

And General Baptists, that embrace all the rest ;
The Mormonite Baptists, the worst of them all,
With all the new sects in the water who fall.
And, as scripture declares, heap up their own teachers,
And modestly style them, their good Baptist preachers :
Having ears without profit, unless they be tinkled,
And denounce in plain language the infant that's sprinkled.
"We'll make our own priests," Congregationalists said,
"None but laymen lay hands on a good layman's head,
And although who ordain priests we care not a song,
Ordination by bishops of course must be wrong."
"Every man for himself," the grave Quaker then cried,
"All creeds, sects, and churches, and forms set aside,
But THEE, THOU, and PLAIN COAT, with BROAD BRIM, oh spare !
The Church, *for these great truths*, to tatters I'll tear."
Cried Wesley, beginning a schism to foresee,
"Whoe'er leaves the Church is no follower of me,
My preachers are upstarts, should they try to ordain,
And this I informed them again and again.
To act without orders, 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'er 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 still holds, with the forms so divine,
Which keep her united and free from decline.
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 true Christian order they unite all in prayer,