

The Policeman's Song

The Sergeant's air with chorus from *The Pirates of Penzance; or, The Slave of Duty* (bass)

Text by *Sir William Schwenck Gilbert* (1839-1911) [Br]

Set by *Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan* (1842-1900) [Br]

When a felon's not engaged in his employment,
[ˌwɛn ʌ 'fɛl.ənz nɒt ɪ(ɛ)n.'geɪdʒd ɪn hɪz ɪm.'plɔɪ.mənt]

Or maturing his felonious little plan,
[ɔɹ mə.'tʃʊr.ɪŋ hɪz fə.'loʊ.ni.əs 'lɪt.əl plæn]

His capacity for innocent enjoyment,
Is just as great as any honest man.

Our feelings we with difficulty smother,
When constabulary duties to be done.
Taking one consideration with another,
A policeman's lot is not a happy one.

When the enterprising burglar's not a-burgling,
When the cutthroat isn't occupied in crime,
He loves to hear the little brook a-gurgling,
And listen to the merry village chime.

When the coster's finished jumping on his mother,
He loves to lie a-basking in the sun.
Taking one consideration with another,
A policeman's lot is not a happy one.

When the drunkard shows no sign of where the drink went,
He nobly bids all alcohol farewell.
When the juvenile delinquent to the clink went,
He hung his mother's picture in his cell...

The entire text to this title with the complete
IPA transcription is available for download.

Thank you!

