

To act without order, or Sacraments give,
They shall ne'er be permitted so long as I live ;
But his followers thought best his counsel to scorn,
And away from the church a new fragment was torn.
They strove and they wrangled, divided again,
Until sects were as plenty as quarrelsome men :
And the heathen looked on with wondering eyes,
To see the disciples of HIM in the skies,
Abusing each other, and then cross the seas,
Sending heralds to preach the gospel of peace :
Go home said the heathen and learn to agree,
What the gospel is e're you send it to me.
Rome too, she severed her sect with the rest,
And of Catholic order can offer no test,
But requires every Papist from the church to depart,
And secede with herself in mind, soul and heart.
But the church, as of old before schism begun,
Still kept in the old paths, united in one :
The *true* faith she holds, and the form of sound words,
Which keeps her united, and free from discords.
When the sects all departed they thought she was gone,
That her power and greatness were finished and done,
That her GREAT HEAD had left her in anger, alone,
And favored the sects, from HIS church which had flown.
But now in great wonder they find the Lord there,
Where with Prayerbook in hand they unite all in prayer,
And in Holy Communion, at the altar within,
Is Christ's Blessed Sacrifice made for their sin.
And while the new sects were wrangling and striving,
The church was intent upon sanctified living,
And in quiet confidence, with Christ by her side,
O'er boisterous billows she safely did ride.