SUCH A PARCEL OF ROGUES IN A NATION!

This song embodies pretty fairly the anti-union feeling of Scotland, which was essentially a Jacobite feeling, though partaken of by many who were not Jacobites, and echoed by a vast proportion of the populace, while in reality, for anything that has yet appeared, the sober good sense of the country was willing to see the long-contemplated junction effected. The usual charge of corruption against the majority of the Scottish parliament is also here embodied; a charge, however, which, it is but fair to say, never has been borne out by clear evidence.



Farewell to a' our Scottish fame,
Farewell our ancient glory;
Farewell ev'n to the Scottish name,
Sae famed in ancient story!
Now Sark rins ower the Solway sands,
And Tweed rins to the ocean,
To mark where England's province stands:
Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!

What force or guile could not subdue,
Through many warlike ages,
Is wrought now by a coward few,
For hireling traitors' wages.
The English steel we could disdain,
Secure in valour's station;
But English gold has been our bane:
Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!

I would, ere I had seen the day,
That treason thus could sell us,
My auld gray head had lain in clay,
Wi' Bruce and loyal Wallace!
But pith and power, to my last hour
I'll make this declaration,
We're bought and sold for English gold:
Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!