PROLOGUE

IsT to the tale I'm about to tell,
Of a lovely maid and a howling swell;
And the cruel adventures which them befell.
I trust you will say I have told it well.

The maid was a beauty of great renown
In an upper-ten part of an upper-ten town;
Her face was a dream, and so was her gown;
You may see for yourself and note them down.

(The lovely maid appears in the shadow and exhibits her many charms.)

The name of the maid I'll reveal forthwith.
'T is a name suggestive of strength and pith;
I'm sure you will say it is not a myth:
Penelope Englewood, middle name Smith.

(The lovely maid vanishes.)

The howling swell was a college man,
Built on a rare and expensive plan;
The girls, as he passed, to the windows ran,
And sighed as only the dear girls can.
Now he looked this way when the trouble began.

(The eyes of the spectators are allowed to feast on the howling swell.)