

Yorkshiremen like to assert that "if ever tha does owt for nowt, tha mun do it for tha sen": we salute the men and women of this Holme on the elusive Moor for having bettered the instruction to such good effect.

#### Schedule of Lighting Equipment

F. O. H. Spots	4 × Patt. 23 (2 at each side)	4 circuits
Footlights	18 ft. compartment type	2 "
No. 1 Bar	2 × 6 ft. sections compartment Batten	2 "
	5 × Patt. 123/500 W spots	5 "
No. 2 Bar	2 × 6 ft. sections compartment Batten	2 "
	4 × Patt. 123/500 W spots	4 "
Cyc. Batten	18 ft. compartment Batten	3 "
" Footlight	3 × 6 ft. sections compartment type	4 "
Dips	4 × 2-way in pairs	4 "
Fly Plugs	2 × 2-way in pairs	2 "
Total		32 circuits

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## MADE TO DWELL IN A DUNGEON CELL

*Frederick Bentham*

In 1881 the Savoy Theatre, London, achieved with the Gilbert and Sullivan opera *Patience* the distinction of being the first theatre to be lit *throughout* by electricity. This is a very important date, for although some electric arc lamps were used earlier in the Paris Opera and elsewhere for some of the stage lighting, the Savoy used incandescent lamps and it is these that characterize the modern theatre installation. Arcs can have had little to offer which was not possessed by limelight. The incandescent filament lamp brought the possibility of centralized switching and dimming which is peculiar to stage lighting (and has now been borrowed by television lighting) and which turns the installation into an instrument capable of artistic expression. Unfortunately, although we know that the Savoy from the first had some sort of control board, its exact form is not known to us. Dimming control is sometimes stated to have been by shunt regulators which controlled the voltage output of the generators, but this seems to conflict with a *Times* report to which Miss St. Clare Byrne\* makes reference, describing "how a resistance of *open spiral coils of iron wire* was used in order to get graduations between full light and total darkness not possible with *ordinary* electrical apparatus, but now made practicable by the Swan lamps." She remarks, "Dimmers, therefore, were used from the first with electrical stage lighting in England." We would like to hear from anyone with information on this subject.

\* "Oxford Companion to the Theatre" article on "Lighting the Stage".