

# **THE SECRETS OF A SAVOYARD**

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The secrets of a Savoyard by Henry A. Lytton

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**HENRY A. LYTTON**

**THE SECRETS OF  
A SAVOYARD**



THE SECRETS OF A SAVOYARD



The Author as  
"Jack Point"

THE SECRETS  
OF  
A SAVOYARD



BY  
HENRY A. LYTON

JARROLD'S  
PUBLISHERS (LONDON) LTD.

R.14.

TO  
RUPERT D'OYLY CARTE.  
THE UPHOLDER  
OF  
A GREAT TRADITION



## "THE GONDOLIERS."

(After assisting at the first night of the new Gilbert-and-Sullivan revival.)

You may boast of your Georgian birds of song  
And say that never was stuff so strong,  
That its note of genius simply mocks  
At yester-century's feeble crocks,  
And floods the Musical Comedy stage  
With the dazzling art of a peerless age.  
But for delicate grace and dainty wit,  
For words and melody closely knit,  
Your best purveyors of mirth and joy  
Were never in sight of the old Savoy ;  
They never began to compete, poor dears,  
With Gilbert-and-Sullivan's *Gondoliers*.

For me, as an out-of-date Victorian,  
Prehistoric and dinosaurian,  
I hardly feel that I dare reflect  
On the art of the day with disrespect ;  
But if anyone asks me, " Who'll survive—  
The living dead, or the dead alive ?  
Which of the two will be last to go—  
The *Gondoliers* or the latest show ? "  
I wouldn't give much for the latter's chance ;  
That is the view that I advance,  
Trusting the public to bear me out  
(The good from the bad they're quick to sever) ;  
" Of this I nurse no manner of doubt,  
No probable, possible shadow of doubt,  
No possible doubt whatever."—O. S.

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of Sir Owen Seaman.*

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## FOREWORD.

*There have been many who have made great reputations in the Gilbert and Sullivan characters and have established themselves as favourites with the public who love and follow the operas, and when the roll comes to be written down finally, if ever it is, Henry Lytton undoubtedly will be assigned a foremost place. He has played a wide variety of the parts, and the scope and versatility of his work is unique. It is unlikely that his record as a Gilbert and Sullivan artiste will ever be surpassed.*

*Reginald Dwyer Carter*