

But what is the subject--what the title, of this wonderful work of art ? It might be called the "Snake in the Grass" or "Systematic Villany Unmasked." Here we have presented to our view a monster, a hideous, crawling, squirming monster, whose scales glisten in the search-light of legal investigation, and this monster in human form, this wily serpent bent on destroying the peace and happiness of a helpless widow, gentlemen, is offered to you as the portrait of my client, Samuel Pickwick, the archeologist and philanthropist. I ask you gentlemen, to look at him, and tell me, is the picture a good likeness, is it even a caricature ? Does my client look like a monster ? Does he wriggle ? Does he squirm ? Does he, I ask you, look like a snake in the grass ? (*Pickwick moves uneasily.*)

Gentlemen, enough. You have listened with patience to the extravagant word picture painted in such flaring colors, you have also seen and heard the kind-hearted philanthropic gentleman who has been thus traduced and maligned. I will not insult your intelligence by dwelling upon the trifling circumstances adduced as evidence. I look into your faces, and I see the flush of indignation on your cheeks, I look into your eyes, sparkling with intellectual fire and I see that your minds are made up--that the grandest dramatic effects, the most lofty flights of eloquence, without reason and common sense, will fail to convince you that so good a man as my client could be guilty of the crime laid to his charge.

SERJT. BUZFUZ: \*My lord, and gentlemen of the jury : Having already placed my client's case before you, I regret the necessity of having to reply, even briefly, to my learned friend's remarks. It would be folly on my part to attempt to elucidate or explain his pictorial simile. My learned friend would appear to have been living in an atmosphere of canvasses and colors, but while I must admit that his knowledge of art is evidently that of an expert, it is my duty to remind you, gentlemen of the jury, that you are not the hanging committee of the Royal Academy--that this is not a hanging matter at all, but an action for breach of promise of marriage.

My learned friend has attempted to say something as to the character of the defendant, without, however,

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\*This speech is by Mr. E. S. Williamson, who acted the part of Serjt. Buzfuz.