

**H.M.S. Pinafore**, opened on May 25, 1878 and Gilbert and Sullivan hit upon the magic touch which vaulted them to both national and international fame. Though H.M.S. Pinafore floundered somewhat in the midst of a summer heat wave during the early days of its run, concern turned out to be premature. After Sullivan conducted some tunes from H.M.S. Pinafore at the summer promenade concerts at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. The weather cooled and people swarmed to H.M.S. Pinafore, which finished by equaling the record for the longest initial West End run with 571 performances.