

THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

Period 16th Century.

COSTUME PLOT:

SIR RICHARD CHOLMONDELEY: Lieutenant of the Tower.

One costume only. Elaborate Henry VIII style costume, complete. Velvet doublet; with full sleeves, trunks, sleeveless coat; belt; tights; square toed velvet shoes; order around neck; keys attached to belt; sword; fancy gauntlets; dark brown chin beard; and velvet hat with small plume.

COLONEL FAIRFAX:

Young and Handsome, in love with Elsie.

1st Costume: A prisoner, under sentence of death. Black or very dark cloth Henry VIII style costume, complete. Doublet; coat; trunks; tights; shoes; belt; hat; smart clipped beard and moustache of the period.

2nd Costume: Disguised as a Yeoman. Regulation Yeoman of the Guard costume, well fitting. Red coat; belt; pocket; knee breeches; hose; rosettes for shoes; ruff for neck; black hat; and halberd.

3rd Costume: Wedding costume. Very elaborate Henry VIII style costume complete, in a contrasting color to that worn by Sir Richard. No keys; sword or gauntlets.

SERGEANT MERYLL:

Of the Yeomen of the Guard. About 55 years of age. One costume only. Well fitting blue and gold Yeomen costume, complete. Coat; knee breeches; hose; rosettes; belt; pocket; gauntlets; hat; light grey wig and beard.

LEONARD MERYLL:

His Son. Young and Handsome.

One costume only. Well fitting brown velvet Shakesperian doublet with cape attached; trunks; tights; high suede boots; belt; large plumed hat, and gauntlets.

JACK POINT:

A Strolling Jester.

1st Costume: A very old tattered jester's costume, complete; coat; tights; pointed shoes; jester's head-piece; and folly stick.

2 nds. Costume: Jester in the court of Sir Richard. Elaborate jester's costume of silk or velvet; coat; tights of two colors; hat with cockscombe; pointed shoes; belt; folly stick. Note this character is clean shaven, and should have round, rosy cheeks.

WILFRED SHADBOLT:

Head Jailer and Assistant Tormentor. A dour, evil looking character, but very important.

One costume only: Dark green wool shirt; leather jerkin; wide leather belt with a large bunch of keys attached; wool knee breeches; old shoes; hose; very straight black buster wig; small round skull cap. Very evil appearance.

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Costume Plot, Cont'd.

- 1st YEOMAN: Regulation Red Yeomen of the Guard uniforms, complete
2nd YEOMAN:
- 1st CITIZEN: Character citizen's costumes of wool or cloth material.
2nd CITIZEN: Robin Hood style with doublet; tights; belt; hat; etc.,
or very plain Raleigh style with short coat; trunks; ~~tights~~
tights; and hat. These two costumes should be
slightly better in appearance than the ordinary chorus.
- THE HEADSMEN: Costumes all in black. Black tunic; black tights;
black shoes; trunks; black skull cap and mask over face;
large axe.
- CHORUS OF YEOMEN: Usually eight or twelve. Regulation red Yeomen of the
Guard uniforms. Coats; belts; pockets; knee breeches;
white hose; shoes; rosettes; white fuffs for neck;
black hats; halberds; and chin beards in assorted colors.
- CHORUS OF CITIZENS:
Various colored Robin Hood style of costumes; and
assorted leather jerkins or boleros with ballet shirts
and knee breeches. Some may be characters as black-
smiths or tailors with leather or cloth aprons.
Usually a motley crowd of men.
- In the last act, two of the chorus men may change into
elaborate Shakesperian costumes, as companions to
Colonel Fairfax, in the wedding scene. Silk or velvet
doublets; short capes; trunks; tights; velvet shoes;
and plumed hats. This, however, is optional.
- ELSIE MAYNARD: A strolling singer. Young and beautiful.
1st Costume: a pretty, colorful gypsy style of costume,
not too elaborate. Full skirt; ballet blouse; open
bolero; sash; kerchief; bracelets; beads; and tambourine.
2nd Costume: A white wedding gown of the period. A long
satin, or velvet dress, with short train, long puffed
sleeves. Long white veil & wreath of orange blossoms.
- DAME CARRUTHERS: Housekeeper of the Tower. Grey wig. One costume only.
A plain silk costume of the period, usually in black.
Large puffed sleeves, trimmed with white; white neck
line; and large white apron. Large bunch of keys at
waist; black hat (see picture).
- PHOEBE MERYLL: Sergeant Meryll's Daughter. One costume only. A very
pretty peasant costume of the period. Long full skirt,
bodice laced up front; pretty organdy blouse and apron.
Also pretty white organdy cap, trimmed with flowers.
- KATE: Dame Carruther's Niece. One Costume only. Wool peasant
dress of the period, of a pretty shade, with organdy
sleeves, apron and cap.
- CHORUS LADIES: Peasant costumes of the period, same style as Kate. Wool
or cloth peasant dresses, with full skirts, organdy
sleeves; aprons; fishus; and hats.