

Willisson-Pace-20050315090003

To: Julie L. Sigall
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From: Pace Willisson

Comment:

I wanted to create a piano/vocal score for the Gilbert and Sullivan musical The Gondoliers to be posted on the Mutopia web site, which contains free sheet music. The play itself was written in the late 1800's, and both Gilbert and Sullivan died around 1900, so it is certainly in the public domain. I found an old copy of the score at the library and intended to re-typeset it using modern software tools. However, the people at the Mutopia project told me that they couldn't accept the result unless I could prove that the copyright that runs to the arranger of the source edition had expired. I was unable to find any information about when he died, and since he could have been a young man when he did the work, and could have lived a long time, it is remotely possible that the copyright is still valid. So, I had to abandon the project.