

WEBB'S JUVENILE DRAMA.

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THE  
MILLER AND HIS MEN

A  
DRAMA,

IN TWO ACTS.

*Written expressly for, and adapted only to*

WEBB'S CHARACTERS & SCENES

IN THE SAME.

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## CHARACTERS REPRESENTED.

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### MEN.

GRINDOFF, the Miller  
 COUNT FREDERICK FRIBERG  
 KARL, his Servant  
 LOTHAIR, a Young Peasant  
 KELMAR, an Old Cottager  
 KRUITZ, his Son  
 RIBER, }  
 GOLOTZ, } Robbers  
 ZINGARA, }

### WOMEN.

CLAUDINE, }  
 LAURETTE, } Kelmar's Daughters  
 RAVINA

*Miller's Men, Robbers, Zingara, Soldiers.*

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### DIRECTIONS.

R. H. .... means ..... Right Hand  
 L. H. .... Left Hand  
 P. L. .... Plates of Character  
 No. .... Number of Scene  
 FIG. .... Figures on Set Pieces

*The Reader is supposed to be on the Stage facing the Audience.*

N.B.—Care should be taken in cutting out the Characters that the number of Plate or Set Piece be marked on the back of the same, that they may correspond with the book.

# The Miller and his Men.

## ACT. 1.

SCENE 1.—*The Banks of a River in Bohemia. Set scene formed by two scenes, Nos. 1 and 2. Place the Cottage in front R.H. and Fig. 1 out of No. 1 L.H. front. Fig. 2, behind Cottage across stage, then the water pieces at equal distances apart. Fig. 3 a short distance beyond water pieces, the sky wings No. 30 to meet Fig. 3 on each side. No. 2 scene to be placed at back of stage, the Windmill at work. Tree Wings No. 1 in front of the whole. The small Millers with sacks, pl. 8, are seen to pass along Fig. 3 from L. to R. then the small boats 1 and 2, pl. 8, to come from opening that leads under the Mill, Fig 3, go off L.H. The larger size Millers in Boats, pl. 8, to come from L. to R, Miller, pl. 4. from R. to L, then large Miller in boat, pl. 8, to cross from R. to L, the three Millers singing to come on L.H. and sing the following—*

### ROUND.

When the wind blows,  
When the Mill goes,  
Our hearts are all light and merry ;  
When the wind drops,  
When the Mill stops,  
We drink and sing, hey down derry.

*Exit MILLERS, R. H. Enter KELMAR from Cottage R.H, pl. 1*

*Kel.* What more sacks, more grist to the Mill. Early and late the Miller thrives. He that was my tenant is now my landlord. This cottage that once sheltered him is now the home of nigh broken-hearted Kelmar.

*(Enter Claudine L.H, pl. 1.)* So Claudine you are returned. Where stayed you so long ?

*Claud.* I was obliged to wait ere I could cross the ferry ; there were other passengers.

*Kel.* Amongst whom I suppose was Lothair ?

*Claud.* No, indeed, father. Since you wished me not to meet him I have never done so but in your presence.

*Kel.* You are a good girl, and never yet deceived me.

*Claud.* Nor ever will, dear father ; but I find it very lonely passing the borders of the forest, and fear the robbers.

*Kel.* Alas, my child, we have no more to lose; they cannot injure us, besides you have the Miller Grindoff to protect you.

*Clau.* (*sighing*) I fear I can never love the Miller.

*Kel.* Then you shall never marry him. Think how poor is Lothair; but go in, child. (*Exit Claudine into Cottage.*) 'Tis plain her heart is fixed on Lothair; and honest Grindoff yet must sue in vain.

*Enter* LOTHAIR *hastily*, L.H., *pl.* 3.

*Lot.* Ah! Kelmar, and alone! Where is Claudine?

*Kel.* At home in her father's house—where should she be?

*Lot.* Then she is safe, and I did not accompany her in vain.

*Kel.* Has she then told me a falsehood? Were you with her

*Lot.* She knew not I was near her. I followed but to save her from the powerful arm of villany.

*Kel.* Lothair, Lothair, I fear you mean the Miller, Grindoff.

*Lot.* You wrong me! 'tis true he is my rival, and bars my road to happiness; yet I respect his character.

*Kel.* If not to Grindoff, to whom do you allude?

*Lot.* Listen—As I crossed the forest, voices subdued and whispering struck my ear. Claudine had reached the bank above. "See, she comes," said one, "Now to secure her," cried the second, and instantly two men advanced to meet her, at that moment I cried "Hold, villians." They turned to seek me, vowing death to the intruder. Stretched beneath a bush of holly I observed them to be ruffians, uncouth and savage—they were banditti.

*Kel.* Banditti—not content with all my property; they now would rob me of my child.

*Lot.* Kelmar, I will seek these robbers! If I should fall your daughter will more readily obey your wish, and become the wife of Grindoff. If I succeed, promise her to me. The reward I shall receive will secure our future comfort.

*Kel.* Lothair, thou art a good lad, and worthy my daughter's love. She shall be freely thine; but you must have help.

*Lot.* No. I must go alone, unarmed, and secretly. With the juice of herbs my face shall be discoloured, and in the garb of misery I'll throw myself within their power.

*Kel.* As you will (*the mill stops*) but see the mill has stopped; Grindoff will be here anon. Come, then, you shall see Claudine. (*Exit* KELMAR *into Cottage.*)

*Lot.* I'll follow; it may be my last farewell. But the Miller comes.

*Exit into Cottage.*

(GRINDOFF in small boat passes in the distance from L. to R.)

Enter RIBER and GOLOTZ L.H., Pl. 1, goes towards Cottage R.H.

*Rib.* We are too late, she has reached the Cottage.

*Gol.* Not so loud (looking through window) Ha! 'twas Lothair then that crossed us in the forest.

*Rib.* He shall smart for it; back, he comes. On his return he dies; he cannot pass us both.

(They retire behind Tree, Fig. 1, L. H. as the large boat with GRINDOFF, Pl. 1, comes on in front R. and exits L.)

Enter GRINDOFF L.H., Pl. 8. LOTHAIR comes from Cottage R.H., Pl. 1.

*Grin.* Lothair! come let us be friends; we both love the same girl, and strive the best we can to win her.

*Lot.* You have little fear, I am poor, you are rich: but farewell, I must haste, or it will be dark before I reach the ferry. (RIBER and GOLOTZ watch them.)

*Grin.* (*aside*) He must not pass the forest, Stay, my boat shall put you across the river, it will save your journey half a league,

*Lot.* I accept your offer with thanks.

*Exit* LOTHAIR L., and returns in boat pl. 8, from L., and goes off R.H.

*Grin.* So Claudine is safe: now then for Kelmar.

*Exits into Cottage.* RIBER and GOLOTZ come forward.

*Riber.* Curses on this chance, but a time may come.

*Gol.* A time shall come, and shortly too. *Exit.*

SCENE 2.—*The Forest*, formed by two Scenes, Nos. 3 and 4.

The thick wood at back, cut wood in front. Tree wings No. 1, distant thunder, stage dark.

*Enter* KARL. L.H. Pl. 1.

*Karl.* Here's a pretty mess; the sun gone down, a storm got up, and no getting out of this vile forest, turn which way one will.

*Friberg* (*without.*) Karl, Karl, I say.

*Karl.* Ah, call away; you'll not disturb anything but a wild boar or wolf, perhaps.

*Enter* COUNT FRIBERG L.H., Pl. 2, with *cloak.*

*Fri.* Careless coxcomb, said you not you could remember the track?

*Karl.* But, Sir, trees will grow; and since I was here last, the place has got so bushy and briery, that I have lost my way. Holloa!

*Fri.* What now?

*Karl.* I felt a spot of rain on my nose as big as a bullet. (*Thunder and Rain.*) There, there, it's a-coming again. This way, Sir, to seek some shelter, whilst I, for my sins, try to find the way, and endure another curry-combing among these cursed brambles. Come Sir, (*more thunder.*) How it rumbles.

*Exit both R.H.*

SCENE 3.—No. 5. *A Room in Kelmar's Cottage.* Cottage Wings, No. 30. GRINDOFF and KELMAR discovered sitting at table, pl. 2, centre. Thunder and rain heard off stage.

*Kel.* 'Tis a rough night, Miller; the thunder roars. I fear or poor Lothair; he'll scarcely have crossed the ferry.

*Grin.* He's safe at home by this, old friend. I passed him in my boat across the river.

*Kel.* Worthy man. You'll be rewarded for all such deeds hereafter.

*Grin.* Ah, Kelmar, would I could call Claudine mine.

*Kel.* You may do soon; but I fear even your protection would not save her from the robbers.

*Grin.* Ha! what mean you?

*Kel.* But for Lothair, they had deprived me of my child. But see, she comes.

*Enter CLAUDINE R.H, Pl. 2.*

*Grin.* (*aside.*) she has escaped them! (*To Kelmar.*) How, Lothair! he is a bold youth?

*Clau.* That he is; but he's gentle, too (*a loud knocking heard at door.*)

*Karl.* (*without.*) Holloa! Holloa!

*Kel.* Hark, 'Tis the voice of some bewildered traveller. (*Knocking repeated.*) Open the door, Claudine.

*Grin.* Not so; it may be dangerous.

*Kel.* Danger comes in silence, and in secret. My door was never shut against the wretched while I knew prosperity, nor shall it be closed now. Open the door, I say.

CLAUDINE goes towards door or off L. H. Take off figures at table, and replace with GRINDOFF and KELMAR, pl. 1, R. and L, KARL, pl. 1, enters at door, or on L. H, following CLAUDINE, who Exits.

*Karl.* Why, in the name of dark nights and tempests, didn't you open the door at first? You'll fare none the worse for sheltering honest Karl and Count Frederick Friberg.

*Kel.* Can it be possible, at such a time as this?

*Karl.* Ay, I'll soon fetch him; he's waiting now, looking

as melancholy as a mourning coach in a snow storm, and a wet as a drowned rat.

*Exit* KARL, R. H. He is supposed to leave the portmanteau, off-wing.

*Grin.* Friberg, did he say? It must be the same! Kelmar, good night (is going, when enter Friberg, pl. 2, with cloak on, by the door, or on L. H., followed by KARL, pl. 2.)

*Fri.* Accept my thanks for your kindness.

*Grin.* To me no thanks are due; this house is Kelmar's.

*Fri.* Kelmar's! Worthy old man (*Kelmar comes forward.*) But how happens this; the richest tenant of my late father's land is now thus poor?

*Kel.* It's a sorrowful tale—it would chill your hearts to hear. (*Friberg and Kelmar retire to back.*)

*Karl.* Then pray don't tell it, for I've been chilled enough in the forest to-night to last me my life.

*Grin.* In—in the forest? What should alarm you there?

*Karl.* Come, that's a good one. Well, I met two very interesting robbers, who were just on the point of ending all my troubles, when up came master. After a struggle they made off; one of them leaving his sting behind. Look (*pointing to sword*) here's a poker to stir up a man's courage with.

*Grin.* Give it me. I may perchance find out to whom it belongs.

*Karl.* No, thank you, I'll deliver it into the hands of Count Frederick; he'll ferret the rascals out; set a reward on their heads—five thousand crowns, dead or alive; (*aside*) don't half like the looks of this chap. (*Friberg and Kelmar come forward.*)

*Fri.* Nay, nay, I will not take an old man's bed.

*Kel.* Stay Count, perhaps the miller's man, Riber, can accommodate you.

*Grin.* I'll go at once and quickly bring you word. *Exit*

R. H.

*Fri.* Kelmar, tell me, who is that man?

*Kel.* The richest tenant, Sir, you have; his name is Grindoff.

*Fri.* He much resembles a favoured servant of my father's, but he was a villian who betrayed his trust.

*Kel.* Your good father told me all, the man's name was Wolf.

*Karl.* And if this is not the same, I suspect he's a very near relation.

*Kel.* Nay, Sir, you mistake. Grindoff is my friend (*retires to back.*)

*Karl.* (*aside.*) His friend, Sir—Sir, we are in the lion's den to a dead certainty. (*Kelmar comes in front.*)

*Fri.* Kelmar, I have bethought me, and must on to-night.

*Kel.* To-night! but why so sudden? Nay, stay till the Miller returns; see, he comes (*enter Grindoff* L. H, pl. 1.) Well, friend, what success?

*Grin.* The Count must remain here to-night; to-morrow Riber can dispose of you both.

*Karl.* Dispose of us! (*aside*) Ay, put us to bed with a spade.

*Fri.* Then I must cross the ford to-night.

*Grin.* Impossible; the torrent has swept the ferry barge from the shore; so, Count, I wish you good night.

*Fri.* Well, we must submit to circumstances (*aside to Karl*) Do not appear alarmed.

*Enter* CLAUDINE, LAURETTE, and KRUITZ R. H. plts. 2 & 3.

All the figures come round FRIBERG and KARL.

#### SESTETTE.

*Clau.* Stay, prithee, stay—the way is lone,  
The ford is deep, the boat is gone,

*Kel.* And mountain torrents swell the flood,  
And robbers lurk within the wood

*All.* Here { you } must stay till morning bright,  
          { we } Breaks through the dark and dismal night.

SCENE 4.—*The Forest*, same as Scene 2, formed by two Scenes Nos. 3. and 4, Tree wings No. 1.

*Enter* LOTHAIR, 2nd dress, R. H, Pl. 6.

*Lot.* This way they come; now heaven prosper me, for my attempt is desperate (*retires near to cut wood.*)

*Enter* RIBER and GOLOTZ L. H, pl. 1, in front.

*Lot.* (*coming forward.*) Hold! at last I have discovered you.

*Rib.* It will cost you dear, but why come you hither?

*Lot.* To join your brave band—the terror of Bohemia. In the service of Count Friberg I have been disgraced, and fly from punishment to seek revenge. Lead me to your chief.

*Gol.* We will; but first your sight must be concealed (*they bind his eyes.*)

Take off all the figures R. H, and replace with RIBER and GOLOTZ, bringing on LOTHAIR R. H, pl. 3. They go off L. H.

SCENE 5.—No. 6. *A Cavern with Waterfall.* Rock wings No. 5. Figs. 1, 2 and 3 out of set pieces R. and L. Robbers carousing, pl. 5, at back of stage. Robbers, pl. 6, R. and L. in front. Zingari at top of pl. 9, range across stage, Zingara, pl. 6, in front.

CHORUS OF ROBBERS.

Fill, boys, and drink about, | Come, drain the goblet out,  
Wine will banish sorrow; | We'll have more to-morrow.

*Enter RAVINA R. H., pl. 2.*

*Rav.* Still sotting and carousing—to sleep I say, or wait upon yourselves.

*Zin.* How now, Ravina: why so churlish? Are you still thinking of the new bride that's coming?

*Rav.* Poor girl; she yet, like me, may live to execrate Grindoff, the outlaw and the robber.

*Zin.* Leave us to our wine, we want no more of your preaching, woman. (*Exit RAVINA.*) But come, the dance, The Zingari dance. (*Retires to side—take off Zingari and replace with Zingari dancing, pl. 9. After dancing a short time the sound of a bugle is heard. They dance off R. and L.*)

*Zin.* Hark! 'tis from the lower cave, she comes.

*Enter RIBER and GOLOTZ bringing on LOTHAIR, R. H., pl. 3.*

*Robbers.* Hail! to our new companions.

*Zin.* Who have we here? Speak.

*Lot.* A desperate man. But lead me to your captain (*a bugle is heard L. H.*)

*Robbers.* Wolf! Wolf!

*Enter GRINDOFF 2nd dress across the rocks that form a bridge, or on in front L. H.*

*Zin.* Welcome, noble captain.

GRINDOFF coming forward, seems surprised at seeing  
LOTHAIR.

*Grin.* Ha! betrayed, who has done this?

*Rib.* I brought him hither, Captain.

*Grin.* Riber! You have executed my orders well, have you not? Where is Claudine?

*Lot.* (*aside.*) That voice; surely 'tis Grindoff's?

*Rib.* She escaped us in the forest. Some meddling fool—  
RAVINA, pl. 2, enters at back.

*Grin.* Silence, I know all. Now, stranger, what is your purpose here?

*Lot.* Revenge on one whose cruelty and oppression well deserve it.

*Rib.* He complains of Count Friberg, and seeks revenge.

*Grin.* The Count arrived this night, and shelters at old Kelmar's cottage; but he shall never pass the river. Should he once reach the Chateau Friberg, it would be fatal to our band.

RAVINA comes forward.

*Rav.* More blood! Must Friberg's life be added to the list.

*Grin.* It must; Ay, before the dawn appears, he dies. (To RAVINA) Begone Woman. (Exit RAVINA.) At the same time I will secure Claudine.

*Lot.* (aside.) Claudine. (To Grindoff.) To-night! Let me join you in the glorious deed.

*Grin.* You are too eager: but come, your name? and then swear never to betray the cause for which you sought our band.

*Lot.* My name is Spiller, and I swear revenge on him who has deeply, and basely injured me.

*Grin.* 'Tis well—(To Riber) Quick, arm, and attend me. (to Zingara) And you Zingara, see that all appears busy at the Mill to-morrow; it will silence suspicion; and now fill me a horn of wine, and let the toast be, The Miller and his Men. (Take off GRINDOFF, and replace with GRINDOFF, pl. 6.

*Robbers* (drinking.) The Miller and his Men!  
Exit GRINDOFF, followed by RIBER and GOLOTZ, with

LOTHAIR

### CHORUS OF ROBBERS.

Now to the forest we repair,  
Awhile like spirits wander there;  
In darkness we secure our prey,  
And vanish at the dawn of day.

End of ACT. I.

### ACT. II.

SCENE 6. No. 5. *A Room in Kelmar's Cottage.* Same as Scene 3. (Cottage Wings, No. 30.) *Count Friberg* and *Karl* discovered asleep at table pl. 4. Stage dark. Enter *Claudine* with lamp, r. h. pl. 2.

*Clau.* All still! all silent! What can it mean? My father wanders from his bed, restless as myself. Alas! the infirmities of age and sorrow afflict him sorely. He comes! She retires behind wing r. h. Enter *KELMAR*, r. h, pl. 1, in front.

*Kel.* They sleep soundly; ere they awake I may return from my inquiry. If Grindoff's story was correct, I still may trust

him, but his behaviour last night hangs like a fearful dream upon my mind. His anxiety to leave the cottage, his agitation at the appearance of Count Friberg, but, above all, his assertion that the ferry-charge was lost, disturbs me. My doubts shall soon be ended.

Exit L. H. CLAUDINE comes from behind wing, R. H.

*Claud.* My poor father seems much agitated. I will follow and see which way he takes.

Exits L. H.

*Karl* (snoring.) Confound the rats! Yaw, what a noise they keep up (shivering.) I wish it were morning.

Enter RIBER, with lantern, L. H. pl. 6, followed by GRINDOFF pl. 1. RIBER goes towards Friberg as if to stab him.

*Grin.* Not yet. I must first secure my prize—Claudine.

*Karl* (in his sleep.) What, more rats! How the varmint swarms! Yaw, I shall never forget that fellow in the forest.

*Rib.* Ha! do you mark? Let me stop his babbling.

*Karl.* Curse the rats; they all come from the mill.

*Grin.* Ha, ha! do they say so? I'll now seek Claudine. Should you hear a noise without, instantly dispatch them.  
Exit L. H.

*Rib.* Enough.

He goes off wing R. H., and leaves lantern. Karl awakes, and is watching him. Ribber returns, R. H. pl. 4.

*Karl* (pretending to be asleep.) Rats, rats, here they come.

*Rib.* (coming near to Friberg.) This delay is madness, but I must obey. Hark! (a noise heard without.) 'Tis time (presents pistol at Count.) If this should fail, my poinard will secure him.

Is about to fire, when Karl seizes him by the arm the pistol explodes in the air, at the same time Karl stabs him with his sword. Take off table and figures quickly, and put on Karl stabbing Ribber pl. 4, then take them off, R. H., and put on Ribber dead, pl. 4, Karl looking at him, pl. 2, R., at the same time Friberg seizes Grindoff, L. H., pl. 4.

*Fri.* Speak! What means this?

*Karl.* They've caught a Tartar, Sir; that's all.

*Fri.* (To Grindoff.) How came you here at such an hour?

*Grin.* To do you service; 'tis never too late to do good.

*Karl.* But how the plague got you into the house?  
Through a rat-hole.

*Fri.* Explain: how knew you that we needed your services?

*Grin.* Few words will do that: on my return to the mill

I found you might repose there better than in this house;—at all events, I knew you would be safer in my care.

*Fri.* Safer! Proceed; what mean you?

*Grin.* Had you no suspicion of Kelmar? He is in league with the robbers. Finding the door open, I entered. You still slept. I searched the house for him, but he and his daughter have absconded. Now, Sir, are you satisfied?

*Fri.* I am

Take off Grindoff and Friberg, and replace with the same, pl. 1 and 7.

*Karl.* How a man may be deceived! I took you for a great rogue, and you certainly are a very ill-looking man.

*Grin.* Indeed (to Friberg.) But come, Sir, follow me, 'tis near daybreak; at the cottage, close to the narrow bridge, you will find repose. Exit L. H.

*Fri.* We'll follow you.

*Karl.* I don't half like that fellow yet. (a shriek heard off L. H.)

*Fri.* Ha! a woman's voice. Karl, follow me. (Exit L. H., followed by Karl.)

SCENE 7, No. 7. *The Borders of the Forest* Rock and Tree Wings, Nos. 1 and 5. Stage partly dark. Enter GRINDOFF carrying CLAUDINE, R. H, pl. 4,

*Fri.* (Without.) Karl! Karl! Follow this way.

*Grin.* (Resting centre.) Ha! so closely pursued. Nay, then—

Goes hastily to back of stage, and exits down trap, or off behind back wing, L. H. Enter FRIBERG, with sword up, R. H, pl. 2.

*Fri.* Gone! vanished! I was close upon him, yet not the faintest echo of his retiring footsteps can I hear. Karl! Karl, I say. (Enter KARL, R. H, pl. 2.)

*Karl.* Why, where is he? Didn't you overtake him?

*Fri.* No. In this spot he disappeared, and sunk, as it would seem, ghost-like. But come, from the miller we may gain assistance. Grindoff, no doubt, is acquainted with every turn and outlet of the forest. Quick, attend me to the mill. Exit L. H, Karl following.

SCENE 8. No. 8. *Cavern beneath the Mill.* Figs. 1 and 2, out of Set Pieces R. and L. in front. Ladder out of set piece to lean against Fig. 1. Robbers asleep, plts. 3 and 5, discovered, R and L, at back; LOTHAIR on guard (pl. 6.) stands near the powder magazine. Stage partly dark.

*Lot.* Ere this it must be daylight, yet Grindoff returns not. Perchance the fatal blow designed for Friberg may have fallen upon himself. But should their infernal purpose be accomplished; this, then, be their reward.

He goes off R. H. and returns with a coil of fusee, R. H, pl. 5, goes up steps towards magazine.

*Lot.* Into the powder magazine, that spreads beneath the mill, I'll pass the train, and, from thence, amidst the rocks, it will lie unnoticed

He is supposed to pass the end of train into magazine, then goes off R. H. and returns on guard, pl. 6, at the same time Wolf's (Grindoff's) signal, the bugle is heard. Draw off Robbers asleep, and put on robber with gun, R. H, pl. 6.

*Robber.* Heard you not the Captain's signal? See, he comes.

*Enter GRINDOFF carrying CLAUDINE, R. H, pl. 4.*

*Grin.* Behold! so far I have been successful. But where is Ravina?

*Lot. (aside.)* Claudine! Merciful powers!

*Enter RAVINA R. H, pl. 2.*

*Rav.* I am here. What is your will?

*Grin.* That you attend Claudine; and, mark me, treat her well. Now follow me.

Exits L. H, followed by RAVINA. Re-enter GRINDOFF, L H, pl. 1, and GOLOTZ, pl. 1. Take off Lothair; and replace with Lothair, his gun resting on the ground, pl. 6.

*Robbers.* Hail! noble Captain.

*Grin.* Thanks, comrades, thanks. But danger surrounds us. Riber is dead, and Count Friberg has escaped us.

*Enter ROBBER with sword up, pl. 5 at back.*

*Lot.* Thank Heaven! Friberg is still reserved for me.

*Grin.* Be it so. Your firmness shall be proved. Kelmar has fled. The Count I have lured to the Cottage of our dead comrade, Riber, and all mistrust of me is banished from his mind.

*Lot.* How came Claudine to fall into your power?

*Grin.* I encountered her alone, and seizing the opportunity conveyed her, to the secret pass in the forest. But come (*to Lothair.*) Spiller, you shall supply Riber's place at the cottage, and prove yourself—

*Lot.* The man I am; I swear it.

*Grin.* Enough, I am content. You, Golotz, with two of the band, away to the Flask, to be in readiness in case of need.

*Enter RAVINA R. H, pl. 2,*

*Rav.* Content! Such guilt as thine can never know content

*Grin.* No more of this (*to Lothair.*) Spiller, when you leave the cavern make fast the door; Ravina must remain here confined until our work is finished. Come, Golotz, time presses. Spiller, remember.

*Exit* R. H, followed by Golotz.

*Lot.* Fear me not; you shall soon know me.

RAVINA comes in front.

*Rav.* Now, then, hold firm, my heart and hand; one dreadful triumph, and my vengeance is complete.

*Exits* L. H, Lothair from back watching her. *Re-enter* Ravina with cup L. H, pl. 6 in front

*Rav.* As she revives, she'll drink of this, and—

*Lot.* (*coming forward.*) Hold! mistaken woman. Is this your pity for the unfortunate? You, who condemn the cruelty of Grindoff, dare with your own hand destroy an innocent fellow creature? Oh, Shame! Shame!

*Rav.* And who is he that dares talk thus, yet pants to shed the blood of Friberg?

*Lot.* (*aside.*) Now dare I trust her? I must; there is no other chance. (*To Ravina.*) Say, Ravina, what motive urged you to attempt this act? Tell me; I may remove it.

*Rav.* Can you remove the pangs of jealousy?

*Lot.* I can. Claudine will never be the bride of the robber Grindoff.

*Rav.* Who can prevent it?

*Lot.* I, Lothair—her affianced husband. Be convinced—  
(calls)—Claudine! Claudine!

*Claud.* (*without.*) Ha! that voice. (*Enters* hastily R. H, pl. 2, 'Tis Lothair! Then I was not deceived. (*Goes* close to Lothair.)

*Lot.* Beloved Claudine. (*To Ravina.*) Ravina, our lives are in your power; preserve them, and save yourself. Observe yonder train leading from the magazine; secretly convey it without the mill, but do not fire it till I give the signal.

*Rav.* I understand—but Grindoff?

GRINDOFF enters at back, L. H, pl. 1.

*Lot.* Grindoff, with his guilty companions, shall fall, hated and despised.

GRINDOFF retreats back, and re-enters, L. H, pl. 4, in front, and presents pistol close to Lothair's head.

*Grin.* Villian! why this threat of destruction to me and my brave band? (*Claudine retires* back alarmed.)

*Lot.* Was a mere trick—hear the facts. Jealousy of the fair Claudine urged this woman to attempt her life.

*Grin.* 'Tis false; Ravina has no weapon of destruction.

*Lot.* Behold that cup now within her grasp; it contains poison! are you satisfied? (*Grindoff presents pistol at Ravina.*)

*Grin.* Spiller, I can doubt you no longer. (*To Ravina*)—traitress, away, or meet a dreadful punishment. (*Ravina exits R. H.*) Now, Spiller, follow me to the Flask; but first secure Ravina. (*Exit L. H.*)

*Lot.* I'll quickly join you. (*Enter RAVINA R. H. pl. 2*) Ravina, convey the train where I may see you from without the mill, but let no anxiety of mind, no fear of failure, urge you to fire the train till I give you the signal. Adieu, then, till we meet again. *Exit R. H.*

SCENE 9. No. 9. *The Cottage of Riber; the Sign of the Flask.* Tree Wings, No. 1. *Enter COUNT FRIBERG, R. H, pl. 7. and KARL, pl. 2.*

*Fri.* This must be the house.

*Karl.* Clear as daylight. Look, Sir, the "Flask." Oh, and there stands the mill. I suppose old Rough-and-Tough, Master Grindoff, will be here presently.

*Fri.* True; we may now obtain assistance to pursue that ruffian.

*Karl.* Pursue again! Oh, for a bumper of brandy! This ghost hunting on an empty stomach is dreadful hard work Sir.

*Fri.* Still complaining; you had plenty to eat last night.

*Karl.* Plenty last night, Sir! One apple, two pears, and a bunch of sour grapes; and that for a man six meals in arrear.

*Fri.* Go into the house, then. But, hark; (*Music heard within the Flask.*)

*Karl.* What's that? Somebody tickling a guitar into fits. I hate soft music; it makes me as melancholy as a duck in dry weather. (*goes towards house.*) Holloa! House! Landlord! Mr. Flask!

*Enter LOTHAIR, 3rd dress, L. H, pl. 7, by the door, or on at side.*

*Lot.* You are welcome. (*Aside*)—I dare not say otherwise; Grindoff is on the watch.

*Karl.* Well! here's Master and I: have you got anything ready (*smacking his lips.*)

*Lot.* Too much I fear. But will not your master.

*Karl.* No he lives upon love: but don't let that disturb your mind, I can swallow enough for both of us. *Exit Lothair into house, or off L. H, Karl following.*

*Fri.* Yes, I am resolved. I'll away instantly to the Chateau Friberg, and with my own people return to redress the wrongs of my oppressed and suffering tenantry.

Enter Karl as before, pl. 2.

*Karl.* Glorious! The landlord's a man after my own heart; a fellow of five meals a day.

*Fri.* But who are the musicians?

*Karl.* Ill-looking dogs, truly. Savoyards, I take it.

Enter KELMAR (hastily,) L. H. pl. 5, in front.

*Kel.* Thank Heaven! I am arrived in time; my master will now be saved, though my poor Claudine, I fear, is lost to me for ever. Do not question me, but leave, oh, leave, this accursed place.

*Fri.* Would you again deceive me?

*Kel.* I have been myself deceived. Oh, that the Soldiers had arrived. (Goes off R. H. as if to look for them, returns R. H., pl. 7; at the same time GRINDOFF enters, L. H. pl. 1.)

*Kel.* Ah, the miller! then has hope forsaken me. Yet one effort more, and death is welcome.

*Grin.* (going up to Kelmar.) Villian! thy treachery is known.

*Kel.* Thou art the villian. See! Behold!

Take off Kelmar and Grindoff L. H., and put on Kelmar seizing Grindoff L. H., pl. 7, they struggle off L. H., Kelmar as at first, pl. 7, retreats back, followed by Grindoff, with pistols, pl. 7.

*Grin.* As he exits L. H., calls Spiller! Golotz!  
Take off Karl R. H., and replace with Karl R. H., pl. 6.

*Fri.* 'Tis he, the same. 'tis Wolf!

*Karl.* Is it Wolf? Then this shall reach him.

Rushes after Grindoff L.; report of a pistol is heard. Exit FRIBERG and KELMAR, L. H., then enter GOLOTZ, pl. 1, ROBBER, with sword, pl. 5, and LOTHAIR, 3rd dress, pl. 7, all L. H.

*Gol.* Did you not hear? Wolf called us. Ah! they have discovered him.

*Lot.* 'Tis too late to follow him; he has reached the bridge.

*Gol.* Then he is safe. But see! at the foot of the hill, soldiers, in Friberg uniform, press forward; they come this way; we must gain the mill by the subterranean pass. (Golotz and Robber go off L. H.)

*Lot.* Now Claudine, thy sufferings shall cease, and thy father's wrongs shall be revenged. (Exit L. H.)

SCENE 10. No. 1 *A near view of the Mill, standing on rising ground, surrounded by a ravine. The ground pieces out of set pieces, to be placed across the stage, a sufficient distance apart, so that the draw-bridge out of set-pieces may just reach from one to the other. The draw-bridge to be fastened to back ground piece, so that it may be drawn up. The scene at back of ground pieces. Wings, No. 29, also behind ground pieces, Tree Wings, No. 1, in front.*

Enter RAVINA, pl. 2, in ravine, behind front ground piece,  
*Rav.* All is ready; from this spot I can perceive Lothair's signal. Ah, Wolf! (Exits L.)

Enter GRINDOFF, with pistols, R. H, pl. 7, crosses draw-bridge to behind back ground piece, now pull draw-bridge up. Exits L. H. Re-enter GRINDOFF out of Scene 2. Karl enters R. H. pl. 6.

*Grin.* Ha, ha! you strive in vain. I have sworn never to descend from this spot alive, unless with liberty.

*Karl.* Cowardly rascal! You shall have liberty to ascend from it. We'll send every rascal of you flying into the air, on the sails of your own mill.

*Grin.* (calling) Golotz! Golotz, I say!

Enter FRIBERG, pl. 7, KELMAR, pl. 7, and SOLDIERS, pl.

3 R. H.

*Fri.* Wretch! Your escape is now impossible. Surrender.

*Grin.* Never! The brave band within the mill already double your number. Golotz!

Enter LOTHAIR, disguised in GOLOTZ's cloak L. H, pl. 5.

*Grin.* Quick! let my bride appear.

Exit LOTHAIR, L. H. Enter RAVINA, with torch L. H. behind front ground piece.

*Rav.* She is here! What would you?

*Grin.* Ravina! Traitress!

*Rav.* Traitress! What then art thou? Ere it be too late make one atonement for thy many crimes. Restore this old man's child.

*Kel.* Does she still live?

*Grin.* She does; but not for thee, or for the youth Lothair. Now mark me, Count, unless you instantly withdraw your soldiers, and let the whole of my brave band pass free, by my hand she dies!

*Fri.* Till thou art yielded up to justice they shall never depart. Reinforcements are already on their way to join us.

*Kel.* Mercy! Oh, spare, in pity spare my child!

*Grin.* (to Friberg.) For that threat be this my revenge.

(Is going slowly off L. H. when enter **LOTHAIR** and **CLAUDINE** L. H., pl. 7.

*Lot.* And this Lothair's triumph.

Retreats back L. **GRINDOFF** following, then put on **GRINDOFF** and **LOTHAIR** combating L. H. pl. 7. **GRINDOFF** is wounded. Take off both figures L. H.; put on **GRINDOFF** wounded, pl. 3, near to mill at back; then enter **LOTHAIR** and **CLAUDINE**, L. H., pl. 7; the drawbridge is let down; they come over it or on in front L. H.

*Lot.* (to *Ravina*.) Now *Ravina*, fire the train.

*RAVINA* goes off L. along ravine; re-enters L. H. in front.

*Rav.* 'Tis done; and, at one blow, the hapless victims of captivity and insult are amply, dreadfully avenged.

**LOTHAIR** and **CLAUDINE** come in front, centre, **KELMAR** and **RAVINA** R. and L. of them in front. Loud explosions are heard. Now take the scene and back wings quickly off, discovering—

**SCENE 11.** No. 11.—Explosion of the Mill, and total destruction of the Robber band. Explosion wings No. 29. These should be placed behind back wings, 10th scene so as to show when the others are taken away. Red fire to burn at sides, and up ravine, through trap.

*Picture as the Curtain falls.*