

"SOLDIER AN' SAILOR TOO."

As I was spittin' into the Ditch aboard o' the Crocodile,
I seed a man on a man-o'-war got up in the Reg'lars' style.
'E was scrapin' the paint from off of 'er plates, an' I sez to 'im,
 "Oo are you?"
Sez 'e, "I'm a Jolly--'Er Majesty's Jolly--soldier an' sailor too!"
Now 'is work begins at Gawd knows when, and 'is work is never through;
'E isn't one o' the reg'lar Line, nor 'e isn't one of the crew.
'E's a kind of a giddy harumfrodite--soldier an' sailor too!

An' after I met 'im all over the world, a-doin' all kinds of things,
Like landin' 'isself with a Gatlin' gun to talk to them 'eathen kings;
'E sleeps in an 'ammick instead of a cot, an' 'e drills with the deck
 on a slew,
An' 'e sweats like a Jolly--'Er Majesty's Jolly--soldier an' sailor
 too!
For there isn't a job on the top o' the earth the beggar don't know,
 nor do.
You can leave 'im at night on a bald man's 'ead, to paddle 'is own
 canoe;
'E's a sort of a bloomin' cosmopolouse--soldier an' sailor too.

We've fought 'em on trooper, we've fought 'em in dock, an' drunk with

'em in between,
When they called us the seasick scull'ry maids, an' we called 'em the
Ass Marines;
But, when we was down for a double fatigue, from Woolwich to
Bernardmyo,
We sent for the Jollies--'Er Majesty's Jollies--soldier an' sailor too!
They think for 'emselves, an' they steal for 'emselves, and they never
ask what's to do,
But they're camped an' fed an' they're up an' fed before our bugle's
blew.
Ho! they ain't no limpin' procrastitutes--soldier an' sailor too.

You may say we are fond of an 'arness-cut, or 'ootin' in barrick-yards,
Or startin' a Board School mutiny along o' the Onion Guards;
But once in a while we can finish in style for the ends of the earth
to view,
The same as the Jollies--'er Majesty's Jollies--soldier an' sailor too!
They come of our lot, they was brothers to us; they was beggars we'd
met an' knew;
Yes, barrin' an inch in the chest an' the arms, they was doubles o' me
an' you;
For they weren't no special chrysanthemums--soldier an' sailor too!

To take your chance in the thick of a rush, with firing all about,
Is nothing so bad when you've cover to 'and, an' leave an' likin' to
shout;

But to stand an' be still to the Birken'ead drill is a damn tough
bullet to chew,
An' they done it, the Jollies--'Er Majesty's Jollies--soldier an'
sailor too!

Their work was done when it 'adn't begun; they was younger nor me an'
you;

Their choice it was plain between drownin' in 'eaps an' bein' mashed
by the screw,

So they stood an' was still to the Birken'ead drill, soldier an'
sailor too!

We're most of us liars, we're 'arf of us thieves, an' the rest are as
rank as can be,
But once in a while we can finish in style (which I 'ope it won't
'appen to me).

But it makes you think better o' you an' your friends, an' the work
you may 'ave to do,

When you think o' the sinkin' Victorier's Jollies--soldier an'
sailor too!

Now there isn't no room for to say ye don't know--they 'ave proved it
plain and true--

That whether it's Widow, or whether it's ship, Victorier's work is to
do,

An' they done it, the Jollies--'Er Majesty's Jollies--soldier an'
sailor too!