

He hoped that in travelling he had not gone astray.
 He asked for admittance in the name of the Pope,
 And in God's only Son he said he did hope,
 And in His good Mother he knew he would find
 Access to her Son if they both were combined.
 By masses and crosses and candles so bright,
 And black heads and white heads and bright shining light :
 And if that would not do he said he was willing
 'To test absolution which cost him a shilling.
 His sins he acknowledged to be very great,
 But in Lent and on Fridays he never ate meat ;
 He knew there was virtue in Purgative fire,
 But to pass it quite easy it was his desire.
 At this a voice issued direct from the throne
 Away with your crosses of wood and of stone,
 Your Aves and Credos, your mass for dead men,
 And all but the love of my Son that was slain.
 To redeem you when lost and undone by your guilt,
 And restore you to favor, by his blood that was spilt,
 And as for purgation by red coals of fire,
 'Tis a wicked invention of Satan, the liar ;
 It robs me of glory and you of the truth ;
 You were burden'd and trammeld byit from your youth,
 But since you do trust in the merits of Him,
 Who died on the cross to redeem you from sin :
 With Luther and Calvin and Cramner the great,
 Through Jesus Christ's name you may now take a seat,
 And join the true church so abhorred by the Pope,
 Which ne'er for salvation by vain works did hope.
 The poor Papist, a churchman, appeared now in light,
 In a surplice of glory so pure and so bright,
 Not stained with red crosses nor silly invention,
 Thus to decorate man was not God's intention.
 But robed in pure white with no trace of sable,
 So the Pope lost a subject and the mass proved a fable.

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