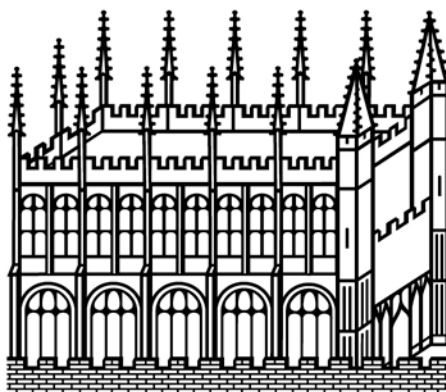




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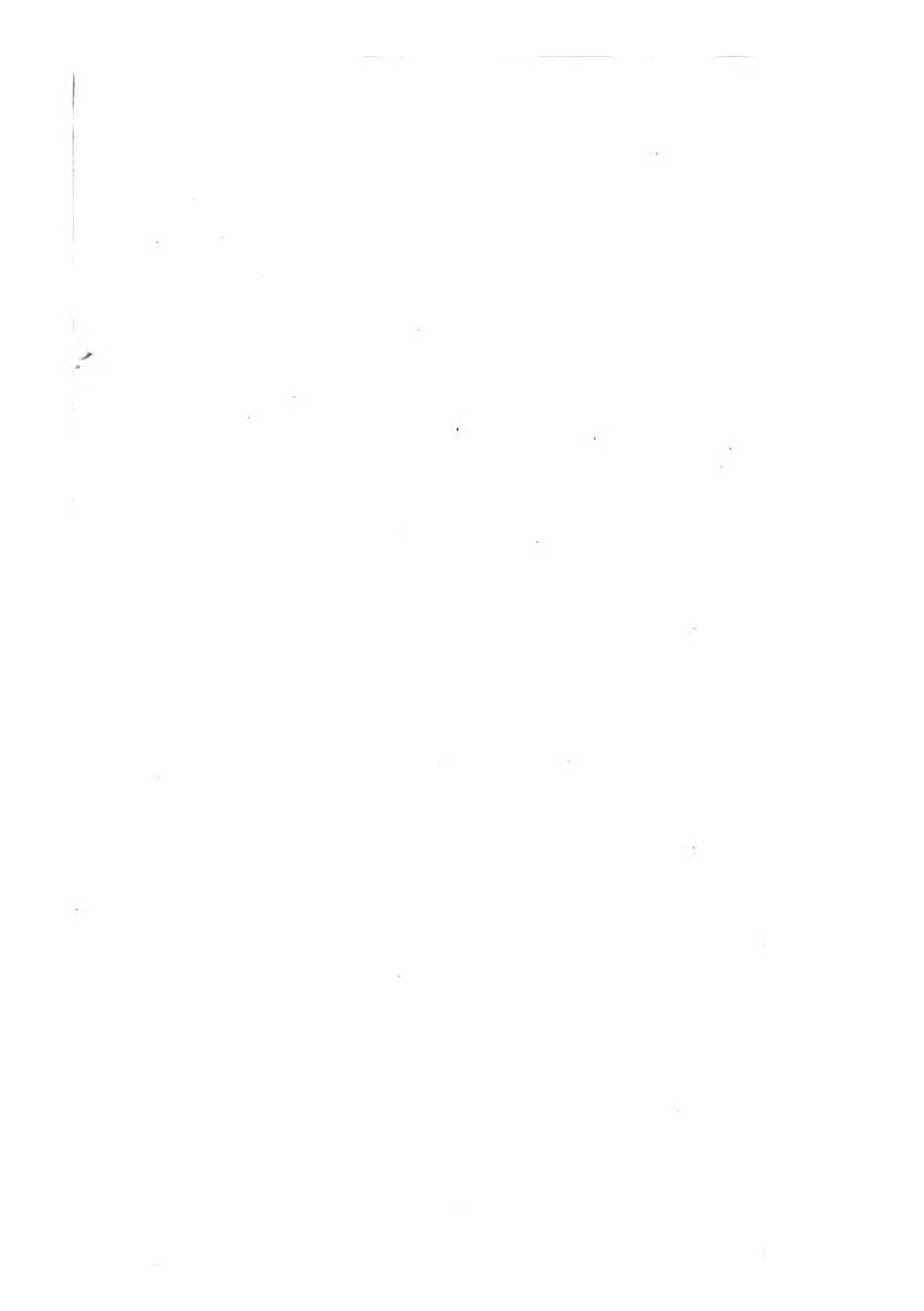
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E. M. Nicholas Jr.

Peabody Division

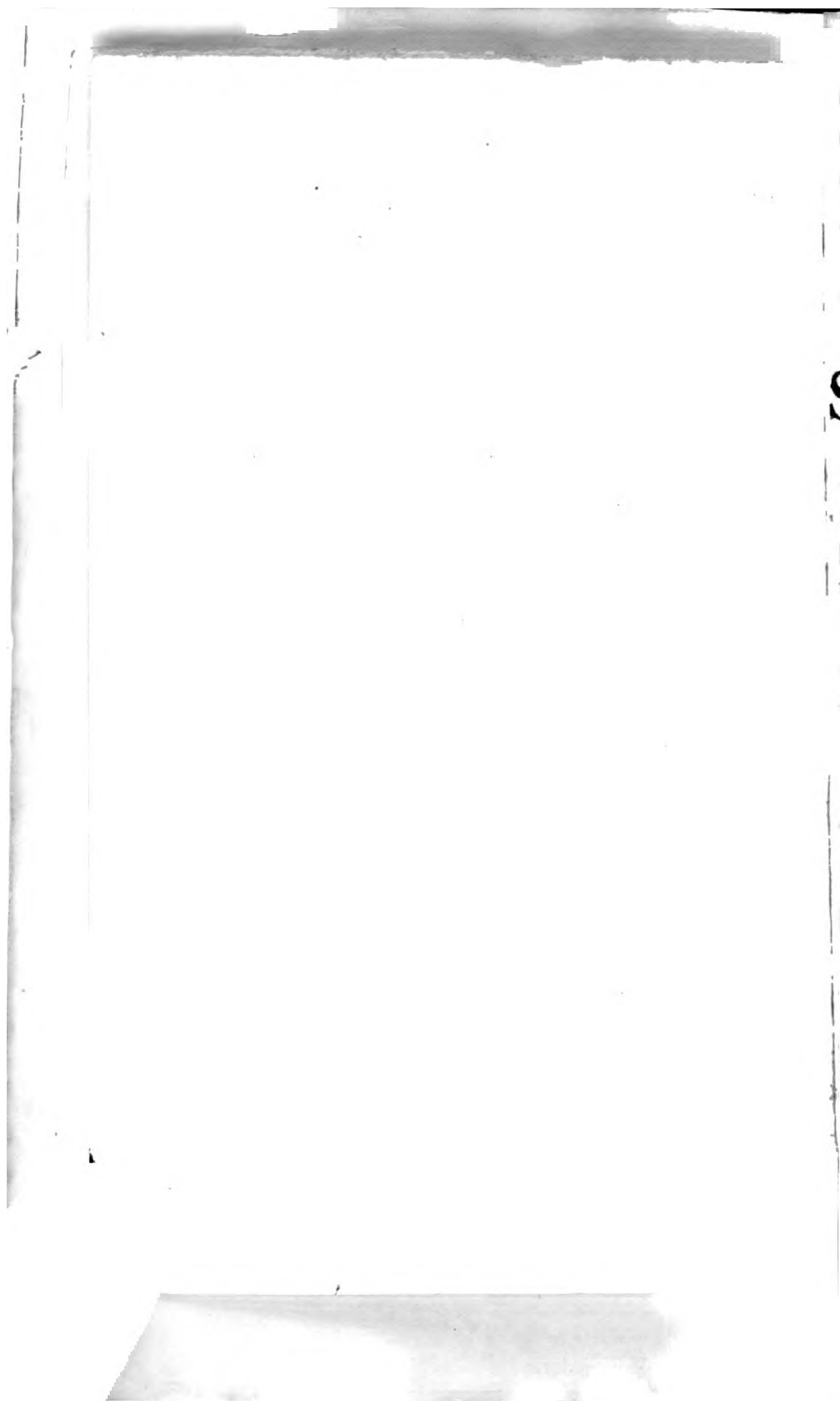
18 Acorn Hill Tavern Weymouth

29 June 1892

My dear Sir,

Since writing to you this afternoon I have
come across the Standard Magazine, wh. perhaps
as a curiosity may find place in the
Museum.

It is written by my great-grandfather
John Hall Callcott who was born in 1866
& was afterwards a Doctor of Medicine
in the North West.



134.
T H E

SCYTHIADS

A N H E R O I C

P O E M

A F T E R V I R G I L,

By JOHN WALL CALLCOTT,

A Youth Nine Years of Age.

In Six Books.

P R O S S O R S w a l l o w - s t r e e t .

2799 . e . 10 .

ARGUMENT.

MARS by the help of Alecto, one of the furies, raises a Storm; which shipwrecks Scythus. Triton stills the Tempest; he lands and meets Cybele, in the woods, and is told by her the Adventures of Scylace. He goes to the Queen.

Venus, by the help of Cupid, inspires the Prince Scythus, and the Queen Scylace, with Love.



THE
SCYTHIADS.

BOOK I.

IN Erebus's kingdom there does lie,
The forcing lightnings of an inflam'd sky:
Here the dire furies rest, here rattling hail,
Which 'gainst an adverse ship strikes off the sail;
The sounding thunders, and the crackling fires,
Which pregnant, Jove for the new clouds inspires.
The morn arising from Tithonus' bed,
With rosy light the dewy fields o'er spread:
Fierce Mars from heaven directs his fiery course,
And proudly mounted on a Thracian horse,
Then bent his speed to where black night shade
grew
The doleful Cypress, melancholy Yew,
The sounding box, and the strong Ash a shade,
And also Noises which Cybele made.
Baleful revenge upon his vitals preys,
And from his inflam'd heart, he speaking says:

" This place is sacred to the Earth and Night ;
 " The baleful furies who from mortal fight,
 " This place constantly keep."
 " Three furies born in hell to Night and Earth,
 " Their gloomy mother, at one dismal birth ;
 " In heaven named Diræ, by their mother's care,
 " All armed with snakes and wings of fleeting
 air."

Fierce Ares said, a treble spear he wields,
 And calls Bellona, from the Thracian fields,
 " Sister (said he) this holy place to night
 " And baleful furies who from mortal fight
 " This place constantly keep, Aurora here,
 " Will never enter without mortal fear.
 " O holy sister call Alecto out,
 " And drive the navy like a storm about."
 Thrice Bellona called on Alecto's name,
 Thrice she enrag'd hear'd the maid call the same:
 Alecto sprung quick from the Iron bed,
 And puts a furious snake about her head ;
 With crashing noise the threefold doors did ope,
 Before the Valves stood the all-pleasing hope,
 And from the surface issued sulphurous smoke,
 And to Alecto thus Bellona spoke :
 " There lies a kingdom in the northern parts,
 " Scythia by name, fam'd for wealthy marts ;"
 " Two rocks that threaten heaven are on the shores,
 " The hasty shelves 'gainst which the water roars ;
 " Goddesses disperse the ships with adverse storms,
 " And leave their bodies to the dogs and worms.
 O sacred nine inspire a lofty strain,
 To sing those heroes lab'ring on the main.

Which

Which the brave Scythus' gallies arms and oars,
 To Scythia's coasts from the Assyrian shores ;
 Eurus and Notus from their prisons flew,
 And the black clouds with force together drew ;
 The poles with thunder roar, the waters crack,
 And all things present fear too soon a wreck ;
 'Gainst a rock Scythus' ship does dash,
 Another hits it soon with a great crash,
 Black night broods o'er the sea.
 Erythus' ship the first of all was lost,
 The sport of winds by the vast billows tost ;
 Astur the next was thrown on latent rocks,
 At every time it hit with different thocks.
 Triton, the monster son of the sea God,
 Who rules the waters with his three-tin'd rod,
 Above the sea his austere face he shew'd,
 Whose golden hair was by a Zephyr blow'd,
 He stills the tempest, the clouds sends away,
 And to the men restores the sun and day.
 Mean while brave Scythus's men by bridges land,
 From lofty prows some leap on slipp'ry sand ;
 Scythus' ascends a rock if 'can discern,
 The arms of Astur on the gilded stern,
 He sees no ship in sight.
 He spies a lofty citadel on high,
 Whose tow'ring tops seem'd to reach the sky ;
 With the brave Tarchon he the Town explores,
 How far the citadel is from the shores ;
 A mountain there is near,
 On the top of which their is a sylvan scene,
 Of summer roses, and of ever-green ;

Tarchon

Tarchon perceives two boars to waste the land,
 'Gainst them enrag'd he flew with spear in hand,
 He lays them dead before brave Scythus' feet,
 Where they their usual homage did bring meat.
 To whom Cybele in the woods, and shew'd
 Her crested hair directed to the road,
 She thus to the strong valiant Scythus says,
 (Wearing a tower and celestial keys)
 O noble Scythus listen unto me,
 I mother am of Jove, great Cybele,
 Scylace rules this realm by cruel fate,
 And her more cruel husband Scylax hate;
 Her dismal destinies he impious flew,
 Her brother Europs covered o'er with Yew.
 In Ceres holy grove an altar stands,
 Smoking with frankincense and fairest bands
 Of youngest youths, then orders them to go
 A far away, he feigning pious, flow
 Behind Priest Europs his three-edg'd sword he
 drew,
 And with a stroke his head from's body flew.
 The fact he did conceal for a long time.
 But the great Europs came in dead of night
 To Scylace, he then before her sight
 The dismal story tells, she flees away,
 Aurora then restores the sun and day.
 Cybele said, to her Scythus replies,
 O Goddess Cybele, he broke the ties
 Of marriage, but the miserable I,
 By cruel fate did the like things defy.
 Who can, O mighty Goddess Cybele,
 Now be propitious to my friend and me;
 She said I will.

Then

Then to the Town they hasted with their speed,
And seek those things, which they want when
in need ;

At the great town with speed soon they arrive,
They thought when first they land not to
survive ;

They the great temple enter of fierce Mars,
That bloody God, who chief delights in wars.
High on a gorgeous throne of Cedar made,
Under a golden canopy a shade,
Fair Scylace there sat by cruel fates,
To that bright eminence thro' Ash-tree gates
was rais'd.

Scythus admires the carving of the stone,
Mean while brave Tarchon in an humble tone,
unto the Queen then speaks, at the same time
Brave Scythus sees the gaudy statues shine,

" O Queen, says Tarchon, you do see the prince,
" Who when there's need stands on his own
defence,

" Scythus by name.

" O Queen hath the brave Scythus reach'd your
ear,

" From distant kingdoms we our ensigns bear,
Thus Tarchon said to her, the Queen then
spoke,

While he laid down his shield of Iron and Oak,

" The name of Scythus late did reach my ears,

" When fames vast trumpet did dispel my fears ;

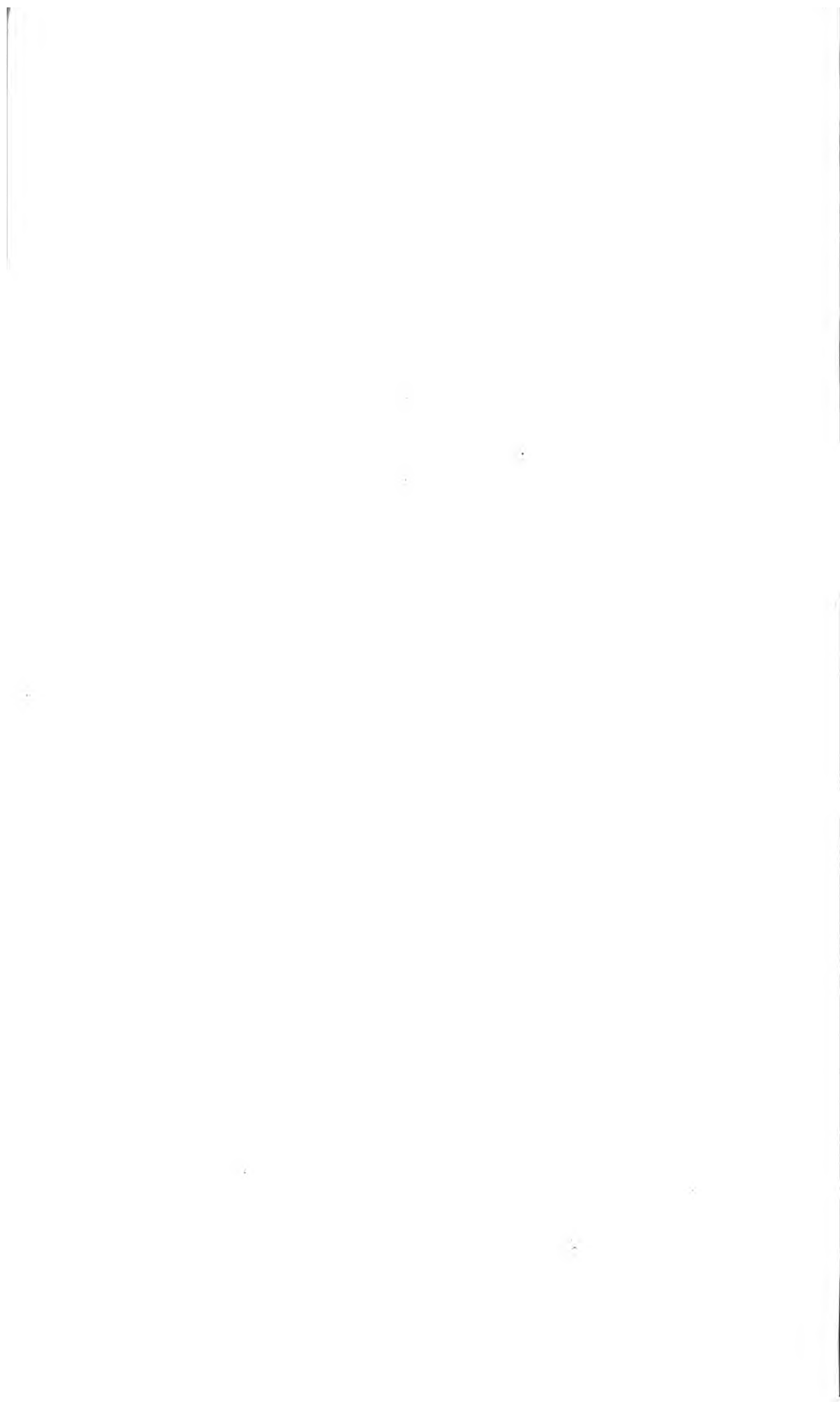
" I'm Scylace, and from my country driven,

" Depriv'd of every hope except of heaven."

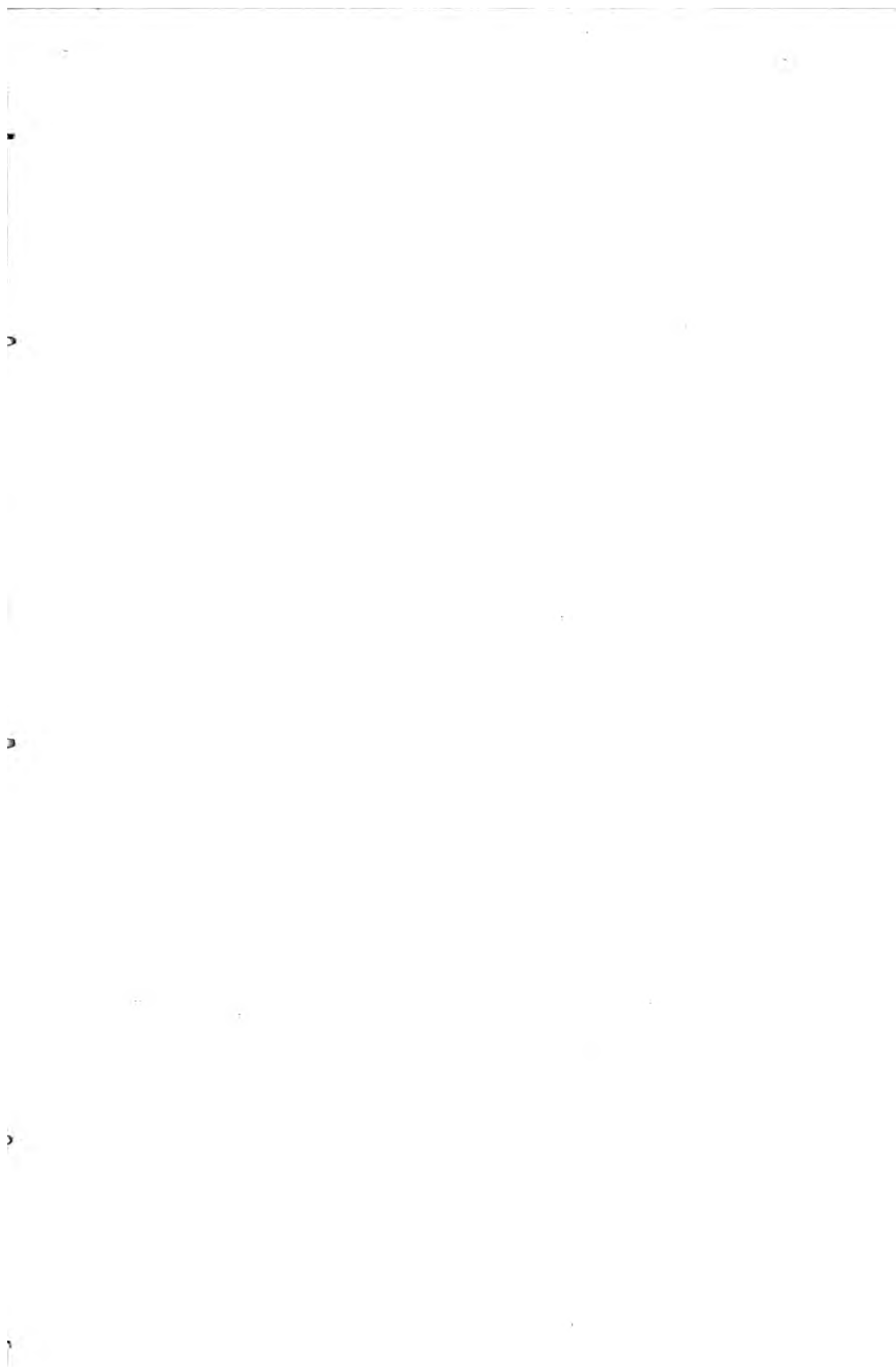
Fair

Fair Scylace then said to supper call,
 Scylace's friend's unto the lighted hall,
 There came fam'd Europ's son to act his part,
 And with his flute he charm'd Scylace's heart;
 They offer victims to the Goddess high,
 Cybele who's enthron'd above the sky.
 She then to Venus goes, Goddess, said she,
 " I beg your help, you now can favour me ;
 " How says Cytherea if to me you tell,
 " What you do want, I will your fears dispel ;
 Thus Venus said to her: Cybele spoke,
 " The help of your son Cupid, behold the smoke
 " Upon thy altars, in that I will comply ;"
 Thus Venus to Cybele did reply.
 The form of Charax, Cupid then did take,
 And took within his hand a well-made cake:
 When to the presence of the Queen he came,
 His horned bow he bent for to inflame;
 The Queen with love from out the quiver drew,
 An arrow hissing swift, from the bow flew,
 Unfelt it pierc'd the Queen deep in her heart,
 And from his quiver drew another dart,
 With this he pierc'd Scythus's inmost part. }
 They burn with mutual love.
 On hissing wings then Cupid flew away,
 Nor did he in that place a long time stay.
 Mean while in jollity they pass the night,
 Phoebe was almost sunk now out of sight,
 The Stars and Lucifer then fly away,
 Aurora quick then brought the Sun and Day.









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