

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!