CAPT: . . . Incomprehensible as her utterances are, I nevertheless feel that they are dictated by a sincere regard for me. But to what new misery is she referring? Time alone can tell.

(Enter Sir Joseph.)

SIR JOSEPH:... Captain Corcoran, I am much disappointed with your daughter. In fact, I don't think she will do.

CAPT .: She won't do, Sir Joseph!

SIR JOSEPH:.. I'm afraid not. The fact is, that although I have urged my suit with as much eloquence as is consistent with an official utterance, I have done so hitherto without success. How do you account for this?

CAPT.: . . . Really, Sir Joseph, I hardly know. Josephine is of course sensible of your condescension.

SIR JOSEPH: . . . She naturally would be.

CAPT.: But perhaps your exalted rank dazzles her.

SIR JOSEPH: ... You think it does?

CAPT.: . . . I can hardly say; but she is a modest girl, and her social position is far below your own. It may be that she feels she is not worthy of you.

SIR JOSEPH:... That is really a very sensible suggestion, and displays more knowledge of human nature than I had given you credit for.

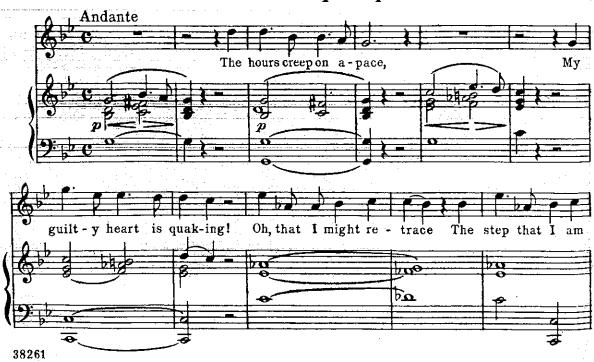
CAPT.: . . . See, she comes. If your lordship would kindly reason with her and assure her officially that it is a standing rule at the Admiralty that love levels all ranks, her respect for an official utterance might induce her to look upon your offer in its proper light.

SIRJOSEPH: . . . It is not unlikely. I will adopt your suggestion. But soft, she is here.

Let us withdraw, and watch our opportunity.

(Enter Josephine from cabin. Sir Joseph and Captain retire.)

No. 15 Scena-(Josephine) "The hours creep on apace"

















(Sir Joseph and Captain enter.)

SIR JOSEPH:...Madam, it has been represented to me that you are appalled by my exalted rank. I desire to convey to you officially my assurance, that if your hesitation is attributable to that circumstance, it is uncalled for.

JOSEPHINE: Oh, then your lordship is of the opinion that married happiness is not inconsistent with discrepancy in rank?

SIR JOSEPH: . . I am officially of that opinion.

JOSEPHINE: That the high and the lowly may be truly happy together, provided that they truly love one another?

SIR JOSEPH: ... Madam, I desire to convey to you officially my opinion that love is a platform upon which all ranks meet.

JOSEPHINE: I thank you, Sir Joseph. I did hesitate, but I will hesitate no longer. (Aside.)
He little thinks how eloquently he has pleaded his rival's cause!

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