

## **Colonel Calverley**

Medium-Large role. Bass-Baritone with patter song. Range: G2-F4

### **Audition Music: “If you want a receipt for that popular mystery” – verse 1 only**

Music found in Chappell Score pg 24-29

Or G&S Archive edition pg 26-31 [here](#)

Fair amount of dialogue, 1-2 solo songs and lots of ensemble singing.

Commanding officer of the 35<sup>th</sup> Dragoon Guards. A year ago, he fell in love with and became engaged to *Angela* before going on campaign. A Military man through and through. His love for *Angela* is strong enough that he doesn't mind humiliating himself in Act 2 to prove his devotion. A commanding presence, likeable, jovial, good-natured and authoritative.

It is a possibility that “When I First Put This Uniform On” will be given wholly or in part to the Major.

### **Audition Dialogue:**

**“Yes, it's quite clear” – “By sections of threes – Rapture!”**

Dialogue on following pages.

**COLONEL.** (*attitude*) Yes, it's quite clear that our only chance of making a lasting impression on these young ladies is to become as æsthetic as they are.

**MAJOR.** (*attitude*) No doubt. The only question is how far we've succeeded in doing so. I don't know why, but I've an idea that this is not quite right.

**DUKE.** (*attitude*) I don't like it. I never did. I don't see what it means. I do it, but I don't like it.

**COLONEL.** My good friend, the question is not whether we like it, but whether they do. They understand these things – we don't. Now I shouldn't be surprised if this is effective enough – at a distance.

**MAJOR.** I can't help thinking we're a little stiff at it. It would be extremely awkward if we were to be "struck" so!

**COLONEL.** I don't think we shall be struck so. Perhaps we're a little awkward at first – but everything must have a beginning. Oh, here they come! 'Tention!

*(They strike fresh attitudes, as ANGELA and SAPHIR enter.)*

**ANGELA.** (*seeing them*) Oh, Saphir – see – see! The immortal fire has descended on them, and they are of the Inner Brotherhood – perceptively intense and consummately utter.

*(The OFFICERS have some difficulty in maintaining their constrained attitudes.)*

**SAPHIR.** (*in admiration*) How Botticelian! How Fra Angelican! Oh, Art, we thank thee for this boon!

**COLONEL.** (*apologetically*) I'm afraid we're not quite right.

**ANGELA.** Not supremely, perhaps, but oh, so all-but! (*To SAPHIR.*) Oh, Saphir, are they not quite too all-but?

**SAPHIR.** They are indeed jolly utter!

**MAJOR.** (*in agony*) I wonder what the Inner Brotherhood usually recommend for cramp?

**COLONEL.** Ladies, we will not deceive you. We are doing this at some personal inconvenience with a view of expressing the extremity of our devotion to you. We trust that it is not without its effect.

**ANGELA.** We will not deny that we are much moved by this proof of your attachment.

**SAPHIR.** Yes, your conversion to the principles of Æsthetic Art in its highest development has touched us deeply.

**ANGELA.** And if Mr. Grosvenor should remain obdurate –

**SAPHIR.** Which we have every reason to believe he will –

**MAJOR.** (*aside, in agony*) I wish they'd make haste!

**ANGELA.** We are not prepared to say that our yearning hearts will not go out to you.

**COLONEL.** (*as giving a word of command*) By sections of threes – Rapture!

*(All strike a fresh attitude, expressive of æsthetic rapture.)*