

Slocum, Marmaduke Montgomery Miggs, Col. Wellington de Boots, Dennis Muldoon, Timothy Tadpole Tubbs.

CLERK : Alexander McKinnon.

CRIER : Alexander McKinnon !

CONSTABLE : Alexander McKinnon !

CLERK : McKinnon is not here, my Lord—Peter Sniffleton !

CRIER : Peter Sniffleton !

CONSTABLE : Peter Sniffleton !

CLERK : Sniffleton is absent, my Lord; that exhausts the special Jury list.

SERJT. BUZFUZ : I pray a *tales*, my Lord.

JUDGE : Very well (*to Clerk*) : Summon two jurymen from the common list.

CLERK : Thomas Groffin !

GROFFIN : Here (*comes forward*).

CLERK : Take your place in the box, sir.

GROFFIN : I beg the Court's pardon, but I 'ope this Court will excuse my attendance.

JUDGE : On what grounds, sir ?

GROFFIN : I am a chemist, my Lord, and I have no assistant.

JUDGE : I can't help that, sir, you should hire one.

GROFFIN : I can't afford it, my lord.

JUDGE : Then you ought to be able to afford it, sir.

GROFFIN : I know I *ought* to, if I got on as well as I deserved, but I don't, my lord.

JUDGE : That will do. Take your place, sir.

GROFFIN : I am to be sworn, my lord, am I ?

JUDGE : Certainly, sir.

GROFFIN : Very well, my lord. Then there'll be murder before this trial's over, that's all.

JUDGE : What do you mean by your threat of murder, sir ?

GROFFIN : I merely wanted to observe, my lord, that I've left nobody but an errand boy in my shop.

JUDGE : Well, sir, I suppose he is a nice boy and won't run away with the shop.

GROFFIN : He's a very nice boy, my lord, but he's not acquainted with drugs, and I know that the prevailing impression on his mind is that Epsom salts means oxalic acid and syrup of senna laudanum. That's all, my lord.

JUDGE : I'll make a note of it.

CLERK : Richard Upwich !

UPWICH : 'Ere. (*comes forward*). Can't I get out of this 'ere job, me lord. There's nothink in it for me, you know, and I promised to take the missus and young 'uns for a drive to 'Amsted 'Eath this artemnoon.

JUDGE : I'll send you for a drive to Newgate if you say another word. Take your place, sir !