

## 54 Ratcliffe Highway - Mrs Howard



As I was a - rol - ling down Wap - ping I - ramb - led thro' Rat - cliffe High - way, to -



drink I went in - to an ale house to spend all that night and next day.

1

As I was a rolling down Wapping  
I rambled thro' Ratcliffe Highway;  
to drink I went into an ale house  
to spend all that night and next day.

2

Where a blooming young doxy sat by me;  
she asked if I'd money to sport.  
For a bottle of wine charge a guinea;  
she quickly replied, 'That's the sort.'

3

When the bottle was brought to the table  
and glasses for everyone.  
I asked for the change of a guinea  
she gave me the verse of a song.

4

This old baud flew into a passion,  
and placed her two hands on her hips,  
saying, 'Young man, you don't know our fashion.  
Do you think you're on board of a ship?'

5

'If this is your fashion to rob me,  
it's a fashion I ne'er can abide.  
So launch out the change of my guinea,  
or dang me I'll give a broadside.'

6

A bottle and glass on the table  
at her head I quickly let fly,  
then down on the floor she did tumble,  
'O murder, I'm killed!' she did cry.

7

A gold watch hung over the chimney  
for the change of my guinea I seized,  
and down the stairs I run nimbly,  
saying, 'Dang my old shoes, I'm am pleased.'

8

The night had been dark in my favour,  
to the water I nimbly did creep,  
and got into a boat bound for Deptford,  
and got safe on board of my ship.

9

So come all you young seamen who ramble,  
especially through Ratcliffe Highway,  
to drink you go into an ale house,  
beware there how long you do stay.

10

For the wines and the songs will divert you,  
you'll think that your mind was deranged,  
and if you give them a guinea  
you may go to the devil for change.