

Is that the right way, my brethren I ask,  
To perform this great, controversial task ?

As an answer, brother Taylor's is the best—  
Exceeds, in my opinion, all the rest :  
Still I think, that he cuts rather keen,  
And that so much cutting, ought not have been.

And I must call the whole, a water war,  
Which ev'ry true Christian should abhor !  
Still, if they would wish for the truth to fight,  
Do it in much more love, I think they might.

Some fight for Paul, some for Apollus—  
And all only making, a great water fuss !  
Now this is the truth, which you will soon hear,  
Is that my brethren, the right course to steer ?

There's some who think, they are the very best ;  
Who separate themselves from all the rest :  
Nor at the Lord's table with them partake,  
It is the real truth, I now relate.

Nothing but immersion or Cholera—  
Has so far put a check to such bigotry !  
And then 'twas only for a little space,  
For they soon withdrew, into their own place.

Say brother, to one of another sect,  
They think it very wrong, e'en thus to act :  
Separate themselves as being the best,  
Bastard's ! or heretics ! are all the rest !

There's one Baptism, said the Apostle Paul ;  
Hold fast to that, and let all others fall :  
For they destroy much unity and love,  
And they cannot carry one soul above.

For heathen nations, still I think it right ;  
In that respect against it I'll not fight :  
But as a freeborn Roman, was St. Paul,  
So freeborn Christians, are we all.

All who're born in a christian nation,  
Do, I surely think, obtain that freedom :  
I do not mean the nature, but the name :  
But one Baptism the nature can obtain.

Not all the water that's in the ocean—  
Can e'er wash the soul from its pollution :  
'Twill need the Baptism of the Holy Ghost !  
Then hold to that—let all the rest be lost.