

A monk and a statue of Saint Patrick trying to prevent the devil from snatching the corpse of a witch from its grave. Watercolour by E. Bell, 1804.

Contributors

Bell, Edward, 1768-1847.

Taylor, W. 1765-1836. A tale of wonder

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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



Now if the devil is my cost,
With his dread cross, I wield
My father, son, and Holy Ghost,
By Patrick, and the blessed host,
I charge thee devil, yield!

Then might be seen a wondrous sight,
His form of ash and
With writhing limbs and beating heart,
And eyes of dark and haggard stare,
And lips and mottled blue,
Wringing his hands in wild affright
The thing about the priests

He trembled like a leaf in the grave
And hissed with his 30 tails,
The coffin with its iron clasp,
The words he said, and the blessed host,
Against the shining cross.