

## POOR TOM

Lissen awhile, kine gentle voke,  
Vor zure, tis time zom biddy spoke  
Bout poor woold Tom, who's well-know'd veace,  
Is zo vamiliar roun ower pleace.

Come an behold his tiny cot;  
Zee var yerzelves his lowly lot;  
Yer hearts I'm zure'll veel distress  
Wen you da zee zich wretchedness.

One room above an one below,  
No vurniture var empty show;  
A vew woold chattles, wor'd an plain,  
Is ael Tom's cottage do contain.

An here apou tha cwold damp bricks,  
Jenny, his wife, var long days zix  
Out of the zeven, at her tub,  
Da wash an iron, rub, an scrub.

Poor crater, wat a life be hers,  
Her haggard look 'ull bring ee tears;  
Heet tis seldom she complains,  
Tho her frame is racked wie pains.

Var zweet contentment vills her heart,  
An well she carries out her peart,  
An thinks much woss be other's lots,  
Who wanderen av no humble cots.

An every night ta heaven her prayer  
Goes up wie thanks var humble vare;

Bit who that knows her case shill deer  
Ta say that ample is her sheare.

Tis a paaltry zum that she da yearn,  
An the parish officers be stern;  
Herself, she ardly can zustain,  
An the parish must poor Tom maintain.

Poor Tom, the butt of ael tha bwoys,  
Who jeer un wie ther shouts an naise,  
Wich offen brings un pains an yeakes,  
Tho in good peart he ael o'it teakes.

Two shillins an two loaves a bread  
He gets, so he's not auver ved,  
Tho zomtimes praphs he avs a chance,  
Thease little lowance to enhance.

A smaal job praps vaals in his way,  
Ta bring un in zim extry pay;  
Bit this tha parish mussen know,  
Or they meaken ael on it vorego.

Poor Tom av zeed zim bitter strife,  
Ael droo out his wary life;  
Var ever trated as a drudge,  
Heet his woold heart neer velt a gridge.

A poor woold wor'd out man he's now,  
We deep lines furrowed on his brow;  
Dree score an ten he long av past,  
His health an straingth is vailen vast.

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Ye wealthy, I appeal ta you,  
Wen by thease tiny cot you goo,  
Jist gie a caal, an then you'll see  
If thay dwont desarve your charity.