and this, together with an inexpressible charm and grace of manner, makes Miss Pierson's rendering of the part a highly acceptable one. Mr. L. Cadwaladr vocally is a fairly satisfactory Ralph, but his acting is altogether marred by a peculiar jerkiness of manner which has almost a ludicrous effect at times. Mr. A. Wilkinson by no means makes the most of the part of the Admiral, and Mr. Hogarth is but an indifferent Captain. Miss Fanny Harrison deserves a word of praise for her performance of Little Buttercup; as does Miss Millie Vere, who represented Hebe. Mr. Federici's Bill Bobstay was spoilt by reason of the performer's undue exaggeration and forced humour. The chorus was fairly up to its work, and is entitled to some measure of praise. In the absence of band accompaniment the opera suffered greatly. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, November 14, 1880; Issue 2199.]

#### **10th – 13th November: Wolverhampton**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee, Mr. Lindo Courtenay; Acting Manager, Mr. C. E. Clark. – For Wednesday and three following evenings the course of *H.M.S. Pinafore* was again directed this way, and the arrival of the good ship was witnessed by an enthusiastic gathering. The members of the crew received a hearty welcome. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, November 14, 1880; Issue 2199.]

#### **15th – 20th November: Cheltenham**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessees, Messrs. Maisey and Shenton. – The admirable *Pinafore* company, under the able direction of Mr. Herbert Brook, whose return visit has been for some time anxiously looked for, has been playing to large audiences during the week. Miss Ethel Pierson had a magnificent welcome, and Miss Fanny Harrison as Little Buttercup has added much to her reputation. Messrs. Cadwaladr, Wilkinson, Hogarth, R. Brough, and Federici make up an admirable cast, and do every justice to the work; while the band under the direction of Mr. Ralph Horner, is thoroughly efficient. Mr. Edgar Johnson, a townsman, who appears in the first piece, had a cordial reception from his old friends and admirers. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, November 21, 1880; Issue 2200.]

#### **22nd – 24th November: Gloucester**

THEATRE ROYAL. – Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Dutton. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company have paid the play goers of this city a return visit for three nights, commencing Monday last, the 22nd inst. Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's very successful nautical opera has been splendidly rendered. All the principals have been the recipients of well-deserved applause, and the other members of this excellent company were unquestionably good in their respective parts. The opera, which was very well put upon the stage, has been preceded each evening by a comedietta, entitled *In the Sulks*. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, November 28, 1880; Issue 2201.]

#### **29th November – 4th December: Swansea**

NEW THEATRE. – Director, A. Melville. – Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *Pinafore* company opened here on Monday, and played to a large audience. The opera is produced in a manner that reflects great credit on the management. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, December 5, 1880; Issue 2202.]



### 6th – 11th December: Cork

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. – Managing Director, Mr. James Scanlan. – After a cruise of more than twelve months around the United Kingdom, *H.M.S. Pinafore* came to anchor here on Monday last, and during the evening she was visited by upwards of fifteen hundred persons. We are glad to be able to say that the saucy beauty is in excellent trim, and the crew by which she is at present manned well up to the mark. Considerable interest was evinced in the production of the piece on the present occasion, as during the previous visit the opera was given in the most faultless manner, and since then we have had two remarkably clever representations of the work by amateurs, which would appear to have even added to its popularity. Some changes have taken place in the composition of the company since its last appearance here. Mr. Cadwaladr, as Ralph Rackstraw, was favourably remembered, and he had a very hearty reception, and well he deserved it. Mr. F. Billington is still the Dick Deadeye, and it would be difficult to find one who could fill the part as well. Miss Fanny Harrison came specially from Nottingham to play the part of Little Buttercup, and it is almost needless to say that she was very successful. Miss Ethel Pierson appeared as Josephine for the first time here, and she gained great applause for her really artistic delineation of the part. Mr. A. Rousbey sang and acted very fairly as Captain Corcoran; and indeed, the same may be said of Mr. Wilkinson as the First Lord. The remaining parts were also well filled, and added to the general success. The opera was preceded by *In the Sulks*, which took very well with the audience. A large house also assembled on the following evening. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, December 12, 1880; Issue 2203.]

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. – Managing Director, Mr. James Scanlan. – The engagement of Mr. D'Oyly Carte's *H.M.S. Pinafore* during the week has again been a conspicuous success, which has been well deserved. On Friday, the 10th inst., an additional interest was imparted to the performance by the appearance of Captain McCalmont, A.D.C. to the Lord Lieutenant, who before now distinguished himself on the boards here. He undertook the part of the First Lord, which he had previously played with amateurs; but, with the compact professional company on the above occasion, we must say he appeared a very poor representative of the part. The house was densely packed, and the greatest good humour prevailed throughout. The theatre was again crowded on Saturday morning, and in the evening the concluding performance of the too short season was given. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, December 19, 1880; Issue 2204.]

### 13th – 15th December: Limerick

THEATRE ROYAL. – Proprietor, Mr. J. Fogerty. – *H.M.S. Pinafore* was produced here by Mr. D'Oyly Carte's company on the 13th inst., before a crowded and well-pleased house. *In the Sulks* preceded the opera. There was an equally good house on the second night. The stay of the company is limited to three nights. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, December 19, 1880; Issue 2204.]

### 20th December – 1st January 1881: Belfast

THEATRE ROYAL. – Proprietor, Mr. J. F. Warden. – Mr. Carte's *Pinafore* company, which opened at this house on Monday last, met with a very favourable reception from a good house. [*The Era* (London, England), Sunday, December 26, 1880; Issue 2205.]