THE HEIGHT OF THE RIDICULOUS

SONG FOR BARITONE

WORDS BY

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

MUSIC BY

CHARLES HENRY HART

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To Mr. Frank Crexton

The Height of the Ridiculous

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

CHARLES HENRY HART

Lightly, with humor

I wrote some lines once on a time In wondrous merry mood, And

thought as usual men would say, They were exceeding good.

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They were so queer, so very queer, I laughed as I would die, All beauty in the general way, A sober man am I.

I called my servant, and he came; How kind it was of him, To mind a slender man like me, He of the mighty limb.
"These to the prin-ter?" I ex-claimed, And in my hum-rous way, I added,(as a

tri-fling jest) "There'll be the devil to pay". He took the pa-per, and I watched, And

saw him peep with-in; At the first line he read, his face Was all up-on the

grin. He read the next; the grin grew broad, And
shot from ear to ear; He read the third, a chuckling noise now began to hear. The
fourth, he broke into a roar; The fifth, his waist-band split; The sixth, he burst five

Presto  

but-tons off, And tumbled in a fit. Ten days and nights, with sleep-less eye, I

watch'd that wretched man, And since, I ne'er dare to write As fun-ny as I can.