

The Salamanca Corpus: *Lancashire Hob and the Quack Doctor* (1763)

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A thrifty carl was tir'd of lonely Cot, Because the Tooth-ach he so often got: Six Teeth were all he had to chew his Food; All gave him Pain, but none could do him good. *Hob* hearing his *Rochdale* Town did then contain A famous Quack, that drew Teeth without pain. To him he flies, and, in a Voice as loud As Stentor's, thus bespoke him thro' the Crowd: *Ho--onist Mon! whot munneh gi' ye to drea A Tush ot pleagues me awmust Neet on Dea?* Six Pence the Quack replies.--*Hob* spoke again, *On conneh do't me, thinkneh, beawt mich pein!*



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Ho, well enough.--Quoth *Hob*, Suppose I two,
Yoan do for neenpunce? That I will not do.
Heaw monny then for Twelvepunce winneh poo?
All that thou hast.--Quoth Hob, They're just enoo.
The Doctor took this for a Country Joke,
'Till he saw Hob hard pressing thro' the folk,
And mount the stage.--Quack now some mirth intends.
And slily for a Pair of Pincers sends;

[Page]

Thinking he'd met one of those puny Fools Would run away from such inhumane Tools. Hob takes the pincers, Vara weel, said he If they'n fit yo, I'm shure they win fit me. Hob now aloft is seated in a Chair, With open Mouth, in which the Quack did stare; Who laughing said, You have but six, I find, And they're so loose, they'll wag with e'ry wind. Better for yo, yo known; do yo yer job. Yes, yes, and quickly too, my honest Hob; Hold up your head--Oh--here is one you see; Cone, hold again--here's two--Would you have three? I think ot mon's a foo; we bargint plene, Poo these aw eawt, or set thoose in ogen. If that be th' Case, hold up again, my Friend, Come, open wide, and soon the Work we'll end. Hob now extends his spacious Jaws so wide, There's Room for Pincers, and good Light beside. Cries Quack, Here's three--here's four--Hob bawls out Oh,



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Hold, hold, says Quack, there's something more to do; Come, gape again;--here's a five--here's a six--and th' last, And now I'm sure thy Tooth-Ach pains are past. That's reet, quoth Hob, gi' me meh teeth, on then I'll pey os freely os some roycher men. The Quack complies, and Hob his twelve pence paid, Then, in dismounting, to the Mob thus said, They're arron Foos ot Six Pence pein for one, While for o Shilling I ha six jobs done. But sill they're bigger foos that live e pein, When good seawnd Teeth mey choance to come ogen. The Doctor stares--and hastily replies, They come again! not till the Dead shall rise, One single Tooth no more thy Jaws shall boast, I hold a Crown thou ev'ry Tooth has lost. Tis done, quoth Hob: and stakes a Charle's Crown The Quack as nimbly throws Five Shillings down.

[Page]

Hob takes up all and in a neighbour's Hand
Secures the Total: then makes his Demand.
Measter yo know eawr Bet is, that I've lost
My Teeth; and that I have not none to boast.
The Quack replies 'tis true; and what by that?
Why, see I've six neaw; eh meh owd Scull-hat.
Ne sur, if yoan geaw wimmy Whom, I'll shew.
Yo e'ry Tooth, ot e meh meawth did groo.
The Quack ill-vex'd he such a Bite shou'd meet
Turn'd on his heel, while Hob said, Sur-good neet.