

**THE BELLS OF
BEAUJOLAIS: A MUSICAL
PLAY IN TWO ACTS**

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The Bells of Beaujolais: A Musical Play in Two Acts by David Stevens & Louis Adolphe Coerne

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DAVID STEVENS & LOUIS ADOLPHE COERNE

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The Bells of Beaujolais

A Musical Play in Two Acts

Libretto by

DAVID STEVENS

Music by

LOUIS ADOLPHE COERNE



1921

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20.	Finale: Venus. (Ensemble)	84

CHARACTERS

AUGUSTUS	Duke of Beaujolais (Bo-zho-lay)	(Bass)
JOHN BENDER	A Wealthy American, Widower.	(Baritone)
LARRY	{ Young Americans; BENDER's guests.	(Tenor)
TONY		(Baritone)
HARKINS	BENDER's English Valet.	(Baritone)
PIERRE	A Juggler.	(Tenor)
CHICOT	A Wrestler (Cheé-ko)	(Baritone)
COUNTESS MARIE	A Rich Spinster, betrothed to the Duke.	(Contralto)
AUNT SARAH JESSUP	BENDER's Sister; Widow.	(Contralto)
PHILLIS	BENDER's Daughter.	(Soprano)
BELLE	Her Friend.	(Mezzo Soprano)
YVONNE	A Flower Girl (E-voá)	(Mezzo Soprano)
SUSETTE	A Candy Girl	(Mezzo Soprano)
FANTINE	Maid of the COUNTESS.	(Mezzo Soprano)

A CHORUS of Villagers; the American Party;
The Duke's Attendants etc.

SCENES

ACT I. A Public Square in Beaufleur. Morning.

ACT II. A Garden Party at Castle Beaujolais. Evening.

The Story

The action takes place on an imaginary island near the coast of Normandy, ruled by the DUKE OF BEAUJOLAIS. The principal town is BEAUJOLEUR, where a spring festival is in progress when the story begins.

The appearance on the scene of an American yachting party causes considerable excitement in the village, and the DUKE, with the COUNTESS MARIE, his betrothed, gives a cordial welcome to the visitors and arranges a garden party in their honor. JOHN BENDER, the host of the American party, is accompanied by his sister, MRS. JESSUP (affectionately called "AUNT SARAH" by all), a widow of strong convictions, who chaperons the young guests, PHILLIS, daughter of BENDER, her friend, BELLE, and LARRY and TONY, two vivacious young Americans.

The visitors are charmed with the animated and picturesque scene and enter into the spirit of festivity that prevails, especially the young men, who find YVONNE and SUSETTE, pretty village girls, so attractive that they rather neglect their traveling companions, PHILLIS and BELLE. BENDER finds a great deal to interest him, and being a gallant gentleman, he quite captivates the COUNTESS, an impressionable spinster of uncertain age, whose betrothal to the DUKE is regarded as a political matter. The DUKE, meanwhile, is much attracted by AUNT SARAH, whose conservatism, however, is proof against sudden attachments, and she and her young charges, PHILLIS and BELLE, view with some disfavor the apparent stampede of the gentlemen of their party to the allurements of new scenes and faces. Even HARKINS, the serious English valet, surrenders to the undeniable charms of FANTINE, the COUNTESS's capable maid.

It is suggested that the proposed garden party take the form of a masquerade and the first act ends with the understanding that all, including the villagers, shall assemble that evening at CASTLE BEAUJOLAIS. The DUKE, a simple-minded gentleman, has attempted to enlist the favor of BENDER in his projected alliance with AUNT SARAH; the COUNTESS makes no secret of her sudden interest in the gallant BENDER, who, however, is disposed to be cautious. PHILLIS and BELLE have seized the opportunity afforded by the garden party to carry out a plan for turning the tables on LARRY and TONY as a punishment for their neglect.

Act II finds the garden party in full swing at the Castle. The guests have consulted their individual fancy in the matter of costumes, and masks are used further to conceal identity. BENDER has been persuaded, much against his judgment, to appear in what is supposed by his advisers to be a characteristic costume, and in which he is far from happy. It soon develops that PHILLIS and BELLE have exchanged dresses with YVONNE and SUSETTE, a transaction which subsequently involves LARRY and TONY in considerable difficulty through their mistaking PHILLIS and BELLE for the village girls, with disconcerting results. AUNT SARAH has been prevailed upon to add to the confusion by exchanging apparel with the COUNTESS, who soon makes it clear that she has no intention of allowing anybody but herself to become the Duchess of Beaujolais.

As AUNT SARAH has no aspirations in that direction, it turns out a simple matter so to commit the unsuspecting DUKE that he finds it advisable to make the best of matters as they were. LARRY and TONY are contrite enough to win forgiveness from PHILLIS and BELLE and all ends in the best of good feeling.

THE BELLS OF BEAUJOLAIS

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A Musical Play in Two Acts

Libretto by
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Music by
LOUIS ADOLPHE COERNE
Op. 170

NO 1. OVERTURE

Moderately slow and melodramatic

① (No 3a: "Hail! Augustus!")

PIANO

f

cresc.

②

ff

2da *

2da *

With animation $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
 (Two beats to the measure)
 (No 3b: "Except")

③ *mf*

④ *con espressione*

poco rit

⑤ *a tempo*

*ad. **

⑥ *iu f*