G. Colman, the Younger (1762-1836)

2 Sir Marmaduke

Sir Marmaduke was a hearty knight:
    Good man! old man!
He's painted standing bolt upright,
    With his hose rolled over his knee;
His periwig's as white as chalk, 5
And on his fist he holds a hawk;
    And he looks like the head
        Of an ancient family.

His dining-room was long and wide:
    Good man! old man! 10
His spaniels lay by the fireside;
    And in other parts, d'ye see,
Crossbows, tobacco-pipes, old hats,
A saddle, his wife, and a litter of cats;
    And he looked like the head 15
        Of an ancient family.

He never turned the poor from the gate:
    Good man! old man!
But was always ready to break the pate
    Of his country's enemy. 20
What knight could do a better thing
Than serve the poor, and fight for his king?
    And so may every head
        Of an ancient family.

(From John Williamson Palmer, ed. *Folk Songs*. New York: Charles Scribner, 1861)