

George Colman, the Younger (1762-1836)

3 *Unfortunate Miss Bailey*

Tune.— “*Ally Croker.*”

From *Love Laughs at Locksmiths*

A captain bold in Halifax, that dwelt in country quarters,  
Seduc'd a maid, who hang'd herself one morning in her garters.  
His wicked conscience smited him, he lost his stomach daily;  
He took to drinking ratifa, and thought upon Miss Bailey.

Oh, Miss Bailey! unfortunate Miss Bailey! 5

One night betimes he went to rest, for he had caught a fever;  
Says he, “I am a handsome man, but I'm a gay deceiver.”  
His candle, just at twelve o'clock, began to burn quite palely, —  
A ghost stepped up to his bedside, and said, “Behold Miss Bailey!”

Oh, Miss Bailey! unfortunate Miss Bailey! 10

“Avaunt, Miss Bailey!” then he cried; “your face looks white and mealy.”  
“Dear Captain Smith,” the ghost replied, “you've used me ungentely:  
The crowner's 'quest goes hard with me, because I've acted frailly,  
And Parson Biggs won't bury me, though I am dead Miss Bailey!”

Oh, Miss Bailey! unfortunate Miss Bailey! 15

“Dear corpse,” says he, “since you and I accounts must once for all close,  
I've got a one pound note in my regimental small clothes;  
'Twill bribe the sexton for your grave.” The ghost then vanish'd gaily,  
Crying, “Bless you, wicked Captain Smith! remember poor Miss Bailey!”

Oh, Miss Bailey! unfortunate Miss Bailey! 20

(From *Love Laughs at Locksmiths*. Original Complete Edition. London:  
John Dicks, n. d.)