

# A FISHY CASE

OR  
THE SCALES OF JUSTICE,

## OPERETTA FOR CHILDREN.



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PRICE 2/6

BY  
**FRED E. WEATHERLY.** AND  
**ALFRED J. CALDICOTT.**

SCENE 2.

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# "A FISHY CASE;"

OR,

## "THE SCALES OF JUSTICE."

**Operetta**

FOR CHILDREN.

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METZLER & CO., 42, GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET, W.



# A FISHY CASE;

OR,

## THE SCALES OF JUSTICE.

An Operetta for Young People or Children.

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*Written by*

FREDK. E. WEATHERLY.

*Music composed by*

ALFRED J. CALDICOTT.

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This operetta was performed by 30 children under the direction of the composer, at Torquay, and realized £120 for the "Crèche Fund." It is easily learnt, many of the chorus parts being repetition of the refrains of the solos.

### CHARACTERS:

ISABEL.—A small child (who has nothing to say, and is only required to be feigning sleep with her face to the audience, her head lying on her arm; a straw hat or sun bonnet, a spade and bucket near her). Dress of any light material.

SERGEANT SHARK.—(Counsel for the Prosecution). A boy with black gown, bibs, spectacles, a large quill pen, and a tall pointed head-dress resembling the head of a fish.

THE OYSTER.—(Boy or girl). Dress of any light brown material streaked with white and darker brown marks, head-dress resembling a large flat oyster-shell about two feet in diameter, a hole in centre for face to come through; it may be made of card-board and brown paper or calico, coloured like an oyster-shell.

THE SHRIMP.—A girl, with head-dress resembling head of shrimp with long feelers, and a ribbed jacket-tail down back of skirt to resemble the shrimp as closely as possible.

TWO LOBSTERS.—With head piece like lobster, large sleeves cut like claws, &c.

THE JUDGE.—Fish's head, ends of grey wig falling over shoulders, bibs, spectacles, and black robe.

JURYMEN.—With dresses as fishy as possible, shells and seaweed, &c.

THE NARRATOR.—Ordinary, or Fancy, dress. The heads may be made with coloured canvas or wire frames.

The Composer will be pleased to supply any information that may be required.







# A FISHY CASE

OR THE  
SCALES OF JUSTICE



SCENE. I.



# "A FISHY CASE;"

## OR, THE "SCALES" OF JUSTICE.

OPENING SCENE—THE SEA SHORE.

ISABEL (*a child*) discovered, lying upon the sands, asleep.—Her companions and others enter at the 20th bar of the Symphony, and walk slowly round her (*two steps in each bar*).

No. 1.

*Larghetto.*

*p*

*p*

*S*

(Enter Children (Left Side) with one hand

If required, repeat Symphony from the double bar.

extended towards the Child. When the Children have formed a semi-circle, they stand to sing the first verse, then continue the procession across the front of stage and back to the same position to repeat the verse.

M. 6093.



CHORUS.

She sleeps,

*pp*

she sleeps, how soon doth slum - ber o'er - take her ; She sleeps, . . hush, hush ! . . She

sleeps, Let no - thing a - wake her ! She sleeps, she sleeps, How soon doth slumber o'er - take her ;

*Repeat to sign. §*

She sleeps, she sleeps, Let no - thing a - wake her !

*rall.*

Ped. . . . .









STANNARD & SON.

SCENE 2.



SCENE 2.—A COURT AMONG THE ROCKS, SHELLS & WEEDS.

The Children arrange themselves in rows in front of the stage to cover the change of scene if there is no room for a double curtain. After singing the first verse, they open in the middle and range themselves on either side, revealing the Judge (a Sturgeon) with a Lobster standing on either side of the Prisoner. The Solos may be sung by an adult, who would act as Narrator, and stand at the left side of the stage. Prisoner left. Judge centre back. Shark right in front of Fury.

No. 2. SOLO & CHORUS—"It was the little Isabel."

*Andante.* SOLO. *f*

1st Verse. It was the lit - tle  
2nd Verse. stood with - in a

PIANO.

Is - a - bel Was wea - ry of her play, . . . And bright - ly shone the  
dread - ful Court Be - neath the roll - ing tide: . . . There sate a stur - geon

1st. Repeat in Chorus. 2nd. SOLO. *>*

sum - mer sun Up - on her where she lay; . . . It lay. . . . As down she sank in -  
as a Judge, Two lob - sters at her side; . . . She side; . . . She had a sort of

*f*

CHORUS. *>*

- to the sea, Down, down and far a - way, . . . As down she sank in -  
vague i - dea That she was be - ing tried, . . . She had a sort of

*dim.*



SOLO.

- to the sea, Down, down and far a way, And far a  
vague i - dea That she was be - ing tried, That she was be - ing

CHORUS.

way, . . . And far . . . a - way. . .  
tried, . . . That she was be - ing tried. . .

*2nd Verse. She*

**No. 3. SOLO—(Repeated in Chorus)—“Jurymen.”**

*Allegro marziale. ♩ = 120.*

SOLO 1st time.—CHORUS 2nd time.

PIANO.

(Enter Serjeant Shark, in wig and gown.) And then the ju - ry - men came in, Just as the clock struck Ten,

CHORUS.

1st time Repeat. 2nd time. (Enter Jurymen and

In came the ju - ry - men, Just as the clock struck Ten. And Ten! One, Two, Three

*take up position. Children point at them and count them.)*

ju - ry - men, Four, Five, Six ju - ry - men, Seven, Eight, Nine ju - ry - men, Ten, Eleven, Twelve



ju - ry - men, The ju - ry - men came in. In came the ju - ry - men, And

*f*

*Ritard.* *f*

SOLO. (*Shark rises, hitches gown at the shoulders, &c.*)

as the clock struck Ten, Rose Ser - jeant Shark and hitch'd his gown, And tri - fled with his pen.

CHORUS. *f* (*Point at Shark.*)

In came the ju - ry - men, And as the clock struck Ten, Ser - jeant Shark hitched his gown,

*f*

SOLO. RECIT. *ad lib.* SERJEANT SHARK. (*pompously.*) (*May be sung by a boy.*)

Tri - fled with his pen. A - hem! May't please your Lord - ship and gen - tle ju - ry - men, The

counts a - gainst the Pri - son - er be - fore you are, That she has eat - en sal - mon



once at least, And soles most con - stant - ly ; Like - wise de - vour'd one hun - dred shrimps At

*ritard.* Mar - gate with her tea ! **CHORUS.** The counts a - gainst the Pri - son - er be - fore you are, That

*ritard.* *rit.* *f Tempo.*

she has eat - en sal - mon once at least, And soles most con - stant - ly ; Like - wise de - vour'd one

*p* *f*

hun - dred shrimps At Mar - gate with her tea, A hun - dred

*f* *ff*

shrimps with her tea ! tea !! tea !!!



No. 4.

RECIT.—(Narrator).

Call wit - ness - es ! Call wit - ness - es ! *(Shark here beckons to the back of Court. Enter the Oyster.)*

PIANO. *f* *p* *Allegro.*

SOLO. *Andante.* OYSTER SOLO

An oy - ster rose, an oy - ster, He spake in plain - tive tone : "Last

*mf* *Andante.*

week her Mo - ther bought a fish"— He scarce could check a moan— "He

*(Mock lamentations.)*

was a dear, dear friend of mine, His weight was half a stone." "No



oy - sters, Ma'am?" The fish - man said, "No, not to - day," said she; "My child is fond of

sal - mon, But the oy - sters don't a - gree!" The fish - man wiped a salt, salt tear, And  
*(Wipes eyes with back of hand.)*

CHORUS.  
 mur-mur'd, "Cer - tain - ly!" The fish - man wiped a salt, salt tear, And mur-mur'd, "Cer - tain -  
*(All wipe their eyes.)*

- ly!" *(Wipe eyes.)* "Cer - tain - ly!"

*(Wipe eyes.)* "Cer - tain - ly!"  
*(Slowly.)*

Ped.



No. 5.

SOLO—(The Judge).

(A male voice is best suited to the character, and may be sung from the side, the Judge acting with dumb motion.)

PIANO.

*f*

"A - hem!" but in - ter - posed the Judge, "How do you know," said he, "That

SOLO. SERJEANT SHARK. *Allegro.*

she did real - ly eat the fish?" "My Lud," it so must be, Be - cause the oy - sters,

*Allegro.*

CHORUS. *f*

I sub - mit, With her did not a - gree.".. Be - cause the oy - sters, we sub - mit, With

her did not a - gree!

*ff*

OYSTER SOLO. *Andante.*

"Be - sides, be - sides," the oy - ster cried, Half in an in - jured way, "The

*p*



Repeat in Chorus, with hands extended towards the Oyster.

oy - sters in that fish - man's shop my re - la - tives were they. They heard it all, they

CHORUS.  
wrote to me, } The let - ter came to - day. They  
him, }

Ritard.

No. 6.

SOLO—(Judge or Narrator).

(Pompously.)

Largo maestoso.

PIANO.

"Tis on - ly hear - say

ev - i - dence,"The Judge re - mark'd and smiled, . . . "But it will do in such a case, With

such a mur - d'rous child! . . . . Call the next wit - ness!" for he saw the Ju - ry get - ting

(Fury fidget about uneasily.)

a tempo.



SOLO. SHRIMP.

wild . . . And

*Andante.*

*mf*  
 then up - rose a lit - tle shrimp, "I am the last," said he, "Of what was once, as  
 - lack! the cru - el fish - er - man, He caught them all but me, The pri - s'ner clapp'd her

(Clap hands.)

*f* (Waves right hand & foot.)

you all know, A hap - py fam - i - lee. With - out a care We leapt and danced All  
 hands and yell'd— I heard her, "Shrimps for tea!" And then went home And ate them all As

CHORUS. *ff*

in the mer - ry sea." He is the last of what was once A hap - py fam - i -  
 fast as fast could be! The pri - s'ner clapp'd her hands and yell'd, He heard her, "Shrimps for

(Clap hands and dance.) *colla voce.*

(Dance round with right hands uplifted.) (Repeat for Second Verse.)

- lee. A -  
 tea!"



No. 7.

SOLO—(Narrator, or a Juryman).

*Solemnly.*

PIANO.

*Andante Maestoso.* *p*

The fore - man of the

Ju - ry rose, (All hope for 'Bel has fled,) "There is no fur - ther need, my Lord, Of

*cres.*

wit - ness-es," he said, "The ver - dict of us one and all Is Guil - ty on each

CHORUS. *f*

head. The ver - dict of us one and all Is Guil - ty on each head.

(Point at prisoner with each word.) *rit.*

Guil - ty, Guil - ty, Guil - ty on each head." . . . . .



SOLO. JUDGE.  
*Allegretto.*

"Guil - ty!" his Lord - ship said, and sigh'd, "A ver - dict sad but true! . . . To pass the sen - tence

*ritard. Pomposo.*

of the Court Is all I have to do: . . . It is, that, as you've fed on us, Why

CHORUS. *Allegro vivace.* (Point at Prisoner.)

we must feed on you!" . . . We must feed on you! . . . We must feed on

you! . . .

*Agitato.*

NARRATOR. RECIT.

She tried to speak; she



*Allegro.*

could not speak; She tried to run, but no! . . . . The Lob-sters seized and hur-ried her off

CHORUS.

to the cells be-low, The Lob-sters seized and hur-ried her off to the cells be-

*8va.*

(The two Lobsters seize the Prisoner by the shoulders and hurry her off the stage.)

- low; And each pull'dout a carv-ing knife And waved it to and fro!

RECIT. NARRATOR (*calling*).

Is - a - bel! Is - a - bel!

(The Children here form into line along the front during change of scene, ISABEL is laid on the shore again as in first scene.)

*ad lib.* *ff dim.* *p*

(The Children here turn and walk round the sleeping child as in first scene when all is arranged behind them.)

*Larghetto.*

If more time is required the symphony may be repeated. CODA.

Stand in semi-circle to sing while NARRATOR comes



CHORUS.

forward and takes the child's hand; she sits up and rubbing her eyes looks slowly round at the Children.

*p*  
 But hark! there comes a voice she knows, And some one takes her hand, . . . She

finds her-self at home a - gain Up - on the yel - low sand; But how she got there

*cres.* *dim.*

safe and sound, She can - not un - der - stand, But how she got there safe and sound, She

*p* can - not un - der - stand. *Allegro.* SOLO & CHORUS. And

*p* *rit.* *ff*

many a morn - ing af - ter - wards, When - e'er she sees the tide, . . . She still re - tains that



Children here open at back revealing Judge and Lobsters, Oyster, Shark, and Shrimp in background grouped.

1st time CHORUS. 2nd time SOLO.

vague i - dea That she is be - ing tried, And tried! And seems to see the

Stur - geon Judge, And the Lob - sters at her side. Ha! ha! She seems to see the  
(Children point at the Judge.)

*ff* CHORUS to the end.

(laugh.) (laugh.)  
Stur - geon Judge, And the Lob - sters at her side. Ha! ha! Two Lob - sters at her side, Ha! ha! Two

Lob - sters at her side, Ho! ho! Two Lob - sters at . . . her side! . . .

*ff* *a tempo.*

(Children laugh and dance, Symphony may be repeated.)

Curtain 2nd time.  
*rit. 2nd time.*



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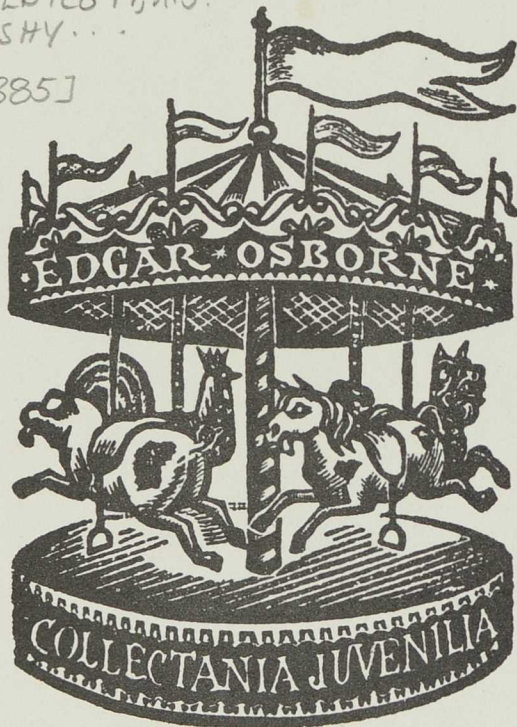








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