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On the Road to Bethlehem

- I gat me up to Bethlehem
 To see a wonder rare;
 (Meheard it rumoured far and near
 The Promised Prince was there).
- I gat me up to Bethlehem
 To find the Blessed Babe;
 (Foretold by old-time saints to be
 A lost world's astrolabe).

- I gat me up to Bethlehem
 All uncompanioned I;
 (A miracle! A miracle!
 A mocking crowd was nigh!)
- I gat me up to Bethlehem, No sound the silence stirred; But on a sudden, like a roar, "Hail, King of Jews!" I heard.
- I gat me up to Bethlehem—
 I trow 'twas somewhat far—
 And I had wine to cheer, but ah,
 I tasted vinegar!
- I gat me up to Bethlehem;
 How chanced it I should see
 Where never yet a hill upreared,
 A hill called Calvary?
- I gat me up to Bethlehem
 To the little King;
 (Meseemed I saw upon the way
 A cross where felons swing).
- I gat me up to Bethlehem
 With saddened heart, I ween,
 For well I knew upon that road
 Prophetic sights I'd seen.

-Susie M. Best.