

God made a little crooked tree  
And set it on the shore,  
A thing of wondrous sanctity  
To paynim folk. But presently  
Came men who hailed the mystery  
And preached a faith of charity  
All up and down the shore.

They built a church upon the shore  
Beneath the crooked tree,  
And taught the paynim to abhor  
The gods by which his fathers swore;  
It proved a simple labor, for  
The Cross they gathered to adore  
Was but a Crooked Tree!