

No. 9

PIRELLI'S MIRACLE ELIXIR
(TOBIAS, CROWD, TODD, MRS. LOVETT)

The factory whistle blasts. Lights come up to reveal St. Dunstan's market place.

(♩ = 132)

A hand-drawn caravan, painted like a Sicilian donkey cart, stands on the street. On its side is written in ornate script:

SIGNOR ADÓLFÒ PIRELLI
HAIRCUTTER-BARBER-
TOOTHPULLER TO HIS ROYAL
MAJESTY THE KING OF NAPLES
and under this: BANISH BALDNESS
WITH PIRELLI'S MIRACLE ELIXIR.
(The Beadle is strolling around, pompously patrolling his district. Todd and Mrs. Lovett enter. Todd is carrying his razor case. Mrs. Lovett has a shopping basket)

TODD: (Pointing at the caravan) That's him? Over there?

MRS. LOVETT: Yes, dear. He's always here Tuesdays.

TODD: (Reading the sign) Haircutter, barber, toothpuller to His Royal Majesty the King of Naples.

MRS. LOVETT: Eytalian. All the rage, he is.

TODD: Not for long.

MRS. LOVETT: Oh Mr. T., you really think you can do it?

TODD: By tomorrow they'll all be flocking after me like sheep to be shorn.

MRS. LOVETT: (Sees the Beadle) Oh no! Look. The Beadle--Beadle Bamford.

TODD: So much the better.

MRS. LOVETT: But what if he recognizes you? Hadn't we ought to--?

TODD: I will do what I have set out to do, woman.

MRS. LOVETT: Oops. Sorry, dear, I'm sure. (Tobias, Pirelli's adolescent, simple-minded assistant, appears through a curtain at the rear of the caravan, beating on a tin drum. A crowd of people comes running on, gathering around him)

L'istesso tempo

8

T. *He beats the drum enthusiastically.*

May I have your at - ten - tion, per - lease?

sempre mf

f

11

Do you wake ev - 'ry morn - ing in

mf

14

shame and de - spair To dis - cov - er your pil - low is cov - ered with hair

17

Wot ought not to be there? Well,

f *mf* *f*

21 T. La - dies and gen - tle - men, From now on you can wak - en at ease. You need

mf L.H. *f* L.H.

25 nev - er a - gain have a wor - ry or care, I will show you a mir - a - cle

28 mar - vel - ous rare. Gen - tle - men, you are a -

31

A woman in the crowd gasps with horror.

TOBIAS: (Reassuringly)

32 bout to see some - thing that rose from the dead. on the top of my

L.H. *f*

37 *mp*

T. head! Scarce-ly a month a-go, gen-tle-men, I was

39 *mp*

40

sud-den-ly struck with a rare Or-i-en-tal dis-ease. Though the

42

fin-est phy-si-cians in Lon-don were called, I a-wak-ened one morn-ing a-mazed and ap-palled To dis-

44

cov-er with dread that my head was as bald as a nov-ic-e's knees.