

Recollections



If I had my life to live over,
I speak now as old grandpapa,
The words are like echoing thunder,
“If only, If only, I had.”

I'd gather my children around me
And each of them there would find rest,
Each one would know that I love them,
And to me they would know they're the best.

I'd teach them the story of Jesus,
The books of the Bible they'd learn,
They'd know of the God who is loving,
But whenever they sin, He is stern.

At night we would all sing together
With actions, we'd sing of God's love,
And bowing my knees with my children,
Each pray to our God up above.

Oh never, no never, would ever,
My child go to bed shouted at,
But each would feel on their forehead,
A kiss that would say such a lot.

I'd try to remember they're tiny,
A little child just growing up,
And when a mistake is committed,
There'd be no yelling or cuff.

I'd try to be more understanding,
Recalling I once was a child,
How often I did things so foolish,
As well as quite stubborn and wild.

I'd limit you're watching the telly
And teaching you things more worthwhile,
To help you become a wise adult,
Instead of forever a child.

I'd no longer just think of self dear,
And ways which are easy for me,
And not a day would go past “pet”,
When you would not sit on my knee.

I'd speak to you, give you your honour,
Bestow on you praise and respect,
You'd learn to see beauty in others,
To live life in pure circumspect.

To walk with you down by the river,
Or throw little stones in the sea,
To laugh more, and play more together,
Your brother, sister and me.

But for me the days are long past dear,
Sad memories is what I have now,
If I had my life to live over,
How much I would change it, oh! how.