

Cuts to the dialogue

The show is a long one with a running time of nearly three hours, hence we need to make some judicious cuts so that we retain audience attention and leave them wishing they could see a little more rather than looking at their watches and worrying about whether they have time to get to the bar or to their car before tickets run out.

1. The overture has movement blocked across it and so will be left uncut to allow for scene setting.
2. There have been some cuts to the music (see separate document) notably where songs have multiple verses or where a section can be removed without losing the story line or interrupting the flow of the music.
3. The cuts to the libretto are quite extensive and have been made in order to shorten the overall length of the show, but also to remove some of the more obscure phrases and to maintain the flow of the story.
4. Principals in particular need to mark up the cuts so that they do not learn more than they need to.
5. It is really helpful if chorus members have looked at the libretto and have marked up the cuts which are part of the dialogue whilst they are on stage. (If you are following the libretto, marking up other cuts will also help you to follow what happens while you are off stage and to know how long those 'gaps' are.)

The notes below relate to the score edited by Ian Bond which can be downloaded from the SDP website (hence the page numbers are from that document)

Some of the cuts are of small sections but some are of individual words and phrases in the middle of a speech. Where there is a lot of the latter, the speech is rewritten in its cut form below.

Page	Cuts
Act 1	
1	None - but note slight adjustment to allocation of lines to Olga etc
2	None
3	None
4	None
5	Cut (Notary) 'Well now, about Troilus and Cressida(Ludwig) didn't carry umbrellas'
6	None
7	Cuts to the middle of Ernest's speech so that it now reads - 'Elected by my fellow conspirators to be Grand Duke of Pfennig Halbpennig as soon as the contemptible little occupant of the historical throne is deposed - here is promotion indeed! Why, instead of playing Troilus of Troy for a month, I shall play Grand Duke for a lifetime. Yet, am I happy? No - far from happy! - the beautiful Julia treats my respectful advances with disdain unutterable! And yet, who knows? She is haughty and ambitious, and it may be that the splendid change in my fortunes may work a corresponding change in her feelings towards me!'
8	Cut (Ernest) 'I scarcely dared even to hope (Julia) I shall have to do it'

9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut the middle of Julia's line at the top of the page 'It's a very good Pfennig Halbpennig, then pause before saying the end of the line 'Why what play' • Cut the final phrase of Ernest's following line 'all in luxuriantdescription' Add 'and' before the word 'devotion' which now ends the line • Ernest , cut the end of your line before the song 'It would be really interestingthe part of my wife' (hence your question ends with the words 'as to how you would play it?')
10	None
11	None, but lines for ladies at the start of the song have pronouns changed to we / us and gentlemen sing ' It's put them into such a tetter'
12	None
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut the end of Julia's line after the song 'All updone for' • Cut the section (Ludwig) ' Yes I should never do that (Ludwig) a neglected education' <p>Ernest therefore pauses having said 'presents himself' , cuts the word 'and' then continues 'I suppose'.</p>
14	Cut Julia's line 'A stat - tatGerman is'
15	None
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut phrase from Notary's first speech on that page 'The revising barrister expunges his name from the list of voters. • Cut phrase from Notary's second speech 'The revising barrister will restore his name to the list of voters'
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut the lines before the song (Lisa) 'Ludwig doesn't know what fear is(Notary) giving satisfaction' • At the end of the second verse of the song, follow the words in the score (not the libretto) but change the line to ,But who'd support the method old
18	None
19	None
20	None
21	None
22	None
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut lines from Rudolph's speech so that it reads - Yes, by the terms of the contract the betrothal is void unless the Princess marries before she is of age. Now her father, the Prince, is stony-broke, and hasn't left his house for years for fear of arrest, and as the princess comes of age at two tomorrow, why, at two tomorrow, I'm a free man, so I appointed that hour for our wedding.' • Cut lines (Baroness) 'I see ,of course (Rudolph) a slump even in matrimonials'
23-24	Song cut (Both) 'How fleeting(Rudolph) Yes, yes, of course you've tried it'

25	Cut phrases from Rudolph's speech so that it reads - 'Oh, now for my detective's report. What's this! Another conspiracy! A conspiracy to depose me! And my private detective was so convulsed with laughter at the notion of a conspirator selecting him for a confidant that he was physically unable to arrest the malefactor! And the plot is to explode tomorrow! My wedding day! Oh Caroline, Caroline. This is perfectly frightful! What's to be done? I don't know! I ought to keep cool and think, but you can't think when all your faculties are jumbled in a perfect whirlpool of tumblication! And I'm going to be ill. I know I am!
26	Cut the middle section of the song 'When you've got a beehiveCrawly things!'
27	None
28	Cut lines (Rudolph) 'You - you wouldn't like to put down a deposit Ludwig 'Good' (hence Ludwig starts his line with 'I say, we must have a devil of a quarrel')
29	None
30-31	Cut second verse of the song - (Chorus go straight to 2nd time bar at the end of the first verse)
32	None
33	From the song cut (Chorus) 'Give thanks, give thanks Hurrah! Hurrah! The following line 'You've done it neatly' is sung by the men
34	None
35-36	At present none, but the score will need to be checked against the band parts (see lines in blue and IB's notes)
36	None
37	None
38	None
39	None
40	None
Act 2	
41	None
42	First verse of Ludwig's song is cut 'At the outset Is the fruit of steady cram'
43	None
44	Middle section of Lisa's song is cut 'be sure you never let him sit up latewill work on him like magic'
45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa - adjust the words of the chorus change 'that' (x4) to 'a' • Cut lines (Ludwig) 'Have you, well if you'll take (Julia) You think not?' • Cut lines (Julia) 'O that's your idea of a good part (Ludwig) A fine part my dear' • Julia cut 'Yes' from the start of your next line.
46	None

47	None Julia - include the opening lines of the melodrama 'I have a rival! Frenzy -thrilled, I find you both together' which are in the libretto but not in the score.
48	None
49	Cut the lines at the bottom of the page after the song (Baroness) 'But this is most unexpected..... See below
50 (Ludwig) 'Be a violet I beg' Hence when the chorus finish singing number 17, the script moves straight to the statement of the Baroness 'And now tell me about this distressing circumstance...'
51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baroness' first line, please change tonight to 'this afternoon' hence 'and the Act expires this afternoon (this so that it matches the words in Act 1.) • Baroness - cut the end of your second line 'Let festive epithalamiarejoice again' • Cut (Julia) 'Fidgets you (Ludwig) despairing violet'
52	None
53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ernest - in the middle of your first speech, cut 'dressed in my Troilus and Cressida costumes' (the chorus will have changed back into Victorian costumes for this wedding) • Ernest - refer to Lisa as 'her' rather than 'the little donkey' - hence the line reads 'Why, what's the matter with her'
54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julia - first line, cut the opening exclamations 'What would you with mevoice hollow' (so the line reads 'What are you doing out of your tomb at this time of day - apparition?') • Ernest - cut 'the law must be on its last legs, and' (so the line reads 'You won't be haunted much longer. In a few hours, I shall come to life again') • Cut the lines (Ernest) 'What! But you're not serious (Julia) shabby trick I call it' • Ernest - cut the words 'We will fly to your native country broken German here' (Hence the line simply reads 'Then defy the law and marry me now.'
55	None
56	None
57	None
58	None
59	The whole of the score number 24 is cut and the recit and dialogue on the second half of this page is replaced by a speech by Ludwig ' We do not know his highness or the principality of Monte Carlo, but he has heard aright that we are a stickler for formal behaviour, so let him appear and see how we do things. I have a plan to play a little joke on him - everyone hide and when I give the cue - spring out on him.'
60	None

61	Phrases are cut from the Prince's first speech so that it reads - ' Very true. Confined for the last two years within the precincts of my palace, I devoted my enforced leisure to a study of the doctrine of chances - and this led to the discovery of a singularly fascinating little round game which I have called Roulette, and by which, in one sitting, I won no less than five thousand francs! My first act was to pay my debts, my second, to engage a good useful working set of second-hand nobles - and my third, to hurry you off to Pfennig Halbpennig as fast as a train de luxe could carry us!
61-6 2	Cut the end of the Prince's line at the bottom of page 61 and the top of page 62 'and we must not be too hard coins myself'
63	None
64	None
65	Prince cut phrases in your speech so that it reads - 'All these Grand Dukes have their little fancies my love. This potentate appears to be collecting wives. It's a pretty hobby - I should like to collect a few myself. This is a charming specimen - an antique I should say - of the early Merovingian period, if I'm not mistaken; and here's another, and a little one thrown in. Have you such a thing as a catalogue of the museum?'
65-6 6	Cut bottom of p 65 (Ludwig) Quite suddenly of(Ludwig) Yes, a pack of cardiac affection. (Hence after the exclamation 'What!' by the Prince and princess, Ludwig goes straight to explaining that the Duke fought a statutory duel.
66	Baroness, Julia and Lisa - please say your lines to the princess at the same time (Baroness - 'But let me tell you ma-am'; Julia 'Why you impudent little hussy' Lisa 'Oh here's another - here's another' The princess will cut in across your 'babble'
67	None
68	None
69	None
70	None