



Tony Wilkinson

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The Vicar of Bray Anonymous

Artist page : <https://www.free-scores.com/Download-PDF-Sheet-Music-tonywilkinson.htm>

About the piece



Title:	The Vicar of Bray
Composer:	Anonymous
Arranger:	Wilkinson, Tony
Copyright:	Creative Commons Licence 4.0
Publisher:	Wilkinson, Tony
Instrumentation:	Piano solo
Style:	Traditional
Comment:	Typeset score.

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The Vicar of Bray

Anon.
c. 17th

Lively

1. In good King Charles' golden days,
When loyalty no harm meant,
A zealous high church man I was,
And so I gain'd preferment.
Unto my flock I daily preach'd,
Kings are by God appointed,
And damned are those who dare resist,
or touch the Lord's anointed.

(Chorus)

And this is law, I will maintain
Until my dying day, sir.
That whatsoever King may reign,
I will be the Vicar of Bray, sir!

2. When royal James possessed the crown,
And popery grew in fashion:
The penal law I shouted down,
And read the Declaration:
The Church of Rome I found would fit
Full well my Constitution,
And I had been a Jesuit,
But for the Revolution.

(Chorus)

3. When William our Deliverer came,
To heal the Nation's Grievance,
King declared, to ease the nation's grievance,
I turned the Cat in Pan again,
And swore to him allegiance:
Old principles I did revoke,
Set conscience at a distance,
Passive obedience is a joke,
A jest is non-resistance.

(Chorus)

4. When Royal Anne became our Queen,
Then Church of England's Glory,
Another face of things was seen,
And I became a Tory:
Occasional Conformists base
I Damn'd, and Moderation,
And thought the Church in danger was,
From such Prevarication.

(Chorus)

5. When George in Pudding time came o'er,
And Moderate Men looked big, Sir,
My Principles I chang'd once more,
And so became a Whig, Sir.
And thus Preferment I procur'd,
From our Faith's great Defender
And almost every day abjur'd
The Pope, and the Pretender.

(chorus)

6. The Illustrious House of Hanover,
And Protestant succession,
To these I lustily will swear,
Whilst they can keep possession:
For in my Faith, and Loyalty,
I never once will falter,
But George, my lawful king shall be,
Except the Times shou'd alter.

(Chorus)