

## Gilbert And Sullivan

### "Song Rudolph"

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A pattern to professors of monarchical autonomy,  
I don't indulge in levity or compromising bonhomie,  
But dignified formality, consistent with economy,  
Above all other virtues I particularly prize.  
I never join in merriment--I don't see joke or jape any--  
I never tolerate familiarity in shape any--  
This, joined with an extravagant respect for tuppence-  
ha'penny,  
A keynote to my character sufficiently supplies.

(Speaking.) Observe. (To Chamberlains.) My snuff-box!

(The snuff-box is passed with much ceremony from the  
Junior  
Chamberlain, through all the others, until it is  
presented  
by the Senior Chamberlain to RUDOLPH, who uses it.)

That incident a keynote to my character supplies.

RUD:

I weigh out tea and sugar with precision mathematical--  
Instead of beer, a penny each--my orders are  
emphatical--  
(Extravagance unpardonable, any more than that I  
call),  
But, on the other hand, my Ducal dignity to keep--  
All Courtly ceremonial--to put it comprehensively--  
I rigidly insist upon (but not, I hope, offensively)  
Whenever ceremonial can be practised inexpensively--  
And, when you come to think of it, it's really very  
cheap!

(Speaking.) Observe. (To Chamberlains.) My  
handkerchief!

(Handkerchief is handed by Junior Chamberlain to the  
next in  
order, and so on until it reaches RUDOLPH, who is much  
inconvenienced by the delay.)

It's sometimes inconvenient, but it's always very cheap!

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