(They look around. He's gone.) (Tubleau.)

(Then a light comes up on **POIROT** by himself. He speaks to the audience.)

POIROT. And so the case was over at last, and the passengers went their separate ways. I have learned since that time that Greta Ohlsson did in fact get to Africa – for the first time, as it turned out – and she did work for the children and saved many lives. The colonel and Miss Debenham were married in a quiet ceremony in St. James Square, *Monsieur* MacQueen returned to his business, Michel to his trains, and the princess left us for the great beyond.

The countess, alas, went back to her husband, *Monsieur* Bouc and I have remained good friends, and Mrs. Hubbard – the great Linda Arden – has recently returned to the stage in a musical entitled *No*, *No*, *Nannette*, in which, I am told, she brings the audiences to their feet.

Meanwhile, I beg you to believe me when I tell you that I wish all of them well, and I hope that they prosper till the end of their days. But at night, in the darkness, when I am all alone, I ask myself again and again if this was justice; if I did the right thing. And on many such nights, it is not until morning that I can close my eyes.

> (The lights fade.) (And then the lights are out.)

> > End of Play

Hercule # 2 Hercule # 2

