

# St. Dunstan's Red and White

*Ex eodem fonte fides et scientia*

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## PETITION

Give me the gold of Silence, Lord, that I  
May purchase happiness, for I am poor  
In tolerance, unable to endure  
The pricks of living; eager to apply  
The lash of biting words; Oh, let me buy  
Serenity and laughter, and secure  
For my sick soul that never failing cure  
Of holy patience, and a will to try  
The balm of gentle speaking! Let me share  
In golden Silence; just a meagre part  
Would buy the jewel that I yearn to wear  
In sweet security upon my heart;—  
A talisman transforming common care;—  
The pearl of Peace, delight's own counterpart.

—*Lucy Gertrude Clarkin*