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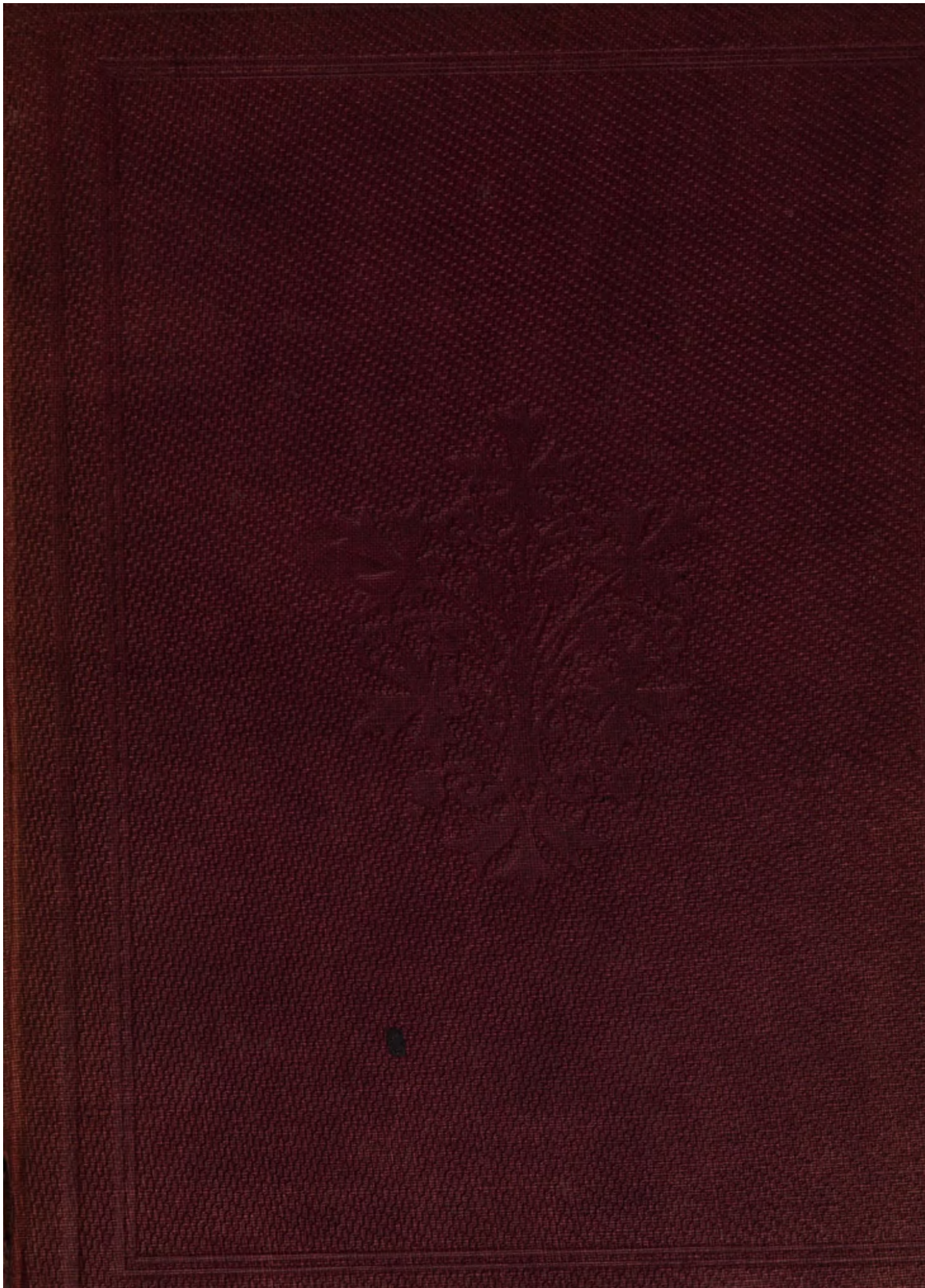
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## LIBRARY OF OLD AUTHORS.



**D**URING the last few years there has been an increasing demand for the productions of our early literature, and the taste has been growing without a corresponding attempt to gratify it; for the reprints of early popular writers still continue to be expensive, and they are published with much diversity of plan, and in every variety of size. It is with the view of meeting this demand, under more desirable circumstances, that the present series of publications has been undertaken.

Among the mass of our early literature there are many books which particularly illustrate the character and sentiments or the history of the age in which they were written; while others are in themselves monuments of literary history, possessing beauties which entitle them to revival. If they have fallen into oblivion, it is only from the antiquity of the language, the various allusions which are not now understood by general readers, or other causes for which it was imagined there would not be a sale sufficient to make their republication profitable, while, in their original forms, they are too rare or too expensive to be generally accessible.

In the series now offered to the public, a careful selection will be made of such works, whether from manuscripts or rare printed editions, as seem, from their interest as illustrations of manners, literature, or history, or as having had a once merited reputation, more especially to deserve republication at the present day; and these will be carefully edited, with introductions and notes; and when necessary, with glossaries and indexes.

Although each work will form a distinct publication, the series will be issued uniformly, in foolscap octavo, and the price will be so moderate (from 3s. to 6s. a volume) as to bring them within the reach of all who take any interest in the study of our older literature.

*LIBRARY OF OLD AUTHORS.*

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The following works are already published, or in preparation ; several others are in contemplation, and the Publisher will gladly receive any further suggestions.

*The Dramatic and Poetical Works of JOHN MARSTON.* Now first collected, and edited by J. O. Halliwell. 3 vols. 15s.

“A poet of distinguished celebrity in his own day, no less admired for the versatility of his genius in tragedy and comedy, than dreaded for the poignancy of his satire ; in the former department the colleague of Jonson, in the latter the antagonist of Hall.”—*Rev. P. Hall.*

*The Vision and Creed of Piers Ploughman.* Edited by Thomas Wright ; a new edition, revised, with additions to the Notes and Glossary. 2 vols. 10s.

“Like all Middle-English Poems written on the principle of alliteration, the ‘Vision of Piers Ploughman’ abounds in philological difficulties ; and these are increased by the fact that no satisfactory edition of the text had yet appeared (*till the present time*). The poem itself is exceedingly interesting. Whoever the writer was, he wrote well. He was a keen observer of human nature ; alive to the abuses which prevailed in Church and State at the period when he lived, and equally competent and willing to expose them. Along with the most pungent satire and the sternest invective there are interspersed, throughout his work, passages of a different character,—touches exhibiting a deep perception of the gentler feelings of human nature,—lines which in harmony and grace and beauty would not suffer by a comparison with the more admired productions of the courtly Chaucer.”—*Athenæum.*

“The Vision of ‘Piers Ploughman’ is one of the most precious and interesting monuments of the English Language and Literature, and also of the social and political condition of the country during the fourteenth century. . . . Its author is not certainly known, but its time of composition can, by internal evidence, be fixed at about the year 1362. On this and on all matters bearing upon the origin and object of the Poem, Mr. Wright’s historical introduction gives ample information. . . . In the thirteen years that have passed since the first edition of the present text was published by the late Mr. Pickering, our old literature and history have been more studied, and we trust that a large circle of readers will be prepared to welcome this cheaper and carefully revised reprint.”—*Literary Gazette.*

[Continued at the end.]





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**Library of Old Authors.**

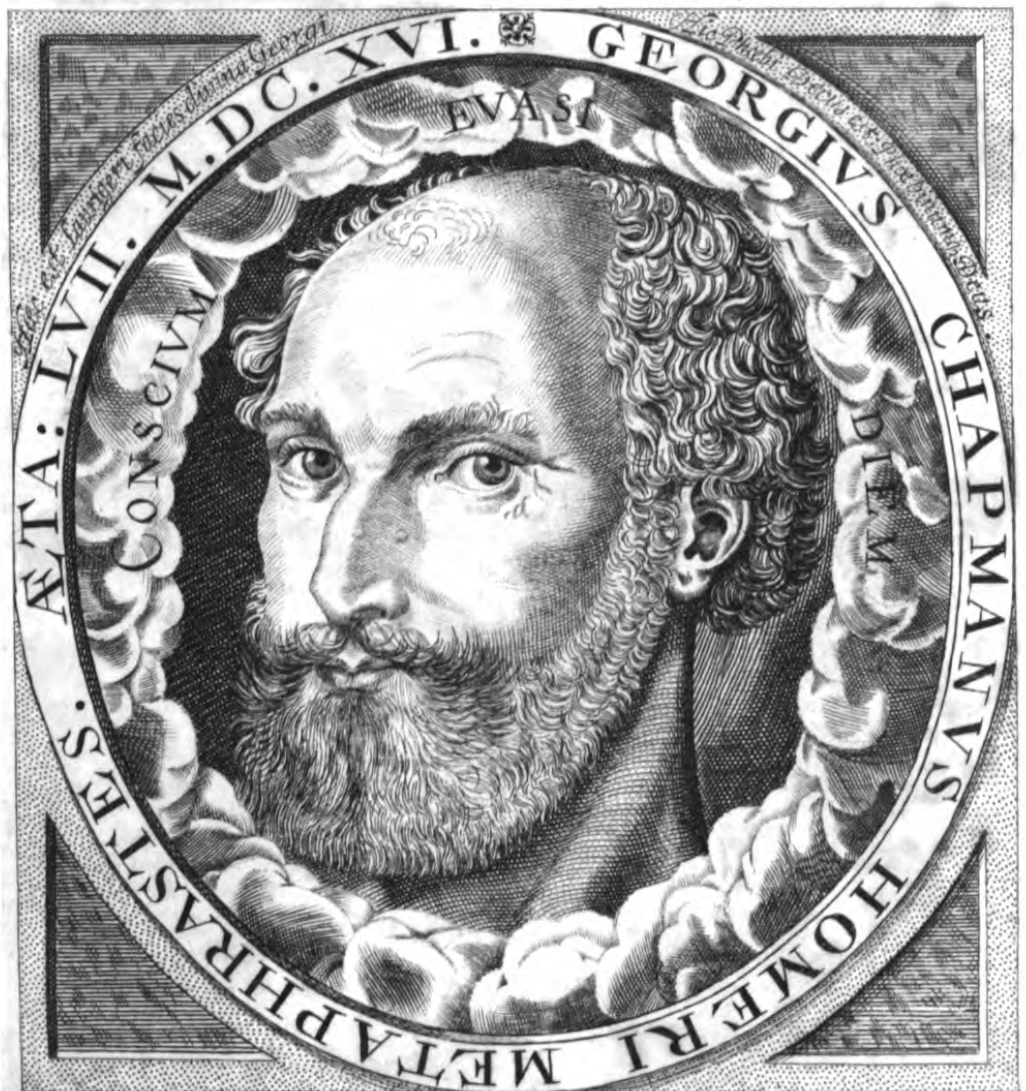






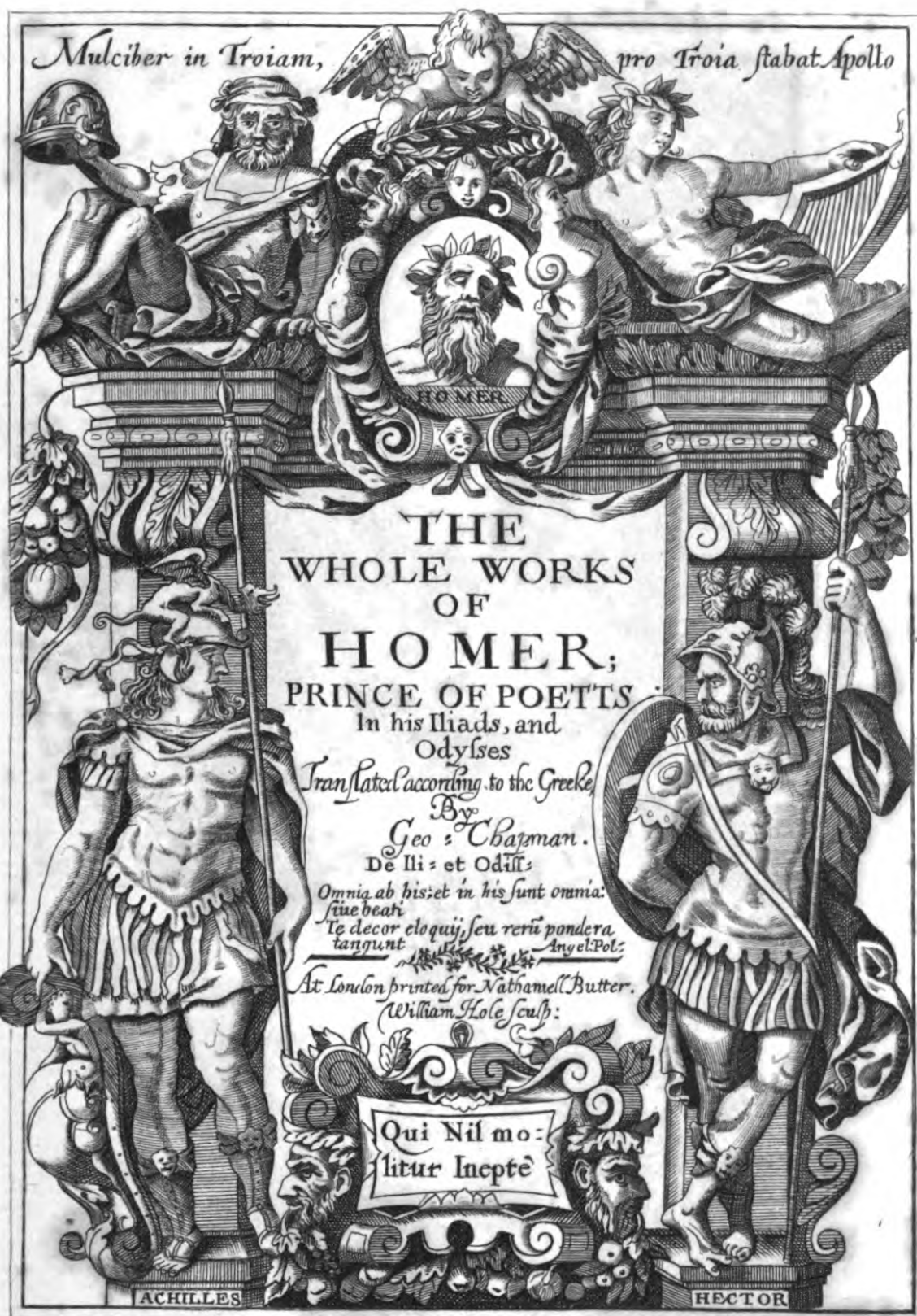






Optimus Sic sese, qui nouit cuncta Magister,  
 Prospiciens rerum fines Meliora sequutus  
 De Homero Rediuius Hes  
 Douen Kingdome stroud, whis Deyns Gould Homox tall,  
 And nom ond Chagomon, omnd Lim, fuom ilgm, all. Scotiaz Nobilis.  
 Eruditorum Poetarum huius A. ui, facile Principi Dno Georgio Chapman.  
 Homero (velit nolit Inuidia) Rediuius. J. M. Gessellam hanc  
 X. aqisnuov. D. D.  
 Ille simul Musas et Homerum scripserit ipsum,  
 Qui scribit Nomen, (Magnæ Poeta) tuum

*Mulciber in Troiam, pro Troia stabat Apollo*



THE  
WHOLE WORKS  
OF  
HOMER;  
PRINCE OF POETS

In his Iliads, and  
Odyssees

*Translated according to the Greeke*

By  
Geo: Chapman.

De Ili: et Odiss:

*Omnia ab his; et in his sunt omnia:*

*sive beati  
Te decor eloquij, seu reru pondera  
tangunt* Angel. Pol:

*At London printed for Nathaniell Butter.*

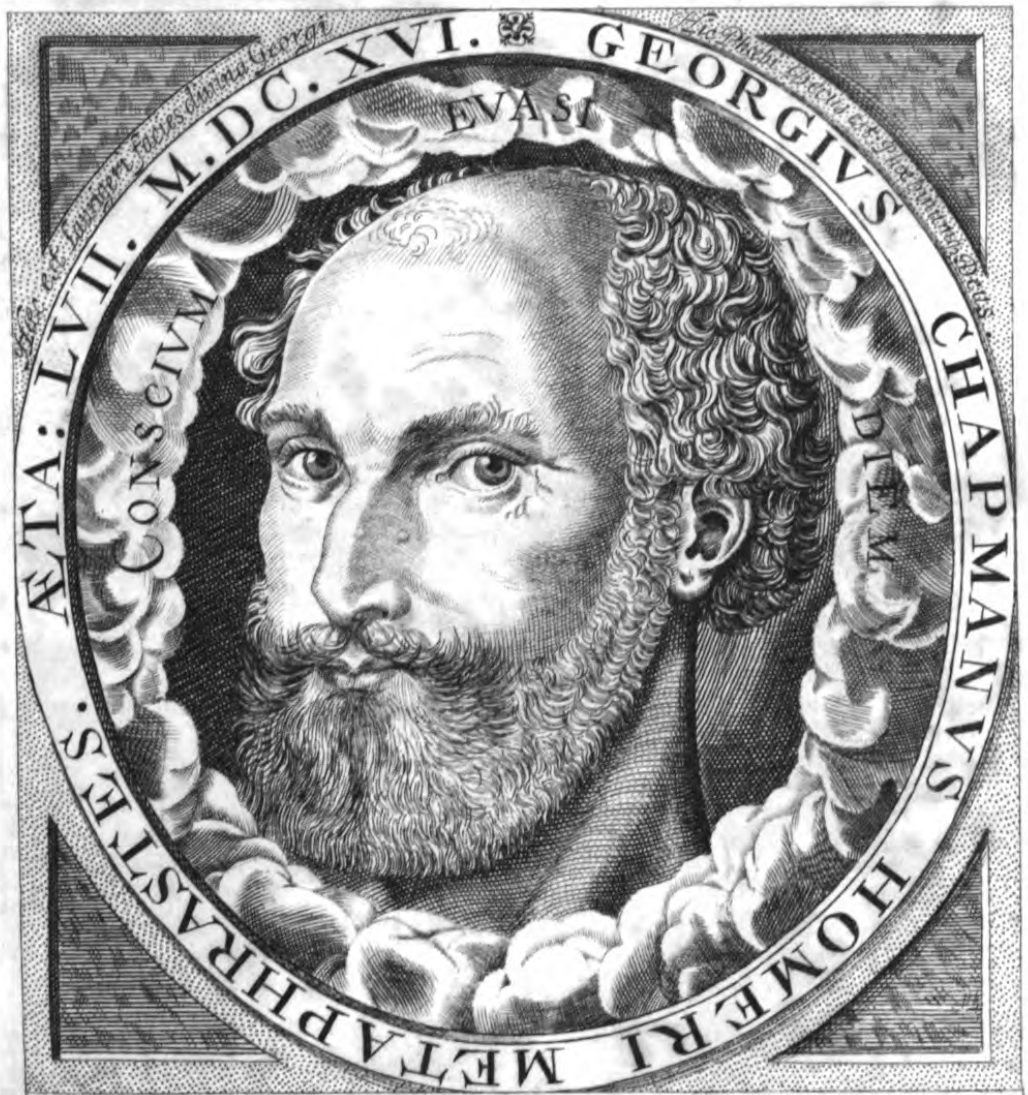
*William Hole sculp:*

Qui Nil mo:  
latur Ineptè

ACHILLES

HECTOR



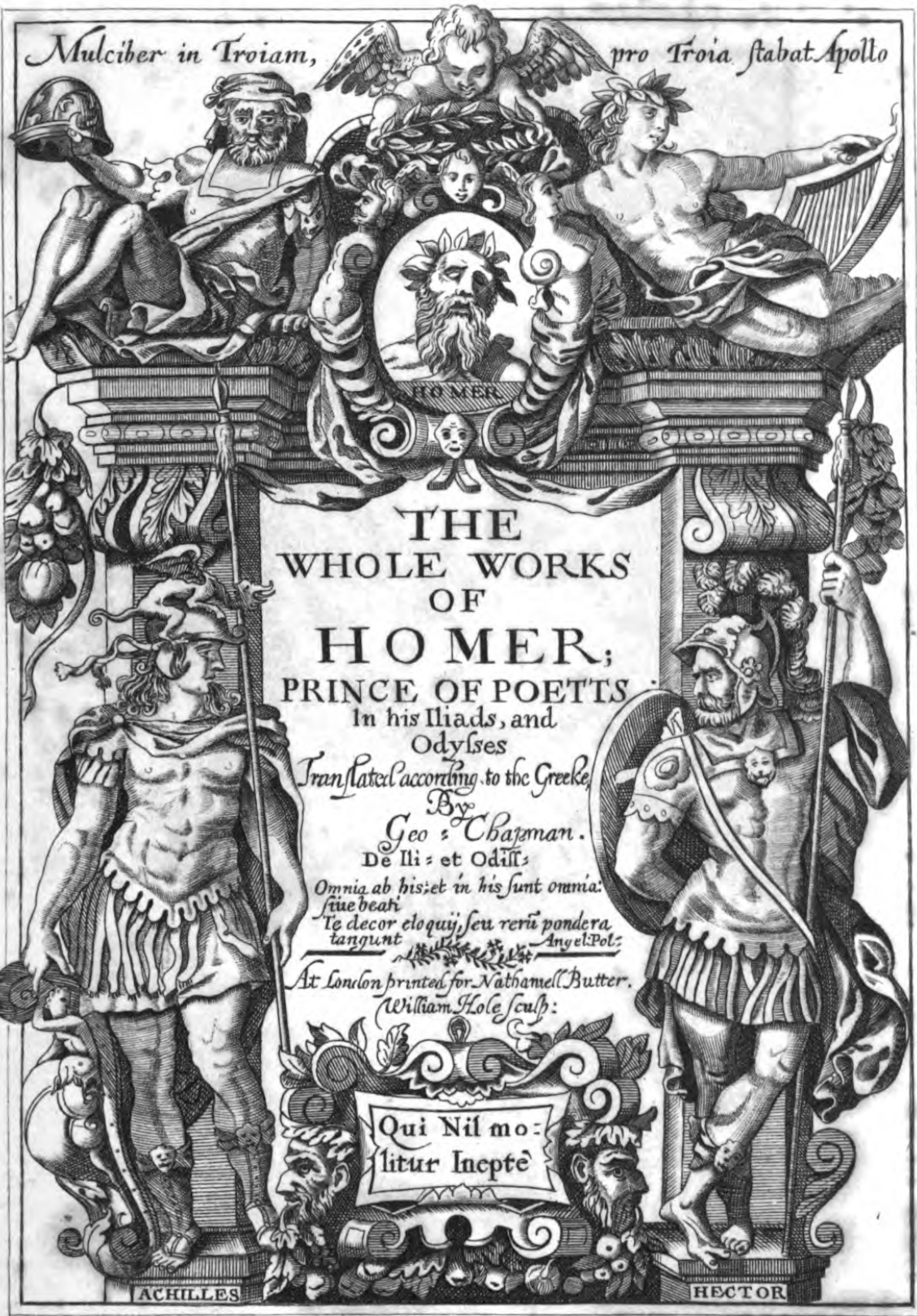


Optimus Sic sese, qui novit cuncta Magister,  
 Prospiciens rerum fines Meliora sequitur  
 De Homero Redivivus Hes

Dicitur in quodam sermone, natus in Graecia, fuit illi, qui dicitur  
 Andronomus, omnia enim, sunt illi, ab. Scotiae Nobilis.  
 Eruditorum Poetarum huius. Fuit, facile Principi Dno Georgio Chapman.  
 Homero (velit nolit Invidia) Redivivus. J. M. Tessellam hanc  
 X. a. 1616. D. D.

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THE ILIADS OF HOMER,  
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NEVER BEFORE IN ANY LANGUAGE TRULY TRANSLATED,  
WITH A COMMENT ON SOME OF HIS  
CHIEF PLACES.

DONE ACCORDING TO THE GREEK

BY GEORGE CHAPMAN.

WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES,

BY RICHARD HOOPER, M. A.

VOLUME I.



LONDON:  
JOHN RUSSELL SMITH,  
SOHO SQUARE.  
1857.

293. 9. 26.





TO

THE REVEREND JOHN MITFORD,

OF BENHALL,

THE ACCOMPLISHED EDITOR OF MANY OF THE POETS

OF ENGLAND,

THESE VOLUMES ARE INSCRIBED.





## INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE increasing interest in the sterling literature of the Elizabethan Age is too obvious to need remark. The new era of criticism in the writings of Shakespeare has caused the dust which had accumulated upon the works of many of his less-known contemporaries to be shaken off, and the result has proved by no means disadvantageous to their reputation. "He, indeed, overlooks and commands the admiration of posterity, but he does it from *the table-land of the age in which he lived*. He towered above his fellows 'in shape and gesture proudly eminent,' but he was one of a race of giants, the tallest, the strongest, the most graceful and beautiful of them; *but it was a common and a noble brood.*"\* One branch, however, of this "giant family" has not hitherto met with that attention to which it is justly entitled; a branch which contributed in no slight degree to enrich the language, and enlighten and enlarge the national mind—I mean the sturdy race of our old Translators. While Shakespeare and Spenser, Bacon, Sydney, Hooker, Ben Jonson, and a host of others, poets, philosophers, divines, and statesmen, "men whom Fame has eternized in her long and lasting scroll, and who, by their words and acts, were benefactors of their country and ornaments of human nature,"

\* Hazlitt's "Lectures on the Dramatic Literature of the Age of Elizabeth," p. 12.



were giving to the world the imperishable monuments of their genius, there was a hardly-to-be-less-honoured race employed in culling from the rich and fascinating stores of the Greek and Latin Classics, in exploring the romantic poetry of Spain and Italy, and throwing open their treasures in noble and stately Translations. When James ascended the throne, himself no mean scholar, he found his people in possession of versions in their own language of most of the great writers of Classical Antiquity. And though it is true the rage for Translation had been so great that many of these were of mushroom growth, and have meritedly sunk into oblivion, yet there were others which were of too genuine worth to be merely ephemeral, which have stood the test of ages, and which, having done good service in their day, are now undeservedly laid aside, and sought after only by the scholar and the philologist, or, may be, the curious, yet to every true lover of his native language are they precious heir-looms of the genius and learning of a past and a glorious age.

It is not to be supposed that in the following remarks on some of these old Translations I specify all that could be enumerated, but I would wish to mention a few, which obtained no slight popularity in their time, and which seem to me still worth the attention of the lover of old literature. Virgil, as might be imagined, was an early favourite. The version by Thomas Phaier, first published in Queen Mary's reign, is no mean specimen of the art of Translation, and, though now supplanted by the great work of the "glorious John," contains much to admire. A late critic indeed has passed a very high eulogium upon it which may seem a little too laudatory, though I can add my sincere testimony to the worth of "Thomas Phaier, Doctour of Phisicke." Mr. Godwin describes it "as the most wonderful depository of living description and fervent feeling, that is to be found perhaps in all the circle of literature."\*

Ovid, besides numerous translations of his other poems by various authors, was nobly "converted" in his *Metamorphoses* by Arthur Golding, a name of no faint lustre amongst our old Translators. In 1575 Golding

\* "Lives of Edward and John Philips," p. 247. (London, 4to. 1815.)

produced his charming work complete. Warton confesses that "his style is poetical, and spirited, and his versification clear, his manner ornamental and diffuse, yet with a sufficient observance of the original."\* After such testimony it would seem hardly necessary to add an observation; but I can assure the reader he would be much pleased by the smoothness and sweetness of diction in this fine version. Golding gave us several other translations; and one in particular may be mentioned, namely Philip Mornay's Treatise "On the Truth of the Christian Religion," executed in conjunction with Sir Philip Sydney.

Sir Thomas North's Translation of Plutarch's Lives, 1579, though avowedly taken from the French of Amyot, has a claim to our veneration from the use that Shakespeare made of it. The popularity of this work may be estimated from the fact that it was a household book during the whole of the seventeenth century, and we have no less than *six* folio editions of it, viz. 1579, 1595, 1602, 1631, 1657, 1676. The edition of 1657 was published under the superintendence of the illustrious Selden. I may be pardoned for giving Mr. Godwin's opinion of it. "I must confess that till this book fell into my hands, I had no genuine feeling of Plutarch's merits, or knowledge of what sort of writer he was. The philosopher of Cheronæa subjects himself in his biographical sketches to none of the rules of fine writing; he has not digested the laws and ordonnance of composition, and the dignified and measured step of an historian; but rambles just as his fancy suggests, and always tells you without scruple or remorse what comes next in his mind. How beautiful does all this show in the simplicity of the old English! How aptly does this dress correspond to the tone and manner of thinking in the author! While I read Plutarch in Sir Thomas North, methinks I see the grey-headed philosopher, full of information and anecdote, a veteran in reflection and experience, and smitten with the love of all that is most exalted in our nature, pouring out without restraint the collections of his wisdom, as he reclines in his easy chair before a cheerful winter's blaze. How different does all this appear in the translation of the Langhornes!

\* Warton's Hist. Engl. Poetry, vol. III. p. 332 (ed. 1840).

All that was beautiful and graceful before becomes deformity in the finical and extant spruceness with which they have attired it.”\*

And ungrateful should I be if I passed over the labours of old Philemon Holland, that “Translator general,” as Pope styled him. His “Plinie’s Natural Historie” has wiled away many a weary hour, and his “Livy” and “Plutarch’s Morals” were noble efforts in their day. They contain a mine of wealth to the philologer. Pope’s ill-natured sneer that

“here the groaning shelves Philemon bends”

would be vain now, his works have become so scarce, and are too precious to “bend the shelves” of the every-day collector. The student would do well to avail himself of every opportunity to secure them. Philemon Holland was no ordinary scholar.

But, while attention was thus being turned to Classical lore, Foreign literature was not neglected. Edmund Fairfax had given us his splendid version of Tasso. Ariosto, through Sir John Harington, had, upon the admission of Warton, “enriched our poetry by a communication of new stores of fiction and imagination, both of the romantic and comic species, of Gothic machinery, and familiar manner.”† In 1566-7 William Paynter displayed in his “Palace of Pleasure” the wealthy mine of Boccaccio, fertilizing the imagination of even Shakespeare himself. Geffray Fenton’s “Historie of Guicciardin, containing the Warres of Italie,” is a fine old book. Nor can we forget that Milton, in common with his age, is said to have been very partial to the translations from Du Bartas by that “famous philomusus” Joshua Sylvester. One work more, reader, and I have done—William Shelton’s translation of “Don Quixote,” 2 vols. 4to. 1612-20. Jarvis, it is true, thinks Shelton translated through the Italian, but, be this as it may, the version is most spirited, and, in my humble opinion, still the best in our language.

All, and each, of these grand old authors contain much, very much, for us to venerate and admire. In them the reader will find a vigour and a

\* Godwin, *ut supra*, p. 245.

† Warton, *ut supra*, p. 391.



freshness, a grasp of the spirit of the originals, a stately flow of language, which we in vain look for in the more modern and finished Translations. In a word, it was essentially *the* age of Translation, and we might point triumphantly to the BIBLE, and ask, what period in all our literary annals could have produced such a version? A writer in the Edinburgh Review (vol. LVII. 112) observes: "The lovers of the English language owe the Church of England an obligation which they can never repay. Only let them think, what would have been our loss, if the translation of the Bible had been delayed to the present age!"

I will conclude by citing some very able remarks, which fully embody my own sentiments on this subject, and which contain pleasing testimony to the merits of GEORGE CHAPMAN.

"Translation," says Mr. Godwin, "ought to be considered in a very different light by scholars, and men to whom literature is their chosen occupation, than that in which it is regarded by persons to whom books are an amusement only. Translation is the parent, or more accurately speaking, the nurse of all modern languages, from whose fostering breast they derive their soundness, the vigour, and the health, that renders them at once the delight and accomplished ministers of all by whom they are spoken and written. To Translation we are indebted for much of what is most excellent and important in our vernacular speech; and Translation, considered in this point of view, is a fundamental branch of true learning. Chaucer, Lydgate, Skelton, and Surrey, the fathers of our literature, were all eminent Translators; and it is to our version of the Bible that we are above all things indebted for the sober, majestic, and copious, flow of our English tongue. Translation, merely as Translation, would form no branch of reading to a scholar, merely in as far as he was a scholar; but, considered as the faithful repository of the history of a language, it is of inexpressible importance. Translation in itself is a dim and obscure medium, through which we become feebly acquainted with the merits of an original work. No man therefore would almost deign to look upon a Translation, except so far as he had no other way in which to obtain a knowledge of the original it pretends to represent.

“ This character may be considered as applicable to all Translations at the time they are presented to the world. But an obsolete Translation is a very different thing. It is an object avoided by the fop and the fine lady ; but it is precious to the man of taste, the man of feeling, and the philosopher. In the old English Homer, for example, I have some pleasure, inasmuch as I find Homer himself there ; but I have also an inestimable pleasure added to this, while I remark, and feel in my inmost heart, the venerable and illustrious garb in which he is thus brought before me. This further pleasure I have which I could not find even in the original itself. The Translation of Homer, published by George Chapman in the reign of Queen Elizabeth and King James, is *one of the greatest treasures the English language has to boast*. This man had a deep and true feeling of what a poet is, when he appears, as Milton styles it, ‘ soaring in the high region of his fancies, with his garland and singing robes about him.’ This is conspicuously shown in his Preface, Notes, and Dedication.”\*

Mr. Godwin proceeds to illustrate this by a comparison of passages from the Odyssey with Pope’s version, in which the superiority of the elder poet is obvious. It will be unnecessary to pursue a similar course, for it is generally admitted at the present day, that, of all the versions of Homer in our language, that of Chapman approaches the nearest to the original in spirit and grandeur, and, from a most attentive perusal, I think faithfulness. Whether Homer has ever been *really* translated is a question which must be discussed elsewhere, but of the existing representations of him, there can be no doubt as to which the palm must be given. It may be pleasing to give a few testimonies of competent judges to the worth of this noble work. Dryden, in the Dedication to the third volume of his Miscellanies, says, “ The Earl of Mulgrave and Mr. Waller, two of the best judges of our age, have assured me that they never could read over the translation of Chapman without incredible transport.” Dryden himself translated the First Book of the Iliad, and Pope declares that, had he completed the work,

\* Ut suprà, p. 240.



he would not have ventured on his own translation. Pope, in a subsequent passage of his Preface, accuses Dryden of having "had too much regard to Chapman, whose words he sometimes copies, and has unhappily followed him in passages where he wanders from the original." This comes with an ill grace from Pope, for Dr. Johnson asserts that "with Chapman Pope had frequent consultations, and perhaps *never translated any passage till he had read his version; which indeed he has been sometimes suspected of using instead of the Greek.*" Pope has however done Chapman the justice to say that "he covers his defects by a daring fiery spirit that animates his translation; which is *something like what one might imagine Homer himself to have writ before he arrived to years of discretion.*" "He (Pope) might have added," says Mr. Hallam, "that Chapman's Translation, with all its defects, is often exceedingly Homeric; a praise which Pope himself *seldom attained.* Chapman deals abundantly in compound epithets, some of which have retained their place; his verse is rhymed, of fourteen syllables, which corresponds to the hexameter better than the decasyllable couplet; he is often uncouth, and often low, but the spirited and rapid flow of his metre makes him respectable to lovers of poetry."\* In the Retrospective Review, vol. III. will be found an admirable article on the merits of Chapman, Pope and Cowper; and there are several interesting critiques on Sotheby's Homer in Blackwood's Magazine for 1831, 1832, which do ample justice to Chapman. Coleridge, in sending a copy of Chapman's volume to Wordsworth (1807) says, "Chapman I have sent in order that you might read the Odyssey; the Iliad is fine, but less equal in the translation, as well as less interesting in itself. What is stupidly said of Shakespeare is really true and appropriate of Chapman: 'mighty faults counterpoised by mighty beauties.' Excepting his quaint epithets, which he affects to render literally from the Greek, a language above all others blest in the happy marriage of sweet words, and which in our language are mere printer's compound epithets—such as divine *joy-in-the-heart-of-man-infusing* wine (the undermarked is to be one word,

\* Literature of Europe, II. p. 130, ed. 1843.

because one sweet mellifluous word expresses it in Homer); excepting this it has no look, no air, of a translation. It is as truly an original poem as the Faery Queen;—it will give you small idea of Homer, though a far truer one than Pope's epigrams, or Cowper's cumbersome most anti-Homeric Miltonism. For Chapman writes and feels as a poet,—as Homer might have written had he lived in England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. In short, it is an exquisite poem, in spite of its frequent and perverse quaintnesses and harshnesses, which are, however, amply repaid by almost unexampled sweetness and beauty of language, all over spirit and feeling.”\* It is not improbable that Coleridge's attention had been called to Chapman by Charles Lamb, who writes to him in 1802, “I have just finished Chapman's Homer. Did you ever read it?—it has the most continuous power of interesting you all along, like a rapid original, of any; and in the uncommon excellence of the more finished parts goes beyond Fairfax or any of 'em. The metre is fourteen syllables, and capable of all sweetness and grandeur. Cowper's ponderous blank verse detains you every step with some heavy Miltonism; Chapman gallops off with you his own free pace, &c.”†

It would be unpardonable to omit Lamb's well-known criticism on Chapman in his “Specimens of English Dramatic Poets,” first published in 1808. “The selections which I have made from this poet are sufficient to give an idea, of ‘that full and heightened style’ which Webster makes characteristic of Chapman. Of all the English play-writers, Chapman perhaps approaches nearest to Shakespeare in the descriptive and didactic, in passages which are less purely dramatic. Dramatic imitation was not his talent. He could not go out of himself, as Shakespeare could shift at pleasure, to inform and animate other existences; but in himself he had an eye to perceive, and a soul to embrace all forms. He would have made a great epic poet, if indeed he has not

\* Coleridge's *Literary Remains* by Henry Nelson Coleridge, 4 vols. 8vo. 1836, vol. I. pp. 259-60-61.

† *The Letters of Charles Lamb*, by T. N. Talfourd, 2 vols. 8vo. 1837, vol. I. p. 236.

abundantly shown himself to be one; for his Homer is not so properly a translation as the stories of Achilles and Ulysses re-written. The earnestness and passion which he has put into every part of these poems would be incredible to a reader of mere modern translations. His almost Greek zeal for the honour of his heroes is only paralleled by that fierce spirit of Hebrew bigotry with which Milton, as if personating one of the zealots of the old law, clothed himself when he sat down to paint the acts of Samson against the Uncircumcised. The great obstacle to Chapman's translations being read is their unconquerable quaintness. He pours out in the same breath the most just and natural, and the most violent and forced, expressions. He seems to grasp whatever words come first to hand during the impetus of inspiration, as if all other must be inadequate to the divine meaning. But passion (the all in all in poetry) is everywhere present, raising the low, dignifying the mean, and putting sense into the absurd. He makes his readers glow, weep, tremble, take any affection which he pleases, be moved by words, or in spite of them be disgusted, and overcome their disgust. I have often thought that the vulgar misconception of Shakespeare as of a wild irregular genius, 'in whom great faults are compensated by great beauties,' would be true of Chapman."

In an article entitled "Remarks on Translation" in the *Classical Museum* (vol. i. p. 400) the writer, Mr. R. H. Horne, observes—"The name of George Chapman I mention with reverence and admiration; but his truly grand version of Homer must nevertheless be declared *no translation*. Chapman's version of Homer is a paraphrase by a kindred spirit; that of Pope is a paraphrase in his own spirit. The works might be appropriately contradistinguished as "Homer's Chapman," and "Pope's Homer." By his in-door modern life, his drawing-room associates, his mechanical refinements and polished grace, his tasteful timidities and general misgivings, Pope was the natural opposite to Homer, and one of the very last men who should have meddled with his works; but Chapman, by his commanding energies, fulness of faith in his author's genius, and in his own inspired sympathies, his primitive power, and rough



truthfulness of description, was the very man for the purpose, had he not been misled by the common notions of translation. He gives Homer's narrative as he feels it. Pope produced his own idea of Homer, and in his own (Pope's) peculiar words, with little reference to the words of the original: and this has been read to an immense extent; destroying the ears of the schoolboys and men, of at least two generations, for any sense of the varied harmonies of rhythm: Chapman produced in his own words, and often in his own images, a glorious adumbration of the effect of Homer upon the energies of his soul. When we consider the subtle influence of poetry upon the rising spirits of the age, it tempts me to hazard the speculation that, if Chapman's noble paraphrase had been read instead of Pope's enervating monotony, and as extensively, the present class of general readers would not only have been a more poetical class—as the fountain-head from the rock is above the artificial cascade in a pleasure-ground—but a finer order of human beings in respect of energy, love of nature at first-hand, and faith in their own impulses and aspirations." The reader, perhaps, will pardon one more extract, in which is an interesting tribute to what may be styled the practical effect of Chapman's work. Mr. Monckton Milnes, in his "Life and Letters of John Keats," (vol. 1. p. 18. ed. 1848,) says, "Unable as he was to read the original Greek, Homer had as yet been to him a name of solemn significance, and nothing more. His friend and literary counsellor, Mr. Clarke, happened to borrow Chapman's translation, and having invited Keats to read it with him one evening, they continued their study till day-light. He describes Keats' delight as intense, even to shouting aloud, as some passages of especial energy struck his imagination. It was fortunate that he was introduced to that heroic company through an interpretation which preserves so much of the ancient simplicity, and in a metre that, after all various attempts, including that of the hexameter, still appears the best adapted, from its pauses and its length, to represent in English, the Greek epic verse.

\* \* \* The Sonnet, in which these his first impressions are concentrated, was left the following day on Mr. Clarke's table."



## “ ON FIRST LOOKING INTO CHAPMAN’S HOMER.

“ Much have I travelled in the realms of gold,  
 And many goodly states and kingdoms seen ;  
 Round many western islands have I been,  
 Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold.  
 Oft of one wide expanse had I been told  
 That deep-brow’d Homer ruled as his demesne :  
 Yet did I never breathe its pure serene  
 Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold :  
 Then felt I like some watcher of the skies  
 When a new planet swims into his ken ;  
 Or like stout Cortez, when with eagle eyes  
 He stared at the Pacific—and all his men  
 Look’d at each other with a wild surmise—  
 Silent, upon a peak in Darien.”

The opinions of Coleridge, Lamb, and Mr. R. H. Horne, might lead the reader to infer that Chapman’s noble work, of which they speak in such raptures, is in reality only a paraphrase. If however he will be at the pains to compare it with the original Greek, he will not fail to be struck with its closeness on the whole. He should remember the principles upon which Chapman translated, as expressed in his Preface:—  
 “ It is the part of every knowing and judicial interpreter, not to follow the number and order of words, but the material things themselves, and sentences to weigh diligently ; and to clothe and adorn them with words and such a style and form of oration, as are most apt for the language into which they are converted.” He tells us, in the noble poem “ To the Reader,”

“ Custom hath made even th’ ablest agents err  
 In these translations ; all so much apply  
 Their pains and cunnings word for word to render  
 Their patient authors, when they may as well  
 Make fish with fowl, camels with whales, engender,  
 Or their tongue’s speech in other mouths compell.”

And again, though he “ laughs to see”

——— “ the brake  
 That those translators stick in, that affect  
 Their word-for-word traductions,”

yet he as much abhors

“ More license from the words than may express  
Their full compression, and make clear the author;”

and he says of the various translators of Homer in other languages

“ They failed to search his deep and treasurous heart.  
The cause was, since they wanted the fit key  
Of Nature, in their down-right strength of Art,  
With Poesy to open Poesy.”

This is the real secret of the success and beauty of Chapman's work. He has perfectly identified himself with Homer, and from his search of that 'treasurous heart,' from his thorough knowledge of its depths, with the 'fit key' of true natural poesy, with his own innative Homeric genius, he has opened to us (to use his own words) "the mysteries revealed in Homer."

It may not be too much to say that perhaps no man ever felt the Homeric inspiration to the same extent as Chapman. We pardon him even for his digressions, for they are such as we feel Homer himself would have written. Chapman conceived that our language was adapted to rhythmical poetry above all others, on account of its numerous monosyllables :

— “ I can prove it clear  
That no tongue hath the Muses' utterance heired  
For verse, and that sweet music to the ear  
Struck out of rhyme, so naturally as this.  
Our monosyllables so kindly fall,  
And meet oppos'd in rhyme as they did kiss.  
French and Italian most immetrical;  
Their many syllables in harsh collision  
Fall as they break their necks, their bastard rhymes  
Saluting as they justled in transition,  
And set our teeth on edge; nor tunes, nor times  
Kept in their falls.”

Warton accuses him of "labouring with the inconvenience of an awkward, inharmonious, and unheroic measure, imposed by custom, but disgusting to modern ears." The judgment, however, of the present day

would reverse this decision, for it is confessed that the fourteen-syllable verse is peculiarly fitting for Homeric translation. Chapman had met with a similar objection in his own time, but he defends himself with the observation that

— “ this long poem asks this length of verse.”

However in the translation of the *Odyssey*, the *Hymns*, and the *Georgics* of Hesiod, at a subsequent period, he has adopted the ordinary heroic (or decasyllable) measure, in which he displays equal vigour.

“ One of the peculiarities of Chapman’s versification,” says Mr. Singer,\* “ is the interlacing of the verses, or the running of the lines one into the other, so that the sense does not close with the couplet ; this is what the French critics object to under the name of *enjambement des vers*, and is what made Ben Jonson say, ‘ that the translations of Homer and Virgil in long Alexandrines were but prose.’ The practice, however, when not injudiciously excessive in its use, gives freedom and spirit to long compositions, while the strict observance of confining the sense to terminate with the couplet gives a stiff and formal air, and makes one rather seem to be reading a string of epigrams, than a poem. The following judicious reflections of an excellent old poet and critic, in which our author’s custom is defended, will place this subject in a just point of view :

‘ I must confess that, to mine own ear, those continual cadences in couplets used in long continued poems are very tiresome and displeasing, by reason that still methinks they run on with a sound of one nature, and a kind of certainty which stuffs the delight rather than entertains it. But yet, notwithstanding, I must not but of my own daintiness condemn this kind of writing, which peradventure to another may seem most delightful ; and many worthy compositions we see to have passed with commendation in that kind. Besides methinks sometimes to beguile the ear with a running out and passing over the rhyme, as no bound to stay us in the line where the violence of the matter will break through,

\* Preface to Chapman’s “ *Hymns of Homer*” (Chiswick, 1818) p. xxi.

rather graceful than otherwise. Wherein I find my Homer-Lucan, as if he gloried to seem to have no bounds albeit he were confined within his measures, to be in my conceit most happy ; for so thereby they who care not for verse or rhyme may pass it over without taking any notice thereof, and please themselves with a well-measured prose.'"\* As regards Lamb's charge of "unconquerable quaintness" in Chapman, I have failed to discover it. It should be borne in mind that he wrote with great rapidity, and paid little regard to correcting and polishing his work. The reader must not expect to be pleased at once. Chapman, like most of the writers of his day, requires patience and study. It has been well said of him that he is "a rough nut externally, but contains a most sweet kernel."



WE have but few particulars of the biography of Chapman. Antony Wood says he was born in 1557, and conjectures that he might have been of a family seated at Stone Castle in Kent. From the portrait however prefixed to the Iliad, and published probably under his own eye, we find he was 57 in 1616, so he must have been born in 1559. His friend and contemporary William Browne in his *Britannia's Pastorals* (Book I. Song 5) styles him

"The learned shepherd of fair Hitching Hill,"

and therefore, unless he refers to Chapman's then place of residence, Hertfordshire would seem to have a better claim to the honour of his birth. The Parish Registers of Hitchin unfortunately only commence with the year 1562, but there occur frequent entries of the family of a John Chapman. Nothing is known of his youth, or where he was educated. In 1574, "or thereabouts" (according to Wood) he was sent

\* Samuel Daniel's "Defence of Rhyme," 1602.



to Oxford, and Warton tells us "that he passed two years at Trinity College, with a contempt of philosophy, but in a close attention to the Greek and Roman Classics." He seems to have quitted the University about 1576, without taking a degree, but whether he repaired to Cambridge to complete his studies, as some suppose, or immediately betook himself to the metropolis, is uncertain. Wood says upon his settling in London he became the friend and associate of Shakespeare, Spenser, Marlow, Jonson, Daniel, and other celebrated persons of the day. He early acquired the patronage and friendship of Sir Thomas Walsingham, and his son, "whom Chapman loved from his birth." Mr. Singer conjectures from the long interval that elapsed between his quitting the University in 1576, and the first of his known publications in 1594, that he most probably had appeared as a writer anonymously, although we have no clue to his earlier performances. In 1594, however, he published "*The Shadow of Night: containing two poetical hymnes, devised by G. C. Gent,*" and dedicated to his "deare and most worthy friend Master Mathew Roydon." These are fine poems, and have been reprinted by Mr. Singer in his edition of Chapman's "Hymns of Homer." (Chiswick, 1818.) In the following year (1595) appeared "*Ovid's Banquet of Sence, a Coronet for his Mistresse Philosophie, and his amorous Zodiacke; with a translation of a Latine copie (sc. of verses) written by a fryer, Anno Dom. 1400*" 4to. This was also dedicated to Mathew Roydon, with commendatory verses, &c. It was reprinted in 1639, 12mo. without the Dedication and verses. Warton tells us that he published in 1596 the "*Shield of Achilles*" from Homer, and in the same year "*Seven Books of the Iliad,*" in 4to. The copies of both these publications that I have met with have the date 1598. "*The Shield*" is dedicated to "The most honored Earle Marshall" (Lord Essex). In the "Epistle Dedicatorie" is the following amusing invective against Scaliger, who seems to have been an object of Chapman's special aversion: "But thou soul-blind Scaliger, that never hadst anything but place, time, and terms, to paint thy proficiency in learning, nor ever writest any thing of thine own impotent brain, but thy only impalsied diminution of Homer (which I

may swear was the absolute inspiration of thine own ridiculous genius) never didst thou more palpably damn thy drossy spirit in all thy all-countries-exploded filcheries, which are so grossly illiterate that no man will vouchsafe their refutation, than in thy senseless reprehensions of Homer, whose spirit flew as much above thy grovelling capacity as Heaven moves above Barathrum." The Preface is "To the understander;" and Chapman commences, "You are not everybody; to you (as to one of my very few friends) I may be bold to utter my mind." It would seem from this Preface, that the "*Seven Books of the Iliad*" had been already published, for he says, "My epistle dedicatory before my seven books is accounted dark and too much laboured." He declares that it could only be dark "to ranke riders or readers, that have no more soules than burbolts." As for the labour—"I protest two mornings both ended it and the Reader's epistle." I regret that space prevents my giving more extracts from this interesting Preface, in which would be shown Chapman's thorough enthusiasm for Homer. He also alludes to the new words and epithets with which he has enriched our language from Homer. "*The Shield*" is in the ordinary heroic measure of ten syllables. At the conclusion is a poetical address "To my admired and soule-loved friende, mayster of all essentiall and true knowledge, M. Harriots." The "*Seaven Bookes of the Iliades of Homere, Prince of Poets*," had, as we have seen, appeared previously to the "*Shield*," though in the same year. These are likewise dedicated to Lord Essex, who is described as "the most honoured now living instance of the Achilleian virtues." They are not the first seven books continuously, but the first and second, and then the seventh to the eleventh inclusive. In explaining this circumstance Chapman denies that Homer set the books together, but they were collected into an entire poem at a subsequent period. "In the next edition," he adds, "where they come out by the dozen, I will reserve the ancient and common received forme. In the meane time do me the encouragement to confer that which I have translated with the same in Homer, and according to the worth of that, let this edition passe: so shall you do me but lawfull favor, and make me take



paines to give you this Emperor of all wisdome (for so Plato will allow him) in your owne language, which will more honor it (if my part bee worthily discharged) than anything else can be translated. In the meane time peruse the pamphlet of errors in the impression, and helpe to pointe the rest with your judgement ; wherein, and in purchase of the whole seaven, if you be quicke and acceptive, you shall in the next edition have the life of Homer, a table, a prettie comment, true printing, the due praise of your mother tongue above all others for Poesie, and such demonstrative prooffe of our English wits above beyond-sea Muses (if he would use them) that a proficient wit should be the better to heare it."

These books are written in the fourteen-syllable measure. The copy of them in the British Museum has the illustrious autograph "*Sum Ben Jonsonii.*"

In this year (1598) Chapman published his first Comedy "*The Blind Beggar of Alexandria.*" The title tells us it had been previously " sundry times publickly acted in London by the Right Honourable the Earle of Nottingham, Lord High Admirall, his Servants." The reader will find an able criticism on Chapman's plays in the 4th and 5th vols. of the " Retrospective Review." In 1599 appeared "*An Humorous Day's Mirth,*" a comedy which had also been frequently acted by the Lord Nottingham's Servants. The year 1605 was marked by the publication of "*Eastward Hoe,*" which Chapman had written in conjunction with Ben Jonson and Marston. This play had been acted by the Children of the Revels. " The play was well received," says Mr. Gifford, " as indeed it deserved to be, for it is exceedingly pleasant ; but there was a passage in it reflecting on the Scotch, which gave offence to Sir James Murray, who represented it to the King in so strong a light that orders were given to arrest the authors." They do not seem to have been long in prison. " When they were first committed, a report had been propagated, Jonson says, that they should have their ears and noses cut, i. e. slit. This had reached his mother, and at an entertainment which he made on his deliverance, she drank to him, and showed him a paper which she designed, if the sentence had taken effect, to have

mixed with his drink, and it was strong and lusty poison. To show that she was no churl, he adds, she designed to have first drunk it herself." Mr. Gifford, ever zealous for the honour of Jonson, says that he disclaimed to Drummond having anything to do with the offensive passage, but that "Chapman and Marston had written it amongst them;" having, however, had a share in the play, from a high sense of honour, he *voluntarily* accompanied his friends to prison. The play has an additional interest, as it is supposed that Hogarth took from it the plan of his set of Prints of the "Idle and Industrious Apprentices." Mr. Dyce mentions a second imprisonment which Jonson underwent with Chapman, shortly after their release, in consequence of supposed reflections upon some individual in a play of which they were joint authors. A letter was found by Dr. Birch amongst the Hatfield State Papers, inscribed "Ben Jonson to the Earl of Salisbury, praying his lordship's protection against some evil reports." It is dated 1605, and contains the following passage—"I am here, my most honoured lord, unexamined and unheard, committed to a vile prison, and with me a gentleman (whose name may, perhaps, have come to your lordship) one Mr. George Chapman, a learned and honest man." The whole letter is most interesting, and will be found in the "Memoirs of Ben Jonson" prefixed to the one volume edition of Gifford's Jonson 1838. It is gratifying to know that it met with instant success. In this year (1605) also appeared "*All Fools*," a Comedy, the plot of which is taken from Terence's *Heautontimorumenos*. It has been pronounced an excellent play. "The characters in general are well sustained; the dialogue is spirited; and the incidents interesting and agreeable; added to which the versification is rich and musical, and many passages of considerable poetical merit are scattered over it. The talents of Chapman nowhere appear to so great advantage."\* In the following year (1606) he published two comedies, "*Monsieur D'Olive*," and the "*Gentleman Usher*," the former of which had been frequently acted with great success at Black-friars. It is one of his happier efforts. This year also saw his

\* Retrospective Review, vol. v. p. 316.

continuation of Marlow's "*Hero and Leander*,"\* a poem of great beauty, founded on the story of Musæus. Warton and others are in error in supposing it to be a *translation* from the Greek. Chapman subsequently translated Musæus. In 1607 appeared the first tragedy of "*Bussy d'Ambois*." It had frequently been represented "at Paules." Though perhaps the best of his tragedies, it is on the whole but a poor performance. Dryden tells us, in the Dedication to his "Spanish Fryer," he had resolved to burn a copy of it "annually to the memory of Jonson," as "a famous modern poet used to sacrifice every year a Statius to the manes of Virgil." It had however pleased him at its representation, for he says, "I have sometimes wondered, in the reading, what was become of those glaring colours which amazed me in *Bussy d'Ambois* upon the theatre; but when I had taken up what I supposed a fallen star, I found I had been cozened with a jelly, &c." The following year (1608) produced "*The Conspiracie and Tragedie of Charles Duke of Byron, Marshall of France*," acted in two plays. It is dedicated to Sir Thomas Walsingham. "*Euthymice Raptus, or the Teares of Peace, with Interlocutions*," a small poem, dedicated to Prince Henry, appeared in 4to. 1609; "*May Day*," a Comedy, in 1611; and the "*Widow's Tears*," another Comedy, in 1612. This last play is very fine in parts, but the catastrophe is thought exceptionable. In this year (1612) he also published "*Petrarch's Seven Penitentiall Psalms, paraphrastically translated: with other philosophical poems, and a Hymne to Christ upon the Crosse*."

In November 1612 died Henry Prince of Wales, and in him, to whom he had dedicated his "*Iliad*," Chapman lost his best patron. He deeply lamented the young prince, and published on the occasion "*An Epicede, or Funerall Song*." This is a really beautiful poem. In the early part of the year 1613 we find him employed in writing the poetry for a Masque exhibited at Whitehall by the Societies of Lin-

\* Reprinted in 1637; in Sir Egerton Brydges' "*Restituta*," vol. II.; in Mr. Singer's "*Select Early English Poets*," Chiswick, 1821; and in Mr. Bell's "*Annotated Poets*," 1856; besides Mr. Dyce's edition of Marlow's Works.



coln's Inn and the Middle Temple, in honour of the nuptials of the Princess Elizabeth and the Palsgrave. Inigo Jones designed the machinery. The magnificence displayed by these learned societies upon this occasion may be estimated from the fact that, according to Dugdale, the expenses incurred amounted to the then enormous sum of £1086 8s. 11*d.* Chapman published this Masque, and dedicated it to Sir Edward Philips, Master of the Rolls, from whose house the masquers proceeded to Whitehall. At the close of the volume is an Epithalamium. In this year he printed his tragedy of "*Bussy d'Ambois his Revenge.*" In 1614 appeared "*Andromeda Liberata, or the Nuptials of Perseus and Andromeda,*" a poem, with a long dedicatory poetical epistle to Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, and Frances, his Countess. According to Wood, "this being not rightly understood, and carped at by many, came out soon after a pamphlet written in prose and poetry, entitled, '*A free and offenceless justification of a late published and most maliciously misinterpreted Poem, &c. London, 1614.*' 4to. in two sheets, pen'd I presume by Chapman." We may readily suppose that a dedication to such persons would be cavilled at, but Chapman (as is generally the case in his Prefaces) had anticipated objections, and had therefore addressed one preface of this work to "the prejudicate and peremptory reader," to whom he says, "'twill be most ridiculous and pleasing, to sit in a corner, and spend your teeth to the stumps in mumbling an old sparrow till your lips bleed and your eyes water: when all the faults you can find are first in yourselves, 'tis no Herculean labour to cracke what you breede." It does not appear when Carr had become Chapman's patron, but in this year it would seem were published the first Twelve Books of the translation of the *Odyssey*, also dedicated to him. It is much to be feared Chapman was suffering under the pressure of poverty at this period, for in this Dedication he says:

" Twelve labours of your Thespian Hercules  
I now present your Lordship; do but please  
To lend life means, till th' other twelve receive  
Equal achievement."

“It was manly,” says Mr. Singer, “and consistent with the spirit of such a being, that his attachments were not shaken by reverses of fortune in those to whom he had devoted himself; and thus we find him not only dedicating the *Odyssey* to Somerset in his prosperity, but the *Hymns* [and *Batrachomyomachia*] are inscribed to him in a noble strain in his adversity. And however we may lament the unworthiness of the subject of his panegyric, we must admire the constancy and disinterested conduct of Chapman.” In 1614 also appeared “*Eugenia; or True Nobilitie’s Trance For the memorable death of the thrice noble and religious William Lord Russel, &c. Divided into foure vigils of the nighte.*” 4to.

In 1616 he published his *Translation of Musæus*. He tells the reader in the Preface that it is a different work from his continuation of Marlow’s poem. Mr. Bliss gives a full account of this extremely rare volume in Vol. II. col. 9. of his admirable edition of Wood’s “*Athenæ Oxonienses.*” It is dedicated to his “auncient poore friend” Inigo Jones; and, besides being one of the rarest books in English literature, is perhaps the most diminutive product of English typography, being not two inches long, and scarcely one broad. “*The Georgics of Hesiod, translated elaborately out of the Greek,*” appeared in 4to. London, 1618. This version is in the ordinary heroic measure, and possesses much merit. It has commendatory verses by Ben Jonson and Drayton, and is dedicated to Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Chancellor, who had been a student of Gray’s Inn, which gave Chapman the opportunity of punning, “All judgments of this season (savouring anything the truth) preferring to the wisdom of all other nations these most wise, learned, and circularly-spoken Grecians; according to that of the poet

“Graiis ingenium, Graiis dedit ore rotundo  
Musa loqui.”

And why may not this Romane elogie of the Graians extend in praisefull intention (by waie of prophetick poesie) to *Graies-Inne* wits and orators.”

He published in 1619 "*Two Wise Men, and all the rest Fooles,*" a Comedy, or, as the title styles, it "A comical moral, censuring the Follies of this age;" and in 1622 we have a poem "*Pro Vere Autumni Lachrymæ,*" to the memory of Sir Horatio Vere. In 1629 appeared "*A justification of a strange action of Nero in burying with a solemne Funerall one of the cast hayres of his Mistress Poppæa; Also a just re-proofe of a Romane Smell-feast, being the fifth Satyre of Juvenall.*" The version of Juvenal is spirited and good.

In 1631 he printed "*Cæsar and Pompey, a Roman Tragedy, concerning their Warres. Out of whose events is evicted this Proposition; Only a just Man is a free Man.*" This play is dedicated to the Earl of Middlesex, and does not seem to have been intended for the stage. This was the last of Chapman's works that appeared in his lifetime. "At length," says old Antony Wood, "this most eminent and reverend poet, having lived 77 years in this vain and transitory world, made his last exit in the Parish of St. Giles's in the Fields, near London, on the twelfth day of May, in sixteen hundred and thirty four, and was buried in the yard on the south side of the church of St. Giles. Soon after was a monument erected over his grave, built after the way of the old Romans, by the care and charge of his most beloved friend Inigo Jones; whereon is this engraven, 'Georgius Chapmannus, poeta Homericus, Philosophus verus, (etsi Christianus poeta) plusquam celebris,' &c." This monument was destroyed with the old church. After Chapman's death appeared in 1639 "*The Tragedy of Chabot, Admiral of France,*" written in conjunction with Shirley; also in the same year and with the same writer "*The Ball,*" a Comedy. In 1654 "*Revenge for Honour,*" a Tragedy, by Chapman alone; and in the same year "*The Tragedy of Alphonsus, Emperour of Germany.*" Mr. Bliss mentions five plays in MS. which were in the library of the late Richard Heber, Esq. "*The Fountain of New Fashions,*" 1598; "*The Will of a Woman,*" 1598; "*The Fatal Love,*" a Tragedy; "*Tragedy of a Yorkshire Gentlewoman and her Son;*" and "*The Second Maiden's Tragedy.*" This last was published as No. I. of "*The Old English Drama,*" London, 1825. From



the same authority (and from Sir E. Brydges's "*Restituta*") I find there are poems by Chapman in "*Poetical Essays on the Turtle and Phœnix*," published with others on the same subject by Shakespeare, Jonson, and Marston, at the end of "*Love's Martyr, or Rosalind's Complaint*," 1601. 4to.

Such are the few details of Chapman's long and laborious life, consisting, after all, of a mere catalogue of his works. The editions of his Homer will be considered by themselves. From the writings of his contemporaries, and from the gossip of Antony Wood, as well as from incidental allusions in his own works, we are enabled to gather a few unconnected circumstances, which only make us desire to know more of him. Wood describes him as "a person of most reverend aspect, religious and temperate, qualities rarely meeting in a poet." The same authority thinks he had some small appointment in the household of King James, or his consort Queen Anne. Prince Henry, and Carr Earl of Somerset, had been his firm and constant patrons, and, upon the death of the one and disgrace of the other, it is to be feared Chapman was reduced to much distress. The following verses, quoted by Mr. Singer from "*The Scourge of Folly, by John Davies of Hereford*," supposed to be printed about the year 1611, contain a pleasing testimony to the estimation in which he was held by his contemporaries, and also evidence of his straitened circumstances, but, if the date of the book be correct, both his patrons could have then assisted him, as the death of Prince Henry did not occur till the close of the following year, and Somerset was then in the zenith of favour.

" TO MY HIGHLY VALUED MR. GEORGE CHAPMAN,  
FATHER OF OUR ENGLISH POETS.

" I know thee not, good George, but by thy pen,  
For which I rank thee with the rarest men.  
And in that rank I put thee in the front,  
Especially of Poets of account,  
Who art the treasurer of that company,  
But in thy hand too little coin doth lie.

For of all arts that now in London are,  
 Poets get least in uttering their ware.  
 But thou hast in thy head and heart and hand  
 Treasures of art that treasures can command.  
 Ah! would they could! then should thy wealth and wit  
 Be equal; and a lofty fortune fit.  
 But, George, thou wert accurst, and so was I,  
 To be of that most blessed company.  
 For if the most are blest that most are crost,  
 Then Poets, I am sure, are blessed most.  
 Yet we with rhyme and reason trim the times,  
 Though they give little reason for our rhymes.  
 The reason is (else error blinds my wits)  
 They reason want to do what honour fits.  
 But let them do as please them, we must do  
 What Phœbus, sire of Art, moves Nature to."

In the "Britannia's Pastorals," of William Browne, already quoted, are several allusions to the fame of Chapman, one of which will be sufficient here :

"The learned shepherd of fair Hitching Hill  
 Sung the heroic deeds of Greece and Troy  
 In lines so worthy life, that I employ  
 My reed in vain to overtake his fame;  
 All praiseful tongues do wait upon that name."

Warton, following Wood, has cited some lines from Drayton highly commendatory of our author's translations. But it is needless to multiply quotations. With all the respect and admiration that Chapman enjoyed from his contemporaries, it is clear, from many passages of his writings, that he could not escape the breath of envy. In the Preface to Homer we find the following :—"But there is a certain envious wind-sucker, that hovers up and down, laboriously engrossing all the air with his luxurious ambition; and buzzing into every ear my detraction, affirming I turn Homer out of the Latin only, &c. I have stricken, single him as you can." It is generally supposed that this allusion is to Ben Jonson. But I think this can hardly be the case. Mr. Gifford of course zealously defends Jonson, and with great show of reason. It is certain that if Jonson and Chapman had quarrelled at this period (1611) they were subsequently on terms again in 1618, for Jonson wrote the following commendatory verses in the translation of "Hesiod" published in that year :

“ If all the vulgar tongues, that speak this day,  
Were ask'd of thy discoveries, they must say  
To the Greek coast thine only knew the way.

Such passage hast thou found, such returns made,  
As now of all men it is call'd thy trade,  
And who make thither else rob, or invade.”

Jonson in his conversations with Drummond declared that “ he *loved* Chapman.” It cannot however be denied that Jonson was generally reputed to be envious of his successful contemporaries, and there is the tradition that Chapman was one of those marked out for his special envy. That there had been a quarrel at some period between him and Chapman is evident from some lines by the latter, cited by Mr. Gifford from a MS. in the Ashmole Collection, with the following title, “ An Invective against Ben Jonson by Mr. George Chapman : ”

“ Greate-learned wittie Ben, be pleased to light  
The world with that three-forked fire; nor fright  
All us, the sublearn'd, with Luciferus' boast  
That thou art most great, learn'd, of all the earth,  
As being a thing betwixt a humane birth  
And an infernal; no humanytie  
Of the divine soule shewing man in thee, &c.”

“ Chapman,” adds Mr. Gifford, “ (whom I am unwilling to believe guilty of this malicious trash) died, I fear, poor and neglected.” In another poem among the Ashmole Papers, inscribed “ *The Genius of the Stage deploring the death of Ben Jonson,*” after noticing the general sorrow, the writer says,

— “ Why do Apollo's sons  
Meet in such throngs, and whisper as they go?  
There are no more by sad affliction hurl'd,  
And friends' neglect, from this inconstant world!  
Chapman alone went so; he that's now gone  
Commands him tomb; he, scarce a grave or stone.”

This does not however agree with the fact of Inigo Jones placing a monument “ built after the way of the old Romans” over his friend. With the exception of the “ envious windsucker” (whoever he may have been) it has been seen that Chapman was universally esteemed by his

contemporaries, and he well deserved it, not only for the fame of his talents, but from the admirable character Wood has given of him, a character which seems borne out by Drayton, who speaks of him

“ As *reverend* Chapman, who hath brought to us  
Musæus, Homer, and Hesiodus.”

I trust that this fact may give additional pleasure to the reader as he peruses “ old George’s” fine Translations.

But I cannot conclude without citing a rather unexpected testimony to the fame of “ mine ancient friend,” praise which, I am sure, amply repays him for the envy of that “ castrill, with too hot a liver and lust after his own glory, who, to devour all himself, discourageth all appetites to the fame of another.” Mr. Ralph Waldo Emerson, the well-known American writer, during the past year (1856) published a work entitled “ English Traits,” in which the merits and failings of this our native country are freely discussed.

In p. 26, under the Chapter on “ *Race*,” I find the following—“ How came such men as King Alfred and Roger Bacon, William of Wykeham, Walter Raleigh, Philip Sydney, Isaac Newton, William Shakespeare, GEORGE CHAPMAN, Francis Bacon, George Herbert, Henry Vane, to exist here?” Reader, little did I think to introduce Master Chapman to you in such company, but there he is walking arm in arm with Shakespeare and Bacon! Mr. Emerson asks of these great men “ what food they ate, what nursing, school, and exercises they had, which resulted in this mother-wit, delicacy of thought, and robust wisdom?” Alas! poor George’s “ robust wisdom,” as we have seen, was not produced by quantity or quality of food. Again, in p. 144, we have a criticism on English Poetry—“ Pope and his school wrote poetry fit to put round frosted cake. What did Walter Scott write without stint?—a rhymed traveller’s guide to Scotland. And the libraries of verses they print have this Birmingham character. How many volumes of well-bred metre we must jingle through before we can be filled, taught, renewed! We want the miraculous; the beauty which we can manufacture at no mill—can give no account of; the beauty of which Chaucer and CHAPMAN



had the secret!" O! reverend Chapman, full well did thy prophetic spirit foresee this tribute of "brother Jonathan" when thou didst put on the title of "Homer's Odysseys."

AT MIHI QUOD VIVO DETRAXERIT INVIDA TURBA  
POST OBITUM DUPLICI FENORE REDDET HONOS.

It only remains for us to give an account of Chapman's various Translations of Homer.

Though Chapman claims the merit of being the first who gave an original and complete version of Homer, he had been anticipated in the honour of introducing him to the English reader. In 1581 ten Books of the Iliad were translated from the French metrical version of M. Salel (1555) by A. H. or Arthur Hall, Esq. of Grantham, and a Member of Parliament, and printed by Ralph Newberie at London. It is in the fourteen-syllable metre; and, in the Dedication to Sir Thomas Cecil, Hall compliments the distinguished translators of the day, Phaier, Golding, and others. He mentions that he began the work about 1563, under the advice of Roger Ascham. It is a small 4to. in black letter, and exceedingly rare.

Chapman's first essay towards his version was in 1598, when he printed "*Seaven Bookes of the Iliades of Homere, Prince of Poets, translated according to the Greeke, in judgement of his best Commentaries, by George Chapman, Gent. London. Printed by John Windet and are to be sold at the signe of the Crosse-Keyes neare Paules Wharffe.*" This is a small 4to. In the same year he published "*Achilles' Shield, translated as the other Seven Bookes of Homer, out of his eighteenth booke of Iliades. By George Chapman, Gent.*" 4to. by the same printer. In the Preface to the Seven Books he promised the reader that the next edition should be of Twelve Books. Warton is in error in saying that *Fifteen* Books were printed in a thin folio in 1600, for the promised Edition of Twelve Books, the title of which is "*Homer, Prince of Poets, translated according to the Greeke in Twelve Books of his Iliads, by George Chapman. At London, printed for Samuel*



*Matcham*," is dedicated to Prince Henry, so it must have appeared after 1603. This is a small thin folio, in Italic type, and has (in a smaller size) the engraved title by William Hole, which was used for the subsequent edition of the Iliad and the Whole Works, and a facsimile of which accompanies these volumes. It contains the Epistle Dedicatory to Prince Henry, the Poem to the Reader, and the Sonnet to Queen Anne. The version is the same as that of the Edition of 1598, with the addition of the IIIrd, IVth, Vth, VIth and XIIth books. The volume is closed with fourteen Sonnets, and from these we are enabled to approximate to the date. Three of them are inscribed to Peers who were created on the fourth of May 1605, viz. Lords Salisbury, Montgomery, and L'Isle. It was probably printed in that year, or early in 1606. The complete version of the Iliad appeared without date, "printed for Nathaniell Butter," but from an entry in the Stationers' Books, and internal evidence, it must have been published in 1611. Chapman tells us, in the Commentary on the First Book, that he had entirely rewritten the two first Books, but had left the VIIth, VIIIth, IXth and Xth untouched. I do not find much correction, except a few verbal alterations, in the others. He mentions that he had translated the last twelve in less than fifteen weeks, and considers these the best portion of his work. To this Edition he added the Prose Preface to the Reader, and the Commentaries on various Books, to obviate the accusation that had been made against him that he did not translate direct from the original Greek, but through the medium of the Latin. These Commentaries do not tend to raise the estimate of his scholarship; yet I think it evident from his version that he really did understand and thoroughly feel the Greek. Three of the Sonnets (those to the Lady Arabella, who had fallen into disgrace in 1609, to the Lord Wotton, and to Lord Arundel) were withdrawn, and five newly added. The volume (though not mentioned in the title) was printed by Richard Field, and is upon a fine paper, with good clear type, and very antiquated orthography. This is the *first folio*, so often mentioned in the following pages. The title was, as before, engraved by William Hole.

In 1614 appeared the Twelve First Books of the Odyssey, with a dedication to Carr, Earl of Somerset. In the Douce Collection at Oxford is a copy with Chapman's autograph: "*For my righte worthie Knighte, my exceeding noble friende, Sir Henry Fanshawe. A pore Homericall new yeare's gift.*" At the end of the Twelfth Book is "Finis duodecimi libri Hom. Odys. *Opus novem dierum. Σὺν ΘΕΩ.*" I can hardly imagine that Chapman meant by this that he had translated the Twelve Books in *nine days*; which would be incredible. The remaining twelve were probably finished in the following year, for in 1616 the Iliad and Odyssey were collected into one volume. The Title-page, which had previously served for the edition of the Iliad, was altered to "The Whole Works of Homer &c." as accompanies this our own edition. At the back of the title was the Portrait of Chapman; and another engraved plate was added, "To the immortall memorie of Henrye Prince of Wales, &c." Some copies of the Odyssey have a fine engraved title (which will be prefixed to our edition of that work) on which is "Imprinted at London, by Richard Field, for Nathaniell Butter." In some of the copies of "The Whole Works, &c." the Iliad is found of a later impression. The paper is thin and poor, the type bleared and inelegant, and the orthography somewhat modernized. Judging from the appearance of the volume it is considerably later in date than 1616.\* I have never yet met with a copy which was separate from the Odyssey. This edition, if I may so term it, differs in some few places from the first complete Iliad. I have called it in the following pages the *second folio*. I hazard the conjecture that it might have been printed to bind up with the surplus copies of the Odyssey, as the Iliad had been in circulation for the five preceding years. Dr. Cooke Taylor printed from this copy, but whether he was aware that it differed from the first folio is uncertain; he simply says he had adopted the "*third edition, in which were many valuable corrections.*"

\* A writer in the "Gentleman's Magazine," vol. LVII. p. 300, states, I know not upon what authority, that "Chapman's translation of Homer was likewise published 1620." He does not mention what portion of Homer.

The two folios have been most accurately collated and *all* the variations noted by me, and the reader may judge of the value of this *third* impression. I must apologize for using the terms *first* and *second folios*, but I could not well apply the word *editions*, as I refer solely to the *complete* version, there having been two previous editions of portions of the Iliad. The folios may be easily distinguished, from their general appearance; and from the vignettes or headings to the books, those of Richard Field's (or the best copy) being cornucopiæ of flowers, &c. while the inferior impression has a sort of Gothic ornament. The Grenville copy in the British Museum is the *second folio*, while that in the General Library is of the first impression. In the Heber Catalogue, Part IV. Lot 1445, was a copy of the Iliad, of which impression I do not know. It was very interesting as containing Chapman's autograph:—"In witness of his best love borne to his deserving friende Mr. Henrye Jones: George Chapman gives him these fruities of his best labors and desires love betwixt us as long lived as Homer." Chapman had also corrected several passages in the Preface. The copy afterwards belonged to Steevens, who enriched it with many MS. annotations. It was bought at Heber's sale by the late Mr. Rodd, and I have not been able to trace its subsequent destination. Mr. Park, in a note to the third volume of Warton's Hist. Engl. Poetry, p. 358, says that "Chapman's own copy of his Translation of Homer, corrected by him throughout for a future edition, was purchased for 5s. from the shop of Edwards, by Mr. Steevens, and at the sale of his books in 1800 was transferred to the invaluable library of Mr. Heber." It will be seen that Mr. Park was in error in styling it 'Chapman's own copy as prepared for a new edition.' Pope's volume of Chapman passed into the hands of Warton, and is now in the possession of my friend, the Rev. John Mitford of Benhall. Having thus completed the Iliad and Odyssey, Chapman subsequently published "*The Crowne of all Homer's Workes, Batrachomyomachia; or The Battaile of Frogs and Mise. Translated according to the originall, by George Chapman. London. Printed by John Bill, his Maiesties Printer.*" This is a thin folio containing also the



Hymns of Homer, and Mr. Singer (who printed a most elegant edition of it in 1818, Chiswick) says it would seem to have been published after 1624, by comparing it with other books by the same printer. The volume, which is very rare, has a most spirited engraved title by William Pass, containing a portrait of Chapman at an advanced age. Messrs. Boone of Bond-street possess a very fine copy of this volume, which is peculiarly interesting, not only from an autograph presentation Sonnet, but from Chapman's having with his pen made some alterations in the portrait. I trust to give the Sonnet, and also the engraved title, in the fifth and concluding volume of this edition of Chapman's Translations.

After the lapse of more than two centuries, appeared an edition of Chapman's Iliad in two volumes 8vo. London 1843. It was most elegantly printed, adorned with the beautiful designs of Flaxman, and edited by Dr. William Cooke Taylor. The Preface, Prefatory Poems, and Sonnets were omitted. I have no wish to criticize this book, but will merely observe that the editor followed, as will be seen, an inferior copy, and has paid little or no regard to the punctuation, which is almost as confused as that of the original folios. The Life of Chapman in the Introduction is full of most patent errors. Nevertheless Dr. Taylor deserves our sincere thanks for being the first to bring this noble work before the public since the days of the Author.

The leading features of the present edition are these. The text of the first folio of 1611 has been adopted, and the variations of the second folio, and Dr. Taylor's edition, duly noted. The lines have been numbered for facility of reference, the speeches placed between inverted commas, and the punctuation throughout the whole work most carefully amended. Accustomed as the editor has been to old printing, he does not remember to have ever seen so falsely pointed books as both the folios of Chapman's Homer. The sense is rendered absolutely unintelligible. The reader will be startled when he is assured that the corrections with the pen in punctuating alone have amounted to upwards of thirty thousand! In the execution of this part of his task the editor

carefully read the text through with the original Greek, and chiefly in the old folio edition of Spondanus, as Chapman used that copy. The orthography has been modernized, but great care has been taken not to lose sight of the original forms, the land-marks as it were, of our language. A few explanatory notes have been given, but the chief aim has been to set before the reader as correct a text as possible. Of course in a work of such length, and labour, errors will be found, as this is really the *first* time that any attempt has been made to edit this old Elizabethan book with any pretension to accuracy. It is hoped the reader will correct such as are noted in the table of "Faults escaped," and pardon such others as may occur to his eye.

The editor tenders his best thanks to S. W. Singer, Esq. to whom he is indebted for the loan of a fine copy of the *second folio*, and for much information derived from his Preface to the "Hymns of Homer."

February, 1857.





### FAULTS ESCAPED.

The following readings of the *second* folio, which have accidentally crept into the text, are to be corrected for those of the *first*.—Book I. 174, *flee*, read *fly*; 175, *other*, r. *others*; 217, *earthy*, r. *earthly*; 272, *wrath*, r. *wraths*; 286, *a temperate*, r. *their temperate*. III. 270, *the field*, r. *to field*. XI. 319, *trusty*, r. *thirsty*. XIII. 489, *parts*, r. *part*; 589, *with*, r. *which*. XXI. 412, *his town*, r. *this town*; 419, *hand*, r. *hands*. XXIII. 273, *a bribe*, r. *as bribe*.

### CORRECT THE FOLLOWING.

Book I. 191, *Thetis's*, read *Thetis'*; 368, destroy comma after *priest*; 456, destroy comma after *wine*; 514, *counsels*, r. *councils*. II. 99, r. *authored*; 292, *had* r. *held*. III. 371, *drove*, r. *drave*. V. 643, r. *Ganymed*. VI. Argument, line 15, *hands*, r. *arms*. VII. 182, destroy comma after *Jupiter*, and place it after *strength*; 322, r. *council*. VIII. 478, *lie*, r. *die*. XI. 129, r. *council*; 619, *rights*, r. *rites*. XIII. 394, *Alastar*, r. *Alastor*. XVI. 8, *has*, r. *hath*; 424, r. *brothers'*. XVII. 645, *yet as mules*, r. *yet as when mules*. XIX. 1, *moon*, r. *morn*; 303, *hath*, r. *had*. XX. 312, destroy semicolon after *of all*. XXI. 6, destroy comma after *about*. XXII. 50, *their wives*, r. *her*; 154, *at*, r. *in*. XXIII. 201, *burn'd*, r. *burned*. XXIV. 71, *thy father's*, r. *his*.

Sonnet II. 8, *their*, read *her*. XI. 7, r. *apostasy*. XXI. 9, *the*, r. *thy*; 10, *by*, r. *with*.

### ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Book IV. 122. *Evicke*—there can be no doubt that this word is *Ibecke*, the old spelling of *Ibex*.

XIII. 138. *Upon the square*—i. e. in squares.

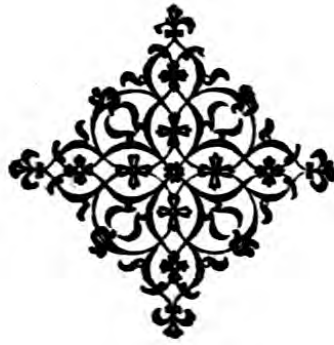
XXIII. 15. *Carriages*—burdens. See Acts XXI. 15.





HOMER'S ILIADS.







THE following verses are on an engraving of Two Corinthian Columns, on the dexter of which is ILIAS, and on the sinister ODYSSEÆ. On a scroll connecting the columns are the words

MUSAR : HERCUL : COLUM :  
NE USQUE.

The whole surmounted by the Prince of Wales's Plume and Motto.  
This plate was added on the death of the Prince, and is found in most copies of the Iliad and Odyssey united. The design being inelegant, it was not thought worth re-engraving for this edition.

TO THE IMMORTAL MEMORY OF THE INCOMPARABLE  
HEROE, HENRY, PRINCE OF WALES.



THY tomb, arms, statue, all things fit to fall  
At foot of Death, and worship funeral,  
Form hath bestow'd; for form is nought too dear  
Thy solid virtues yet, eternized here,  
My blood and wasted spirits have only found  
Commanded cost, and broke so rich a ground,  
Not to inter, but make thee ever spring,  
As arms, tombs, statues, every earthy thing,  
Shall fade and vanish into fume before.  
What lasts thrives least; yet wealth of soul is poor,  
And so 'tis kept. Not thy thrice sacred will,  
Sign'd with thy death, moves any to fulfil  
Thy just bequests to me. Thou dead, then I  
Live dead, for giving thee eternity.

*Ad Famam.*

To all times future this time's mark extend,  
Homer no patron found, nor Chapman friend.  
Ignotus nimis omnibus,  
Sat notus moritur sibi.







TO THE HIGH BORN PRINCE OF MEN,  
HENRY, THRICE ROYAL INHERITOR TO THE UNITED  
KINGDOMS OF GREAT BRITAIN, ETC.



INCE perfect happiness, by Princes sought,  
Is not with birth born, nor exchequers bought,  
Nor follows in great trains, nor is possest  
With any outward state, but makes him blest

That governs inward, and beholdeth there 5  
All his affections stand about him bare,  
That by his power can send to Tower and death  
All traitorous passions, marshalling beneath  
His justice his mere will, and in his mind  
Holds such a sceptre as can keep confined 10  
His whole life's actions in the royal bounds  
Of virtue and religion, and their grounds  
Takes in to sow his honours, his delights,  
And complete empire ; you should learn these rights,  
Great Prince of men, by princely presidents, 15  
Which here, in all kinds, my true zeal presents  
To furnish your youth's groundwork and first state,  
And let you see one godlike man create

All sorts of worthiest men, to be contrived  
 In your worth only, giving him revived, 20  
 For whose life Alexander would have given  
 One of his kingdoms ; who (as sent from heaven,  
 And thinking well that so divine a creature  
 Would never more enrich the race of nature)  
 Kept as his crown his works, and thought them still 25  
 His angels, in all power to rule his will ;  
 And would affirm that Homer's poesy  
 Did more advance his Asian victory,  
 Than all his armies. O ! 'tis wond'rous much,  
 Though nothing prized, that the right virtuous touch 30  
 Of a well written soul to virtue moves ;  
 Nor have we souls to purpose, if their loves  
 Of fitting objects be not so inflamed.  
 How much then were this kingdom's main soul maim'd,  
 To want this great inflamer of all powers 35  
 That move in human souls ! All realms but yours  
 Are honour'd with him, and hold blest that state  
 That have his works to read and contemplate :  
 In which humanity to her height is raised,  
 Which all the world, yet none enough, hath praised ; 40  
 Seas, earth, and heaven, he did in verse comprise,  
 Out-sung the Muses, and did equalize  
 Their king Apollo ; being so far from cause  
 Of Princes' light thoughts, that their gravest laws  
 May find stuff to be fashioned by his lines. 45  
 Through all the pomp of kingdoms still he shines,  
 And graceth all his gracers. Then let lie  
 Your lutes and viols, and more loftily  
 Make the heroics of your Homer sung,  
 To drums and trumpets set his angel's tongue, 50

<sup>29</sup> Coleridge styles the lines from this to 61 "sublime."

And, with the princely sport of hawks you use,  
Behold the kingly flight of his high muse,  
And see how, like the phœnix, she renews  
Her age and starry feathers in your sun,  
Thousands of years attending, every one 55  
Blowing the holy fire, and throwing in  
Their seasons, kingdoms, nations, that have been  
Subverted in them ; laws, religions, all  
Offer'd to change and greedy funeral ;  
Yet still your Homer, lasting, living, reigning, 60  
And proves how firm truth builds in poets' feigning.  
A prince's statue, or in marble carved,  
Or steel, or gold, and shrined, to be preserved,  
Aloft on pillars or pyramides,  
Time into lowest ruins may depress ; 65  
But drawn with all his virtues in learn'd verse,  
Fame shall resound them on oblivion's hearse,  
Till graves gasp with her blasts, and dead men rise.  
No gold can follow where true Poesy flies.  
Then let not this divinity in earth, 70  
Dear Prince, be slighted as she were the birth  
Of idle fancy, since she works so high ;  
Nor let her poor disposer, Learning, lie  
Still bed-rid. Both which being in men defaced,  
In men with them is God's bright image rased ; 75  
For as the Sun and Moon are figures given  
Of His refulgent Deity in heaven,  
So Learning, and, her lightener, Poesy,  
In earth present His fiery Majesty.  
Nor are kings like Him, since their diadems 80  
Thunder and lighten and project brave beams,  
But since they His clear virtues emulate,  
In truth and justice imaging His state,



In bounty and humanity since they shine,  
 Than which is nothing like Him more divine ; 85  
 Not fire, not light, the sun's admired course,  
 The rise nor set of stars, nor all their force  
 In us and all this cope beneath the sky,  
 Nor great existence, term'd His treasury ;  
 Since not for being greatest He is blest, 90  
 But being just, and in all virtues best.

What sets His justice and His truth best forth,  
 Best Prince, then use best, which is Poesy's worth ;  
 For, as great princes, well inform'd and deck'd  
 With gracious virtue, give more sure effect 95  
 To her persuasions, pleasures, real worth,  
 Than all th' inferior subjects she sets forth ;  
 Since there she shines at full, hath birth, wealth, state,  
 Power, fortune, honour, fit to elevate  
 Her heavenly merits, and so fit they are, 100  
 Since she was made for them, and they for her ;  
 So Truth, with Poesy grac'd, is fairer far,  
 More proper, moving, chaste, and regular,  
 Than when she runs away with untruss'd Prose ;  
 Proportion, that doth orderly dispose 105  
 Her virtuous treasure, and is queen of graces ;  
 In Poesy decking her with choicest phrases,  
 Figures and numbers ; when loose Prose puts on  
 Plain letter-habits, makes her trot upon  
 Dull earthly business, she being mere divine ; 110  
 Holds her to homely cates and harsh hedge-wine,  
 That should drink Poesy's nectar ; every way  
 One made for other, as the sun and day,  
 Princes and virtues. And, as in a spring,  
 The pliant water moved with anything 115

Let fall into it puts her motion out  
 In perfect circles, that move round about  
 The gentle fountain, one another raising ;  
 So Truth and Poesy work, so Poesy, blazing  
 All subjects fallen in her exhaustless fount, 120  
 Works most exactly, makes a true account  
 Of all things to her high discharges given,  
 Till all be circular and round as heaven.

And lastly, great Prince, mark and pardon me :—  
 As in a flourishing and ripe fruit-tree 125  
 Nature hath made the bark to save the bole,  
 The bole the sap, the sap to deck the whole  
 With leaves and branches, they to bear and shield  
 The useful fruit, the fruit itself to yield  
 Guard to the kernel, and for that all those, 130  
 Since out of that again the whole tree grows ;  
 So in our tree of man, whose nervy root  
 Springs in his top, from thence even to his foot  
 There runs a mutual aid through all his parts,  
 All joined in one to serve his queen of arts, 135  
 In which doth Poesy like the kernel lie  
 Obscured, though her Promethean faculty  
 Can create men, and make even death to live,  
 For which she should live honoured, kings should give  
 Comfort and help to her that she might still 140  
 Hold up their spirits in virtue, make the will  
 That governs in them to the power conform'd,  
 The power to justice, that the scandals, storm'd  
 Against the poor dame, cleared by your fair grace,  
 Your grace may shine the clearer. Her low place 145  
 Not showing her the highest leaves obscure.

Who raise her raise themselves, and he sits sure

<sup>135</sup> “ *Queen of arts*—the soul.”—CHAPMAN.

Whom her wing'd hand advanceth, since on it  
Eternity doth, crowning virtue, sit.  
All whose poor seed, like violets in their beds,  
Now grow with bosom-hung and hidden heads ;  
For whom I must speak, though their fate convinces  
Me worst of poets, to you best of princes.

150

By the most humble and faithful implorer for all  
the graces to your highness eternized  
by your divine Homer.

GEO. CHAPMAN.



AN ANAGRAM OF THE NAME OF OUR DREAD PRINCE,  
 MY MOST GRACIOUS AND SACRED MÆCENAS,  
 HENRYE PRINCE OF VVALES  
 OVR SVNN, HEYR, PEACE, LIFE.



**B**E to us, as thy great name doth import,  
 Prince of the people, nor suppose it vain  
 That in this secret and prophetic sort  
 Thy name and noblest title doth contain  
 So much right to us, and as great a good.  
 Nature doth nothing vainly ; much less Art  
 Perfecting Nature. No spirit in our blood  
 But in our soul's discourses bears a part :  
 What nature gives at random in the one,  
 In th' other ordered our divine part serves.  
 Thou art not HEYR then to our State alone,  
 But SVNN, PEACE, LIFE ; and, what thy power deserves  
 Of us and our good in thy utmost strife,  
 Shall make thee to thyself HEYR, SVNN, PEACE, LIFE.



TO THE SACRED FOUNTAIN OF PRINCES,  
SOLE EMPRESS OF BEAUTY AND VIRTUE, ANNE, QUEEN  
OF ENGLAND, ETC.



WITH whatsoever honour we adorn  
Your royal issue, we must gratulate you,  
Imperial Sovereign ; who of you is born  
Is you, one tree make both the bole and bow.  
If it be honour then to join you both  
To such a powerful work as shall defend  
Both from foul death and age's ugly moth,  
This is an honour that shall never end.  
They know not virtue then that know not what  
The virtue of defending virtue is ;  
It comprehends the guard of all your State  
And joins your greatness to as great a bliss.  
Shield virtue and advance her then, great Queen,  
And make this book your glass to make it seen.

Your Majesty's in all subjection most  
humbly consecrate,  
GEO. CHAPMAN.

ANNE, daughter of FREDERICK II. of Denmark, married King James Ist 20  
Aug. 1590, and died 2 March, 1619.



## TO THE READER.

LEST with foul hands you touch these holy rites,  
And with prejudicacies too profane,  
Pass Homer in your other poets' slights,  
Wash here. In this porch to his numerous fane,  
Hear ancient oracles speak, and tell you whom  
You have to censure. First then Silius hear,  
Who thrice was consul in renowned Rome,  
Whose verse, saith Martial, nothing shall out-wear.

SILIUS ITALICUS, LIB. XIII. 777.



HE, in Elysium having cast his eye  
Upon the figure of a youth, whose hair,  
With purple ribands braided curiously,  
Hung on his shoulders wond'rous bright and fair,  
Said: ' Virgin, what is he whose heavenly face  
Shines past all others, as the morn the night ;  
Whom many marvelling souls, from place to place,  
Pursue and haunt with sounds of such delight ;  
Whose countenance (were't not in the Stygian shade)  
Would make me, questionless, believe he were  
A very God?' The learned virgin made  
This answer: ' If thou shouldst believe it here,  
Thou shouldst not err. He well deserv'd to be  
Esteem'd a God ; nor held his so-much breast

5

10

A little presence of the Deity, 15  
 His verse comprised earth, seas, stars, souls at rest ;  
 In song the Muses he did equalize,  
 In honour Phœbus. He was only soul,  
 Saw all things spher'd in nature, without eyes,  
 And raised your Troy up to the starry pole.' 20  
 Glad Scipio, viewing well this prince of ghosts,  
 Said: ' O if Fates would give this poet leave  
 To sing the acts done by the Roman hosts,  
 How much beyond would future times receive  
 The same facts made by any other known ! 25  
 O blest Æacides, to have the grace  
 That out of such a mouth thou shouldst be shown  
 To wond'ring nations, as enrich'd the race  
 Of all times future with what he did know !  
 Thy virtue with his verse shall ever grow.' 30  
 Now hear an Angel sing our poet's fame,  
 Whom fate, for his divine song, gave that name.

ANGELUS POLITIANUS, IN NUTRICIA.\*

More living than in old Demodocus,  
 Fame glories to wax young in Homer's verse.  
 And as when bright Hyperion holds to us  
 His golden torch, we see the stars disperse,  
 And every way fly heaven, the pallid moon 35  
 Even almost vanishing before his sight ;  
 So, with the dazzling beams of Homer's sun,  
 All other ancient poets lose their light.  
 Whom when Apollo heard, out of his star,  
 Singing the godlike acts of honour'd men, 40  
 And equalling the actual rage of war,  
 With only the divine strains of his pen,

\* The lines begin,—

— " nam Demodoci vivacior ævo  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 Obstrepuit, prorsusque parem confessus Apollo est."

He stood amaz'd and freely did confess  
Himself was equall'd in Mæonides.

Next hear the grave and learned Pliny use  
His censure of our sacred poet's muse.  
Plin. Nat. Hist. lib. 7. cap. 29.  
Turned into verse, that no prose may come near Homer.

Whom shall we choose the glory of all wits, 45  
Held through so many sorts of discipline  
And such variety of works and spirits,  
But Grecian Homer, like whom none did shine  
For form of work and matter? And because  
Our proud doom of him may stand justified 50  
By noblest judgments, and receive applause  
In spite of envy and illiterate pride,  
Great Macedon, amongst his matchless spoils  
Took from rich Persia, on his fortunes cast,  
A casket finding, full of precious oils, 55  
Form'd all of gold, with wealthy stones enchas'd,  
He took the oils out, and his nearest friends  
Ask'd in what better guard it might be used?  
All giving their conceits to several ends,  
He answer'd: ' His affections rather choosed 60  
An use quite opposite to all their kinds,  
And Homer's books should with that guard be serv'd,  
That the most precious work of all men's minds  
In the most precious place might be preserv'd.  
The Fount of Wit\* was Homer, Learning's Sire,† 65  
And gave Antiquity her living fire.'

VOLUMES of like praise I could heap on this,  
Of men more ancient and more learn'd than these,

\* Plin. Nat. Hist. xvii. 5.

† Idem, xxv. 3.

But since true virtue enough lovely is  
     With her own beauties, all the suffrages 70  
 Of others I omit, and would more fain  
     That Homer for himself should be belov'd,  
 Who every sort of love-worth did contain.  
     Which how I have in my conversion prov'd  
 I must confess I hardly dare refer 75  
     To reading judgments, since, so generally,  
 Custom hath made even th' ablest agents err  
     In these translations ; all so much apply  
 Their pains and cunnings word for word to render  
     Their patient authors, when they may as well 80  
 Make fish with fowl, camels with whales, engender,  
     Or their tongues' speech in other mouths compell.  
 For, even as different a production  
     Ask Greek and English, since as they in sounds  
 And letters shun one form and unison ; 85  
     So have their sense and elegancy bounds  
 In their distinguish'd natures, and require  
     Only a judgment to make both consent  
 In sense and elocution ; and aspire,  
     As well to reach the spirit that was spent 90  
 In his example, as with art to pierce  
     His grammar, and etymology of words.  
 But as great clerks can write no English verse,  
     Because, alas, great clerks ! English affords,  
 Say they, no height nor copy ; a rude tongue, 95  
     Since 'tis their native ; but in Greek or Latin  
 Their writs are rare, for thence true Poesy sprung ;  
     Though them (truth knows) they have but skill to chat in,

<sup>77</sup> " Of Translation, and the natural difference of Dialects necessarily to be observed in it."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>93</sup> " Ironicè."—CHAPMAN.



Compar'd with that they might say in their own ;  
 Since thither th' other's full soul cannot make 100  
 The ample transmigration to be shown  
 In nature-loving Poesy ; so the brake  
 That those translators stick in, that affect  
 Their word-for-word traductions (where they lose  
 The free grace of their natural dialect, 105  
 And shame their authors with a forced gloss)  
 I laugh to see ; and yet as much abhor  
 More license from the words than may express  
 Their full compression, and make clear the author ;  
 From whose truth, if you think my feet digress, 110  
 Because I use needful periphrases,  
 Read Valla, Hesus, that in Latin prose,  
 And verse, convert him ; read the Messines  
 That into Tuscan turns him ; and the gloss  
 Grave Salel makes in French, as he translates ; 115  
 Which, for the aforesaid reasons, all must do ;  
 And see that my conversion much abates  
 The license they take, and more shows him too,  
 Whose right not all those great learn'd men have done,  
 In some main parts, that were his commentators. 120  
 But, as the illustration of the sun  
 Should be attempted by the erring stars,  
 They fail'd to search his deep and treasurous heart ;  
 The cause was, since they wanted the fit key  
 Of Nature, in their downright strength of Art, 125  
 With Poesy to open Poesy :  
 Which, in my poem of the mysteries  
 Reveal'd in Homer, I will clearly prove ;

<sup>107</sup> “ The necessary nearness of Translation to the example.”—CHAPMAN.

<sup>125</sup> “ The power of Nature above Art in Poesy.”—CHAPMAN.

Till whose near birth, suspend your calumnies,  
 And far-wide imputations of self-love. 130  
 'Tis further from me than the worst that reads,  
 Professing me the worst of all that write ;  
 Yet what, in following one that bravely leads,  
 The worst may show, let this proof hold the light.  
 But grant it clear ; yet hath detraction got 135  
 My blind side in the form my verse puts on ;  
 Much like a dung-hill mastiff, that dares not  
 Assault the man he barks at, but the stone  
 He throws at him takes in his eager jaws,  
 And spoils his teeth because they cannot spoil. 140  
 The long verse hath by proof receiv'd applause  
 Beyond each other number ; and the foil,  
 That squint-ey'd Envy takes, is censur'd plain ;  
 For this long poem asks this length of verse,  
 Which I myself ingenuously maintain 145  
 Too long our shorter authors to rehearse.  
 And, for our tongue that still is so impair'd  
 By travelling linguists, I can prove it clear,  
 That no tongue hath the Muse's utterance heir'd  
 For verse, and that sweet music to the ear 150  
 Struck out of rhyme, so naturally as this ;  
 Our monosyllables so kindly fall,  
 And meet opposed in rhyme as they did kiss ;  
 French and Italian most immetrical,  
 Their many syllables in harsh collision 155  
 Fall as they break their necks ; their bastard rhymes  
 Saluting as they justled in transition,  
 And set our teeth on edge ; nor tunes, nor times  
 Kept in their falls ; and, methinks, their long words  
 Shew in short verse as in a narrow place 160

<sup>147</sup> "Our English language above all others for Rhythmical Poesy."—CHAPMAN.

Two opposites should meet with two-hand swords  
 Unwieldily, without or use or grace.  
 Thus having rid the rubs, and strow'd these flowers  
 In our thrice sacred Homer's English way,  
 What rests to make him yet more worthy yours? 165  
 To cite more praise of him were mere delay  
 To your glad searches for what those men found  
 That gave his praise, past all, so high a place ;  
 Whose virtues were so many, and so crown'd  
 By all consents divine, that, not to grace 170  
 Or add increase to them, the world doth need  
 Another Homer, but even to rehearse  
 And number them, they did so much exceed.  
 Men thought him not a man ; but that his verse  
 Some mere celestial nature did adorn ; 175  
 And all may well conclude it could not be,  
 That for the place where any man was born,  
 So long and mortally could disagree  
 So many nations as for Homer striv'd,  
 Unless his spur in them had been divine. 180  
 Then end their strife and love him, thus receiv'd,  
 As born in England ; see him over shine  
 All other-country poets ; and trust this,  
 That whosoever Muse dares use her wing  
 When his Muse flies, she will be truss'd by his, 185  
 And show as if a bernacle should spring  
 Beneath an eagle. In none since was seen  
 A soul so full of heaven as earth's in him.  
 O ! if our modern Poesy had been  
 As lovely as the lady he did limn, 190  
 What barbarous worldling, grovelling after gain,  
 Could use her lovely parts with such rude hate,

As now she suffers under every swain ?  
 Since then 'tis nought but her abuse and Fate,  
 That thus impairs her, what is this to her 195  
 As she is real, or in natural right ?  
 But since in true Religion men should err  
 As much as Poesy, should the abuse excite  
 The like contempt of her divinity,  
 And that her truth, and right saint-sacred merits, 200  
 In most lives breed but reverence formally,  
 What wonder is't if Poesy inherits  
 Much less observance, being but agent for her,  
 And singer of her laws, that others say ?  
 Forth then, ye moles, sons of the earth, abhor her, 205  
 Keep still on in the dirty vulgar way,  
 Till dirt receive your souls, to which ye vow,  
 And with your poison'd spirits bewitch our thrifts.  
 Ye cannot so despise us as we you ;  
 Not one of you above his mole-hill lifts 210  
 His earthy mind, but, as a sort of beasts,  
 Kept by their guardians, never care to hear  
 Their manly voices, but when in their fists  
 They breathe wild whistles, and the beasts' rude ear  
 Hears their curs barking, then by heaps they fly 215  
 Headlong together ; so men, beastly given,  
 The manly soul's voice, sacred Poesy,  
 Whose hymns the angels ever sing in heaven,  
 Contemn, and hear not ; but when brutish noises,  
 For gain, lust, honour, in litigious prose 220  
 Are bellow'd out, and crack the barbarous voices  
 Of Turkish stentors, O, ye lean to those,  
 Like itching horse to blocks or high may-poles ;  
 And break nought but the wind of wealth, wealth, all

*TO THE READER.*

lxi

In all your documents ; your asinine souls, 225  
Proud of their burthens, feel not how they gall.  
But as an ass, that in a field of weeds  
Affects a thistle, and falls fiercely to it,  
That pricks and galls him, yet he feeds, and bleeds,  
Forbears a while, and licks, but cannot woo it 230  
To leave the sharpness ; when, to wreak his smart,  
He beats it with his foot, then backward kicks,  
Because the thistle gall'd his forward part ;  
Nor leaves till all be eat, for all the pricks,  
Then falls to others with as hot a strife, 235  
And in that honourable war doth waste  
The tall heat of his stomach, and his life ;  
So in this world of weeds you worldlings taste  
Your most-lov'd dainties, with such war buy peace,  
Hunger for torment, virtue kick for vice, 240  
Cares for your states do with your states increase,  
And though ye dream ye feast in Paradise,  
Yet reason's daylight shews ye at your meat  
Asses at thistles, bleeding as ye eat.









## THE PREFACE TO THE READER.



F all books extant in all kinds. Homer is the first and best. No one before his, Josephus affirms ; nor before him, saith Velleius Paterculus, was there any whom he imitated, nor after him any that could imitate him. And that Poesy may be no cause of detraction from all the eminence we give him, Spondanus (preferring it to all arts and sciences) unanswerably argues and proves ; for to the glory of God, and the singing of His glories, no man dares deny, man was chiefly made. And what art performs this chief end of man with so much excitation and expression as Poesy ; Moses, David, Solomon, Job, Esay, Jeremy, &c. chiefly using that to the end abovesaid ? And since the excellence of it cannot be obtained by the labour and art of man, as all easily confess it, it must needs be acknowledged a Divine infusion. To prove which in a word, this distich, in my estimation, serves something nearly :

Great Poesy, blind Homer, makes all see  
Thee capable of all arts, none of thee.

For out of him, according to our most grave and judicial Plutarch, are all Arts deduced, confirmed, or illustrated. It is not therefore the world's vilifying of it that can make it vile ; for so we might argue, and blaspheme the most incomparably sacred. It is not of the world indeed, but, like truth, hides itself from it. Nor is there any such reality of

wisdom's truth in all human excellence, as in Poets' fictions. That most vulgar and foolish receipt of poetical licence being of all knowing men to be exploded, accepting it, as if Poets had a tale-telling privilege above others, no Artist being so strictly and inextricably confined to all the laws of learning, wisdom, and truth, as a Poet. For were not his fictions composed of the sinews and souls of all those, how could they differ far from and be combined with eternity? To all sciences therefore, I must still, with our learned and ingenious Spondanus, prefer it, as having a perpetual commerce with the Divine Majesty, embracing and illustrating all His most holy precepts, and enjoying continual discourse with His thrice perfect and most comfortable Spirit. And as the contemplative life is most worthily and divinely preferred by Plato to the active, as much as the head to the foot, the eye to the hand, reason to sense, the soul to the body, the end itself to all things directed to the end, quiet to motion, and eternity to time; so much prefer I divine Poesy to all worldly wisdom. To the only shadow of whose worth, yet, I entitle not the bold rhymes of every apish and impudent braggart, though he dares assume anything; such I turn over to the weaving of cobwebs, and shall but chatter on molehills (far under the hill of the Muses) when their fortunatest self-love and ambition hath advanced them highest. Poesy is the flower of the Sun, and disdains to open to the eye of a candle. So kings hide their treasures and counsels from the vulgar, *ne evilescent* (saith our Spond.). We have example sacred enough, that true Poesy's humility, poverty, and contempt, are badges of divinity, not vanity. Bray then, and bark against it, ye wolf-fac'd worldlings, that nothing but honours, riches, and magistracy, *nescio quos turgidè spiratis* (that I may use the words of our friend still) *qui solas leges Justinianas crepatis; paragraphum unum aut alterum, pluris quàm vos ipsos facitis, &c.* I (for my part) shall ever esteem it much more manly and sacred, in this harmless and pious study, to sit till I sink into my grave, than shine in your vainglorious bubbles and impieties; all your poor policies, wisdoms, and their trappings, at no more valuing than a musty nut. And much less I weigh the frontless de-

tractions of some stupid ignorants, that, no more knowing me than their own beastly ends, and I ever (to my knowledge) blest from their sight, whisper behind me vilifyings of my translation, out of the French affirming them, when both in French, and all other languages but his own, our with-all-skill-enriched Poet is so poor and unpleasing that no man can discern from whence flowed his so generally given eminence, and admiration. And therefore (by any reasonable creature's conference of my slight comment and conversion) it will easily appear how I shun them, and whether the original be my rule or not. In which he shall easily see, I understand the understandings of all other interpreters and commentators in places of his most depth, importance, and rapture. In whose exposition and illustration, if I abhor from the sense that others wrest and wrack out of him, let my best detractor examine how the Greek word warrants me. For my other fresh fry, let them fry in their foolish galls, nothing so much weighed as the barkings of puppies, or foisting hounds, too vile to think of our sacred Homer, or set their profane feet within their lives' lengths of his thresholds. If I fail in something, let my full performance in other some restore me; haste spurring me on with other necessities. For as at my conclusion I protest, so here at my entrance, less than fifteen weeks was the time in which all the last twelve books were entirely new translated. No conference had with any one living in all the novelties I presume I have found. Only some one or two places I have showed to my worthy and most learned friend, M. Harriots, for his censure how much mine own weighed; whose judgment and knowledge in all kinds, I know to be incomparable, and bottomless, yea, to be admired as much, as his most blameless life, and the right sacred expense of his time, is to be honoured and revered. Which affirmation of his clear unmatchedness in all manner of learning I make in contempt of that nasty objection often thrust upon me,—that he that will judge must know more than he of whom he judgeth; for so a man should know neither God nor himself. Another right learned, honest, and entirely loved friend of mine, M. Robert Hews, I must needs put into my confess'd conference touching

Homer, though very little more than that I had with M. Harriots. Which two, I protest, are all, and preferred to all. Nor charge I their authorities with any allowance of my general labour, but only of those one or two places, which for instances of my innovation, and how it showed to them, I imparted. If any tax me for too much periphrasis or circumlocution in some places, let them read Laurentius Valla, and Eobanus Hessus, who either use such shortness as cometh nothing home to Homer, or, where they shun that fault, are ten parts more paraphrastical than I. As for example, one place I will trouble you (if you please) to confer with the original, and one interpreter for all. It is in the end of the third book and is Helen's speech to Venus fetching her to Paris from seeing his cowardly combat with Menelaus; part of which speech I will here cite:

Οὐνεκα δὴ νῦν ὄϊον Ἀλέξανδρον Μενέλαος  
Νικήσας, &c.

For avoiding the common reader's trouble here, I must refer the more Greekish to the rest of the speech in Homer, whose translation *ad verbum* by Spondanus I will here cite, and then pray you to confer it with that which followeth of Valla.

Quoniam verò nunc Alexandrum Menelaus  
Postquam vicit, vult odiosam me domum abducere,  
Propterea verò nunc dolum (ceu dolos) cogitans advenisti?  
Sede apud ipsum vadens, deorum abnega vias,  
Neque unquam tuis pedibus revertaris in cœlum,  
Sed semper circa eum ærumnas perfer, et ipsum serva  
Donec te vel uxorem faciat, vel hic servam, &c.

Valla thus:

Quoniam victo Paride, Menelaus me miseram est reportaturus ad lares, ideo tu, ideo falsâ sub imagine venisti, ut me deciperes ob tuam nimiam in Paridem benevolentiam: eò dum illi ades, dum illi studes, dum pro illo satagis, dum illum observas atque custodis, deorum commercium reliquisti, nec ad eos reversura es ampliùs; adeò (quantum suspicor) aut uxor ejus efficieris, aut ancilla, &c.

Wherein note if there be any such thing as most of this in Homer; yet



only to express, as he thinks, Homer's conceit, for the more pleasure of the reader, he useth this overplus, *dum illi ades, dum illi studes, dum pro illo satagis, dum illum observas, atque custodis, deorum commercium reliquisti*. Which (besides his superfluity) is utterly false. For where he saith *reliquisti deorum commercium*, Helen saith, Θεῶν δ' ἀπόειπε κελεύθους, *deorum autem abnega*, or *abnue, vias, ἀπείπειν* (vel ἀποείπειν as it is used poetically) signifying *denegare*, or *abnuere*; and Helen (in contempt of her too much observing men) bids her renounce heaven, and come live with Paris till he make her his wife or servant; scoptically or scornfully speaking it; which both Valla, Eobanus, and all other interpreters (but these *ad verbum*) have utterly missed. And this one example I thought necessary to insert here, to show my detractors that they have no reason to vilify my circumlocution sometimes, when their most approved Grecians, Homer's interpreters generally, hold him fit to be so converted. Yet how much I differ, and with what authority, let my impartial and judicial reader judge. Always conceiving how pedantical and absurd an affectation it is in the interpretation of any author (much more of Homer) to turn him word for word, when (according to Horace and other best lawgivers to translators) it is the part of every knowing and judicial interpreter, not to follow the number and order of words, but the material things themselves, and sentences to weigh diligently, and to clothe and adorn them with words, and such a style and form of oration, as are most apt for the language in which they are converted. If I have not turned him in any place falsely (as all other his interpreters have in many, and most of his chief places) if I have not left behind me any of his sentences, elegancy, height, intention, and invention, if in some few places (especially in my first edition, being done so long since, and following the common tract) I be something paraphrastical and faulty, is it justice in that poor fault (if they will needs have it so) to drown all the rest of my labour? But there is a certain envious windsucker,\* that hovers up and down, laboriously engrossing all the air with his luxurious ambition, and buzzing into every

\* *Windsucker*—the kestrel, or kite, hovering hawk; called also a *windhover*.

ear my detraction, affirming I turn Homer out of the Latin only, &c. that sets all his associates, and the whole rabble of my maligners on their wings with him, to bear about my impair, and poison my reputation. One that, as he thinks, whatsoever he gives to others, he takes from himself; so whatsoever he takes from others, he adds to himself. One that in this kind of robbery doth like Mercury, that stole good and supplied it with counterfeit bad still. One like the two gluttons, Philoxenus and Gnatho, that would still empty their noses in the dishes they loved, that no man might eat but themselves. For so this castrill,\* with too hot a liver, and lust after his own glory, and to devour all himself, discourageth all appetites to the fame of another. I have stricken, single him as you can. Nor note I this, to cast any rubs, or plasters out of the particular way of mine own estimation with the world; for I resolve this with the wilfully obscure:

Sine honore vivam, nulloque numero ero.

*Without mens' honours I will live, and make  
No number in the manless course they take.*

But, to discourage (if it might be) the general detraction of industrious and well-meaning virtue, I know I cannot too much diminish and deject myself; yet that passing little that I am, God only knows, to Whose ever-implored respect and comfort I only submit me. If any further edition of these my silly endeavours shall chance, I will mend what is amiss (God assisting me) and amplify my harsh Comment to Homer's far more right, and mine own earnest and ingenious love of him. Notwithstanding, I know, the curious and envious will never sit down satisfied. A man may go over and over, till he come over and over, and his pains be only his recompense, every man is so loaded with his particular head, and nothing in all respects perfect, but what is perceived by few. Homer himself hath met with my fortune, in many maligners; and therefore may my poor self put up with motion. And so little I will respect malignity, and so much encourage myself with mine own known strength, and what I find within me of comfort

\* *Castrill*—kestrel, or hovering hawk.

and confirmance (examining myself throughout with a far more jealous and severe eye than my greatest enemy, imitating this :

Judex ipse sui totum se explorat ad unguem, &c.)

that after these Iliads, I will (God lending me life and any meanest means) with more labour than I have lost here, and all unchecked alacrity, dive through his Odysseys. Nor can I forget here (but with all hearty gratitude remember) my most ancient, learned, and right noble friend, M. Richard Stapilton, first most desertful mover in the frame of our Homer. For which (and much other most ingenious and utterly undeserved desert) God make me amply his requiter ; and be his honourable family's speedy and full restorer. In the mean space, I intreat my impartial and judicial Reader, that all things to the quick he will not pare, but humanely and nobly pardon defects, and, if he find anything perfect, receive it unenvied.

## OF HOMER.

**O**F his country and time, the difference is so infinite amongst all writers, that there is no question, in my conjecture, of his antiquity beyond all. To which opinion, the nearest I will cite, Adam Cedrenus placeth him under David's and Solomon's rule ; and the Destruction of Troy under Saul's. And of one age with Solomon, Michael Glycas Siculus affirmeth him. Aristotle (*in tertio de Poeticá*) affirms he was born in the isle of Io, begot of a Genius, one of them that used to dance with the Muses, and a virgin of that isle compressed by that Genius, who being quick with child (for shame of the deed) came into a place called Ægina, and there was taken of thieves, and brought to Smyrna, to Mæon king of the Lydians, who for her beauty married her. After which, she walking near the flood Meletes, on that shore being overtaken with the throes of her delivery, she brought forth Homer, and

instantly died. The infant was received by Mæon, and brought up as his own till his death, which was not long after. And, according to this, when the Lydians in Smyrna were afflicted by the Æolians, and thought fit to leave the city, the captains by a herald willing all to go out that would, and follow them, Homer, being a little child, said he would also *ὀμηρεῖν* (that is, *sequi*); and of that, for Melesigenes, which was his first name, he was called Homer. These Plutarch.

The varieties of other reports touching this I omit for length; and in place thereof think it not unfit to insert something of his praise and honour amongst the greatest of all ages; not that our most absolute of himself needs it, but that such authentical testimonies of his splendour and excellence may the better convince the malice of his maligners.

First, what kind of person Homer was, saith Spondanus, his statue teacheth, which Cedrenus describeth. The whole place we will describe that our relation may hold the better coherence, as Xylander converts it. “Then was the Octagonon at Constantinople consumed with fire; and the bath of Severus, that bore the name of Zeuxippus, in which there was much variety of spectacle, and splendour of arts; the works of all ages being conferred and preserved there, of marble, rocks, stones, and images of brass; to which this only wanted, that the souls of the persons they presented were not in them. Amongst these master-pieces and all-wit-exceeding workmanships stood Homer, as he was in his age, thoughtful and musing, his hands folded beneath his bosom, his beard untrimmed and hanging down, the hair of his head in like sort thin on both sides before, his face with age and cares of the world, as these imagine, wrinkled and austere, his nose proportioned to his other parts, his eyes fixed or turned up to his eyebrows, like one blind, as it is reported he was.” (Not born blind, saith Vell. Paterculius, which he that imagines, saith he, is blind of all senses.) “Upon his under-coat he was attired with a loose robe, and at the base beneath his feet a brazen chain hung.”\* This was the statue of Homer, which in that conflagration

\* Georgii Cedreni Historiarum Compendium, vol. 1. p. 369 (ed. Paris, 2 vols. fol. 1647).



perished. Another renowned statue of his, saith Lucian in his Encomion of Demosthenes, stood in the temple of Ptolemy, on the upper hand of his own statue. Cedrenus likewise remembereth a library in the palace of the king, at Constantinople, that contained a thousand a hundred and twenty books, amongst which there was the gut of a dragon of an hundred and twenty foot long, in which, in letters of gold, the Iliads and Odysseys of Homer were inscribed;\* which miracle, in Basiliscus the Emperor's time, was consumed with fire.

For his respect amongst the most learned, Plato in *Ione* calleth him ἄριστον καὶ θειότατον τῶν ποιητῶν, *Poetarum omnium et præstantissimum et divinissimum*; in *Phædone*, θεῖον ποιητὴν, *divinum Poetam*; and in *Theætetus*, Socrates citing divers of the most wise and learned for confirmation of his there held opinion, as Protagoras, Heraclitus, Empedocles, Epicharmus, and Homer, who, saith Socrates, against such an army, being all led by such a captain as Homer, dares fight or resist, but he will be held ridiculous? This for Scaliger and all Homer's envious and ignorant detractors. Why therefore Plato in another place banisheth him with all other poets out of his Common-wealth, dealing with them like a Politician indeed, use men, and then cast them off, though Homer he thinks fit to send out crowned and anointed, I see not, since he maketh still such honourable mention of him, and with his verses, as with precious gems, everywhere enchaceth his writings. So Aristotle continually celebrateth him. Nay even amongst the barbarous, not only Homer's name, but his poems have been recorded and revered. The Indians, saith Ælianus (Var. Hist. lib. xii. cap. 48.) in their own tongue had Homer's Poems translated and sung. Nor those Indians alone, but the kings of Persia. And amongst the Indians, of all the Greek Poets, Homer being ever first in estimation; whensoever they used any divine duties according to the custom of their households and hospitalities, they invited ever Apollo and Homer. Lucian in his Encomion of Demosth. affirmeth all Poets celebrated Homer's birthday, and sacrificed to him the first fruits of their verses. So Thersagoras answereth Lucian, he

\* Cedrenus, ut suprâ, p. 351.



used to do himself. Alex. Paphius, saith Eustathius, delivers Homer as born of Egyptian parents, Dmasagoras, being his father, and Æthra his mother, his nurse being a certain prophetess and the daughter of Oris, Isis' priest, from whose breasts, oftentimes, honey flowed in the mouth of the infant. After which, in the night, he uttered nine several notes or voices of fowls, viz. of a swallow, a peacock, a dove, a crow, a partridge, a redshank, a stare, a blackbird, and a nightingale; and, being a little boy, was found playing in his bed with nine doves. Sibylla being at a feast of his parents was taken with sudden fury, and sung verses whose beginning was *Δμασαγόρα πολύνικε*: *polynice*, signifying much victory, in which song also she called him *μεγάκλεα*, *great in glory*, and *στεφανίτην*, signifying *garland-seller*, and commanded him to build a temple to the Pegridarij, that is, to the Muses. Herodotus affirms that Phæmius, teaching a public school at Smyrna, was his master; and Dionysius in his 56th Oration saith, Socrates was Homer's scholar. In short, what he was, his works show most truly; to which, if you please, go on and examine him.





## THE FIRST BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### ARGUMENT.

APOLLO's priest to th' Argive fleet doth bring  
 Gifts for his daughter, prisoner to the king;  
 For which her tender'd freedom he entreats;  
 But, being dismiss'd with contumelious threats,  
 At Phœbus' hands, by vengeful prayer, he seeks  
 To have a plague inflicted on the Greeks.  
 Which had, Achilles doth a council cite,  
 Embold'ning Calchas, in the king's despite,  
 To tell the truth why they were punish'd so.  
 From hence their fierce and deadly strife did grow.  
 For wrong in which Æacides\* so raves,  
 That goddess Thetis, from her throne of waves  
 Ascending heaven, of Jove assistance won,  
 To plague the Greeks by absence of her son,  
 And make the general himself repent  
 To wrong so much his army's ornament.  
 This found by Juno, she with Jove contends;  
 Till Vulcan, with heaven's cup, the quarrel ends.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Alpha the prayer of Chryses sings:  
 The army's plague: the strife of kings.



CHILLES' baneful wrath resound, O Goddess, that impos'd  
 Infinite sorrows on the Greeks, and many brave souls los'd  
 From breasts heroic; sent them far to that invisible cave  
 That no light comforts; and their limbs to dogs and  
 vultures gave:

\* Æacides—Achilles, grandson of Æacus.

<sup>3</sup> Invisible cave—Hades.

To all which Jove's will gave effect ; from whom first strife begun 5  
Betwixt Atrides, king of men, and Thetis' godlike son.

What god gave Eris their command, and op'd that fighting vein ?  
Jove's and Latona's son ; who, fir'd against the king of men  
For contumely shown his priest, infectious sickness sent  
To plague the army, and to death by troops the soldiers went. 10  
Occasion'd thus : Chryses, the priest, came to the fleet to buy,  
For presents of unvalu'd price, his daughter's liberty ;  
The golden sceptre and the crown of Phœbus in his hands  
Proposing ; and made suit to all, but most to the commands  
Of both th' Atrides, who most rul'd. " Great Atreus' sons," said he,  
" And all ye well-greav'd Greeks, the gods, whose habitations be 16  
In heavenly houses, grace your powers with Priam's razed town,  
And grant ye happy conduct home ! To win which wish'd renown  
Of Jove, by honouring his son, far-shooting Phœbus, deign  
For these fit presents to dissolve the ransomable chain 20  
Of my lov'd daughter's servitude." The Greeks entirely gave  
Glad acclamations, for sign that their desires would have  
The grave priest reverenc'd, and his gifts of so much price embrac'd.  
The general yet bore no such mind, but viciously disgrac'd  
With violent terms the priest, and said :—" Dotard ! avoid our fleet,  
Where ling'ring be not found by me, nor thy returning feet 26  
Let ever visit us again, lest nor thy godhead's crown,  
Nor sceptre, save thee ! Her thou seek'st I still will hold mine own  
Till age deflow'r her. In our court at Argos, far transferr'd  
From her lov'd country, she shall ply her web, and see prepar'd 30

<sup>6</sup> *Atrides*—patronymic of Agamemnon and Menelaus. *Thetis' son*—Achilles.

<sup>7</sup> *Eris*—the goddess of strife, personification of strife.

<sup>8</sup> *Jove and Latona's son*—Apollo.

<sup>12</sup> *Unvalued*—invaluable, not to be valued. So Shakespeare—

" Inestimable stones, unvalu'd jewels."—*Rich. III.* 1. 4.

<sup>30</sup> " *See my bed made,*" it may be Englished. The word is *ἀντιώσαν*, which signifies *contra stantem*, as *standing of one side opposite to another on the other side* ; which yet others translate *capessentem et adornantem* ; which, since it shows best to a reader, I follow.—CHAPMAN.

With all fit ornaments my bed. Incense me then no more,  
 But, if thou wilt be safe, begone." This said, the sea-beat shore,  
 Obeying his high will, the priest trod off with haste and fear ;  
 And, walking silent, till he left far off his enemies' ear,  
 Phœbus, fair hair'd Latona's son, he stirr'd up with a vow, 35  
 To this stern purpose: " Hear, thou God that bear'st the silver bow,  
 That Chrysa guard'st, rul'st Tenedos with strong hand, and the round  
 Of Cilla most divine dost walk ! O Smintheus ! if crown'd  
 With thankful offerings thy rich fane I ever saw, or fir'd  
 Fat thighs of oxen and of goats to thee, this grace desir'd 40  
 Vouchsafe to me : pains for my tears let these rude Greeks repay,  
 Forc'd with thy arrows." Thus he pray'd, and Phœbus heard him pray,  
 And, vex'd at heart, down from the tops of steep heaven stoop'd ; his  
     bow,  
 And quiver cover'd round, his hands did on his shoulders throw ;  
 And of the angry Deity the arrows as he mov'd 45  
 Rattled about him. Like the night he rang'd the host, and rov'd  
 (Apart the fleet set) terribly ; with his hard-loosing hand  
 His silver bow twang'd ; and his shafts did first the mules command  
 And swift hounds ; then the Greeks themselves his deadly arrows shot.  
 The fires of death went never out ; nine days his shafts flew hot 50  
 About the army ; and the tenth, Achilles called a court  
 Of all the Greeks ; heaven's white-arm'd Queen (who, everywhere cut  
     short,  
 Beholding her lov'd Greeks, by death) suggested it ; and he  
 (All met in one) arose, and said : " Atrides, now I see  
 We must be wandering again, flight must be still our stay, 55  
 If flight can save us now, at once sickness and battle lay  
 Such strong hand on us. Let us ask some prophet, priest, or prove  
 Some dream-interpreter (for dreams are often sent from Jove)  
 Why Phœbus is so much incens'd ; if unperformed vows  
 He blames in us, or hecatombs ; and if these knees he bows 60

<sup>50</sup> *Went*—the second folio omits this word.

<sup>52</sup> *White-arm'd queen*—Juno.



To death may yield his graves no more, but offering all supply  
 Of savours burnt from lambs and goats, avert his fervent eye,  
 And turn his temperate." Thus, he sat ; and then stood up to them  
 Calchas, surnam'd Thestorides, of augurs the supreme ;  
 He knew things present, past, to come, and rul'd the equipage 65  
 Of th' Argive fleet to Ilion, for his prophetic rage  
 Given by Apollo ; who, well-seen in th' ill they felt, propos'd  
 This to Achilles : " Jove's belov'd, would thy charge see disclos'd  
 The secret of Apollo's wrath ? then covenant and take oath  
 To my discovery, that, with words and powerful actions both, 70  
 Thy strength will guard the truth in me ; because I well conceive  
 That he whose empire governs all, whom all the Grecians give  
 Confirm'd obedience, will be mov'd ; and then you know the state  
 Of him that moves him. When a king hath once mark'd for his hate  
 A man inferior, though that day his wrath seems to digest 75  
 Th' offence he takes, yet evermore he rakes up in his breast  
 Brands of quick anger, till revenge hath quench'd to his desire  
 The fire reserv'd. Tell me, then, if, whatsoever ire  
 Suggests in hurt of me to him, thy valour will prevent?"

Achilles answer'd : " All thou know'st speak, and be confident ; 80  
 For by Apollo, Jove's belov'd, (to whom performing vows,  
 O Calchas, for the state of Greece, thy spirit prophetic shows  
 Skills that direct us) not a man of all these Grecians here,  
 I living, and enjoying the light shot through this flowery sphere,  
 Shall touch thee with offensive hands ; though Agamemnon be 85  
 The man in question, that doth boast the mightiest empery  
 Of all our army." Then took heart the prophet, unprov'd,  
 And said : " They are not unpaid vows, nor hecatombs, that mov'd

<sup>66</sup> *Rage*—i. e. power, a frequent use of the word,—the poetic inspiration.

<sup>70</sup> *Discovery*—declaration.

<sup>86</sup> *Empery*—sovereign authority ;—

“ Ruling in large and ample *empery*  
 O'er France, and all her almost kingly dukedoms.”

SHAKESPEARE. *Hen. V.* I. 2.



The God against us ; his offence is for his priest impair'd  
 By Agamemnon, that refus'd the present he preferr'd, 90  
 And kept his daughter. This is cause why heaven's Far-darter darts  
 These plagues amongst us ; and this still will empty in our hearts  
 His deathful quiver, uncontain'd till to her loved sire  
 The black-eyed damsel be resign'd ; no rédemptory hire  
 Took for her freedom,—not a gift, but all the ransom quit, 95  
 And she convey'd, with sacrifice, till her enfranchis'd feet  
 Tread Chrysa under ; then the God, so pleas'd, perhaps we may  
 Move to remission." Thus, he sate ; and up, the great in sway,  
 Heroic Agamemnon rose, eagerly bearing all ;  
 His mind's seat overcast with fumes ; an anger general 100  
 Fill'd all his faculties ; his eyes sparkled like kindling fire,  
 Which sternly cast upon the priest, thus vented he his ire :  
 " Prophet of ill ; for never good came from thee towards me  
 Not to a word's worth ; evermore thou took'st delight to be  
 Offensive in thy auguries, which thou continuest still, 105  
 Now casting thy prophetic gall, and vouching all our ill,  
 Shot from Apollo, is impos'd since I refus'd the price  
 Of fair Chryseis' liberty ; which would in no worth rise  
 To my rate of herself, which moves my vows to have her home,  
 Past Clytemnestra loving her, that grac'd my nuptial room 110  
 With her virginity and flower. Nor ask her merits less  
 For person, disposition, wit, and skill in housewiferies.  
 And yet, for all this, she shall go, if more conducive  
 That course be than her holding here. I rather wish the weal  
 Of my lov'd army than the death. Provide yet instantly 115  
 Supply for her, that I alone of all our royalty

<sup>93</sup> *Uncontain'd*—not to be emptied, unrestrainable.

<sup>95</sup> *Quit*—paid. To quite, or quit, often used in this sense by Chapman.

<sup>99</sup> *Eagerly bearing all*—treating all angrily, *sourly* (from the French *aigre*.)  
 " If thou think'st so, vex him with *eager* words."

SHAKESPEARE. 3 *Hen.* VI. II. 6.

<sup>116</sup> *Supply for her*—compensation for her loss.

Lose not my winnings. 'Tis not fit. Ye see all I lose mine  
 Forc'd by another, see as well some other may resign  
 His prise to me." To this replied the swift-foot, god-like, son  
 Of Thetis, thus: " King of us all, in all ambition 120  
 Most covetous of all that breathe, why should the great-soul'd Greeks  
 Supply thy lost prise out of theirs? Nor what thy avarice seeks  
 Our common treasury can find; so little it doth guard  
 Of what our ras'd towns yielded us; of all which most is shar'd,  
 And given our soldiers; which again to take into our hands 125  
 Were ignominious and base. Now then, since God commands,  
 Part with thy most-lov'd prise to him; not any one of us  
 Exacts it of thee, yet we all, all loss thou suffer'st thus,  
 Will treble, quadruple, in gain, when Jupiter bestows  
 The sack of well-wall'd Troy on us; which by his word he owes." 130  
 " Do not deceive yourself with wit," he answer'd, " god-like man,  
 Though your good name may colour it; 'tis not your swift foot can  
 Outrun me here; nor shall the gloss, set on it with the God,  
 Persuade me to my wrong. Wouldst thou maintain in sure abode  
 Thine own prise, and slight me of mine? Resolve this: if our friends,  
 As fits in equity my worth, will right me with amends, 136  
 So rest it; otherwise, myself will enter personally  
 On thy prise, that of Ithacus, or Ajax, for supply;  
 Let him on whom I enter rage. But come, we'll order these  
 Hereafter, and in other place. Now put to sacred seas 140  
 Our black sail; in it rowers put, in it fit sacrifice;  
 And to these I will make ascend my so much envied prise,

<sup>119</sup> *Prise*—booty, anything seized. I shall retain this orthography throughout, as more expressive of the original. Chapman uses *prize* elsewhere when meaning *value, price*. Thus, in the continuation of Marlowe's *Musæus*,—

" And five they hold in most especial *prize*,  
 Since 'tis the first odd number that doth rise  
 From the two foremost numbers' unity  
 That odd and even are."—*Sestiad V.*

<sup>138</sup> *Ithacus*—Ulysses.

<sup>139</sup> *Let him, &c.*—i. e. though he may rage.

Bright-cheek'd Chryseis. For conduct of all which, we must choose  
 A chief out of our counsellors. Thy service we must use,  
 Idomeneus ; Ajax, thine ; or thine, wise Ithacus ; 145  
 Or thine, thou terriblest of men, thou son of Peleus,  
 Which fittest were, that thou might'st see these holy acts perform'd  
 For which thy cunning zeal so pleads ; and he, whose bow thus storm'd  
 For our offences, may be calm'd." Achilles, with a frown,  
 Thus answer'd : " O thou impudent ! of no good but thine own 150  
 Ever respectful, but of that with all craft covetous,  
 With what heart can a man attempt a service dangerous,  
 Or at thy voice be spirited to fly upon a foe,  
 Thy mind thus wretched ? For myself, I was not injur'd so  
 By any Trojan, that my powers should bid them any blows ; 155  
 In nothing bear they blame of me ; Phthia, whose bosom flows  
 With corn and people, never felt impair of her increase  
 By their invasion ; hills enow, and far-resounding seas,  
 Pour out their shades and deeps between ; but thee, thou frontless man,  
 We follow, and thy triumphs make with bonfires of our bane ; 160  
 Thine, and thy brother's, vengeance sought, thou dog's eyes, of this Troy  
 By our expos'd lives ; whose deserts thou neither dost employ  
 With honour nor with care. And now, thou threat'st to force from me  
 The fruit of my sweat, which the Greeks gave all ; and though it be,  
 Compar'd with thy part, then snatch'd up, nothing ; nor ever is 165  
 At any sack'd town ; but of fight, the fetcher in of this,  
 My hands have most share ; in whose toils when I have emptied me  
 Of all my forces, my amends in liberality,  
 Though it be little, I accept, and turn pleas'd to my tent ;  
 And yet that little thou esteem'st too great a continent 170  
 In thy incontinent avarice. For Phthia therefore now  
 My course is ; since 'tis better far, than here t' endure that thou

<sup>155</sup> *Bid*—threaten, challenge.

<sup>162</sup> The second folio has "*your* exposed lives ;" evidently an error of the press.

<sup>164</sup> *The Greeks gave all*—i. e. all the Greeks gave.

<sup>170</sup> *Continent*—i. e. possession. Continent incontinent, a quibble of Chapman's.

Should'st still be ravishing my right, draw my whole treasure dry,  
 And add dishonour." He replied: "If thy heart serve thee, flee;  
 Stay not for my cause; other here will aid and honour me; 175  
 If not, yet Jove I know is sure; that counsellor is he  
 That I depend on. As for thee, of all our Jove-kept kings  
 Thou still art most mine enemy; strifes, battles, bloody things,  
 Make thy blood-feasts still. But if strength, that these moods build  
 upon,  
 Flow in thy nerves, God gave thee it; and so 'tis not thine own, 180  
 But in his hands still. What then lifts thy pride in this so high?  
 Home with thy fleet, and Myrmidons; use there their empery;  
 Command not here. I weigh thee not, nor mean to magnify  
 Thy rough-hewn rages, but, instead, I thus far threaten thee:  
 Since Phœbus needs will force from me Chryseis, she shall go; 185  
 My ships and friends shall waft her home; but I will imitate so  
 His pleasure, that mine own shall take, in person, from thy tent  
 Bright-cheek'd Briseis; and so tell thy strength how eminent  
 My power is, being compar'd with thine; all other making fear  
 To vaunt equality with me, or in this proud kind bear 190  
 Their beards against me." Thetis's son at this stood vex'd, his heart  
 Bristled his bosom, and two ways drew his discursive part;  
 If, from his thigh his sharp sword drawn, he should make room about  
 Atrides' person, slaught'ring him, or sit his anger out, 194  
 And curb his spirit. While these thoughts striv'd in his blood and mind,  
 And he his sword drew, down from heaven Athenia stoop'd, and shin'd  
 About his temples, being sent by th' ivory-wristed Queen  
 Saturnia, who out of her heart had ever loving been  
 And careful for the good of both. She stood behind, and took  
 Achilles by the yellow curls, and only gave her look 200  
 To him; appearance not a man of all the rest could see.  
 He turning back his eye, amaze strook every faculty;

<sup>192</sup> *Discursive part*—reasoning power.

<sup>196</sup> *Athenia*—Minerva.

<sup>198</sup> *Saturnia*—Juno.

<sup>200</sup> *Only gave her look to him*—i. e. only made herself seen by him.



Yet straight he knew her by her eyes, so terrible they were,  
 Sparkling with ardour, and thus spake: "Thou seed of Jupiter,  
 Why com'st thou? To behold his pride that boasts our empery? 205  
 Then witness with it my revenge, and see that insolence die  
 That lives to wrong me." She replied: "I come from heaven to see  
 Thine anger settled, if thy soul will use her sovereignty  
 In fit reflection. I am sent from Juno, whose affects  
 Stand heartily inclin'd to both. Come, give us both respects, 210  
 And cease contention; draw no sword; use words, and such as may  
 Be bitter to his pride, but just; for trust in what I say,  
 A time shall come, when, thrice the worth of that he forceth now,  
 He shall propose for recompense of these wrongs; therefore throw  
 Reins on thy passions, and serve us." He answer'd: "Though my heart  
 Burn in just anger, yet my soul must conquer th' angry part, 216  
 And yield you conquest. Who subdues his earthy part for heaven,  
 Heaven to his prayers subdues his wish." This said, her charge was given  
 Fit honour; in his silver hilt he held his able hand,  
 And forc'd his broad sword up; and up to heaven did re-ascend 220  
 Minerva, who, in Jove's high roof that bears the rough shield, took  
 Her place with other deities. She gone, again forsook  
 Patience his passion, and no more his silence could confine  
 His wrath, that this broad language gave: "Thou ever steep'd in wine,  
 Dog's face, with heart but of a hart, that nor in th' open eye 225  
 Of fight dar'st thrust into a prease, nor with our noblest lie  
 In secret ambush! These works seem too full of death for thee;  
 'Tis safer far in th' open host to dare an injury  
 To any crosser of thy lust. Thou subject-eating king!  
 Base spirits thou govern'st, or this wrong had been the last foul thing 230  
 Thou ever author'dst; yet I vow, and by a great oath swear,  
 Even by this sceptre, that, as this never again shall bear  
 Green leaves or branches, nor increase with any growth his size,  
 Nor did since first it left the hills, and had his faculties

<sup>209</sup> *Affects*—affections, passions.

<sup>226</sup> *Prease*—press.

<sup>232</sup> "This simile Virgil directly translates."—CHAPMAN.



And ornaments bereft with iron ; which now to other end 235  
 Judges of Greece bear, and their laws, receiv'd from Jove, defend ;  
 (For which my oath to thee is great) ; so, whensoever need  
 Shall burn with thirst of me thy host, no prayers shall ever breed  
 Affection in me to their aid, though well-deserved woes  
 Afflict thee for them, when to death man-slaught'ring Hector throws 240  
 Whole troops of them, and thou torment'st thy vex'd mind with conceit  
 Of thy rude rage now, and his wrong that most deserv'd the right  
 Of all thy army." Thus, he threw his sceptre 'gainst the ground,  
 With golden studs stuck, and took seat. Atrides' breast was drown'd  
 In rising choler. Up to both sweet-spoken Nestor stood, 245  
 The cunning Pylian orator, whose tongue pour'd forth a flood  
 Of more-than-honey-sweet discourse ; two ages were increas'd  
 Of divers-languag'd men, all born in his time and deceas'd,  
 In sacred Pylos, where he reign'd amongst the third ag'd men.  
 He, well-seen in the world, advis'd, and thus express'd it then : 250  
 " O Gods ! Our Greek earth will be drown'd in just tears ; rapeful Troy,  
 Her king, and all his sons, will make as just a mock, and joy,  
 Of these disjunctions ; if of you, that all our host excel  
 In counsel and in skill of fight, they hear this. Come, repel  
 These young men's passions. Y' are not both, put both your years in one,  
 So old as I. I liv'd long since, and was companion 256  
 With men superior to you both, who yet would ever hear  
 My counsels with respect. Mine eyes yet never witness were,  
 Nor ever will be, of such men as then delighted them ;  
 Pirithous, Exadius, and god-like Polypheme, 260  
 Cæneus, and Dryas prince of men, Ægean Theseus,  
 A man like heaven's immortals form'd ; all, all most vigorous,  
 Of all men that even those days bred ; most vigorous men, and fought  
 With beasts most vigorous, mountain beasts, (for men in strength were  
 nought

<sup>242</sup> The second folio has "*this* wrong."

<sup>255</sup> The second folio has "put both *you* years." It will not be necessary to note the many manifest errors that disfigure this second edition.

Match'd with their forces) fought with them, and bravely fought them down.  
 Yet even with these men I convers'd, being call'd to the renown 266  
 Of their societies, by their suits, from Pylos far, to fight  
 In th' Asian kingdom; and I fought, to a degree of might  
 That help'd even their might, against such as no man now would dare  
 To meet in conflict; yet even these my counsels still would hear, 270  
 And with obedience crown my words. Give you such palm to them;  
 'Tis better than to wreath your wrath. Atrides, give not stream  
 To all thy power, nor force his prise, but yield her still his own,  
 As all men else do. Nor do thou encounter with thy crown,  
 Great son of Peleus, since no king that ever Jove allow'd 275  
 Grace of a sceptre equals him. Suppose thy nerves endow'd  
 With strength superior, and thy birth a very goddess gave,  
 Yet he of force is mightier, since what his own nerves have  
 Is amplified with just command of many other. King of men,  
 Command thou then thyself; and I with my prayers will obtain 280  
 Grace of Achilles to subdue his fury; whose parts are  
 Worth our intreaty, being chief check to all our ill in war."

"All this, good father," said the king, "is comely and good right;  
 But this man breaks all such bonds; he affects, past all men, height;  
 All would in his power hold, all make his subjects, give to all 285  
 His hot will for a temperate law; all which he never shall  
 Persuade at my hands. If the gods have given him the great style  
 Of ablest soldier, made they that his licence to revile  
 Men with vile language?" Thetis' son prevented him, and said:

"Fearful and vile I might be thought, if the exactions laid 290  
 By all means on me I should bear. Others command to this,  
 Thou shalt not me; or if thou dost, far my free spirit is

<sup>272</sup> *To wreath your wrath*—to allow your wrath to triumph: an allusion to the wreaths worn by victors.—DR. COOKE TAYLOR.

<sup>274</sup> *Encounter with thy crown*—enter into dispute with thy sovereign.

<sup>279</sup> *Amplified*.—The second folio (which Dr. Taylor follows) has "*amplified*." The metre would require that the word "*many*" should be omitted.

<sup>283</sup> *Good right*—right good, very good.

<sup>284</sup> *Affects height*—aims at superiority above all men.

From serving thy command. Beside, this I affirm (afford  
 Impression of it in thy soul) I will not use my sword  
 On thee or any for a wench, unjustly though thou tak'st 295  
 The thing thou gav'st; but all things else that in my ship thou mak'st  
 Greedy survey of, do not touch without my leave; or do,—  
 Add that act's wrong to this, that these may see that outrage too,—  
 And then comes my part; then be sure thy blood upon my lance  
 Shall flow in vengeance." These high terms these two at variance 300  
 Us'd to each other; left their seats; and after them arose  
 The whole court. To his tents and ships, with friends and soldiers,  
 goes

Angry Achilles. Atreus' son the swift ship launch'd, and put  
 Within it twenty chosen row'rs, within it likewise shut  
 The hecatomb t' appease the God; then caus'd to come aboard 305  
 Fair-cheek'd Chryseis; for the chief, he in whom Pallas pour'd  
 Her store of counsels, Ithacus, aboard went last; and then  
 The moist ways of the sea they sail'd. And now the king of men  
 Bade all the host to sacrifice. They sacrific'd, and cast  
 The offal of all to the deeps; the angry God they grac'd 310  
 With perfect hecatombs; some bulls, some goats, along the shore  
 Of the unfruitful sea, inflam'd. To heaven the thick fumes bore  
 Enwrapped savours. Thus, though all the politic king made shew  
 Respects to heaven, yet he himself all that time did pursue  
 His own affections; the late jar, in which he thunder'd threats 315  
 Against Achilles, still he fed, and his affections' heats  
 Thus vented to Talthybius, and grave Eurybates,  
 Heralds, and ministers of trust, to all his messages.

"Haste to Achilles' tent; where take Briseis' hand, and bring  
 Her beauties to us. If he fail to yield her, say your king 320  
 Will come himself, with multitudes that shall the horribler  
 Make both his presence, and your charge, that so he dares defer."

This said, he sent them with a charge of hard condition.  
 They went unwillingly, and trod the fruitless sea's shore; soon

They reach'd the navy and the tents, in which the quarter lay 325  
 Of all the Myrmidons, and found the chief Chief in their sway  
 Set at his black bark in his tent. Nor was Achilles glad  
 To see their presence ; nor themselves in any glory had  
 Their message, but with reverence stood, and fear'd th' offended king,  
 Ask'd not the dame, nor spake a word. He yet, well knowing the thing  
 That caus'd their coming, grac'd them thus: " Heralds, ye men that bear  
 The messages of men and gods, y' are welcome, come ye near.  
 I nothing blame you, but your king ; 'tis he I know doth send  
 You for Briseis ; she is his. Patroclus, honour'd friend,  
 Bring forth the damsel, and these men let lead her to their lord. 335  
 But, heralds, be you witnesses before the most ador'd,  
 Before us mortals, and before your most ungentle king,  
 Of what I suffer, that, if war ever hereafter bring  
 My aid in question, to avert any severest bane  
 It brings on others, I am 'scus'd to keep mine aid in wane, 340  
 Since they mine honour. But your king, in tempting mischief, raves,  
 Nor sees at once by present things the future ; how like waves  
 Ills follow ill ; injustices being never so secure  
 In present times, but after-plagues even then are seen as sure ; 344  
 Which yet he sees not, and so soothes his present lust, which check'd,  
 Would check plagues future ; and he might, in succouring right, protect  
 Such as fight for his right at fleet. They still in safety fight  
 That fight still justly." This speech us'd, Patroclus did the rite  
 His friend commanded, and brought forth Briseis from her tent,  
 Gave her the heralds, and away to th' Achive ships they went. 350  
 She sad, and scarce for grief could go. Her love all friends forsook,  
 And wept for anger. To the shore of th' old sea he betook  
 Himself alone, and casting forth upon the purple sea  
 His wet eyes, and his hands to heaven advancing, this sad plea  
 Made to his mother : " Mother ! Since you brought me forth to breathe  
 So short a life, Olympius had good right to bequeath 356

<sup>351</sup> *Her love*—Achilles.

<sup>356</sup> *Olympius*—Jupiter.



My short life honour ; yet that right he doth in no degree,  
 But lets Atrides do me shame, and force that prise from me  
 That all the Greeks gave." This with tears he utter'd, and she heard,  
 Set with her old sire in his deeps, and instantly appear'd 360  
 Up from the grey sea like a cloud, sate by his side, and said :

“ Why weeps my son ? What grieves thee ? Speak, conceal not what  
 hath laid

Such hard hand on thee, let both know." He, sighing like a storm,  
 Replied : “ Thou dost know. Why should I things known again inform ?  
 We march'd to Thebes, the sacred town of king Eëtion, 365  
 Sack'd it, and brought to fleet the spoil, which every valiant son  
 Of Greece indifferently shar'd. Atrides had for share  
 Fair-cheek'd Chryseis. After which, his priest, that shoots so far,  
 Chryses, the fair Chryseis' sire, arriv'd at th' Achive fleet,  
 With infinite ransom, to redeem the dear imprison'd feet 370  
 Of his fair daughter. In his hands he held Apollo's crown,  
 And golden sceptre ; making suit to every Grecian son,  
 But most the sons of Atreus, the others' orderers,  
 Yet they least heard him ; all the rest receiv'd with reverend ears  
 The motion, both the priest and gifts gracing, and holding worth 375  
 His wish'd acceptance. Atreus' son yet (vex'd) commanded forth  
 With rude terms Phœbus' reverend priest ; who, angry, made retreat,  
 And pray'd to Phœbus, in whose grace he standing passing great  
 Got his petition. The God an ill shaft sent abroad  
 That tumbled down the Greeks in heaps. The host had no abode 380  
 That was not visited. We ask'd a prophet that well knew  
 The cause of all ; and from his lips Apollo's prophecies flew,  
 Telling his anger. First myself exhorted to appease  
 The anger'd God, which Atreus' son did at the heart displease ;  
 And up he stood, us'd threats, perform'd. The black-ey'd Greeks sent  
 home 385  
 Chryseis to her sire, and gave his God a hecatomb.

<sup>376</sup> *His wish'd acceptance*—that which he wished to be accepted.



Then, for Briseis, to my tents Atrides' heralds came,  
 And took her that the Greeks gave all. If then thy powers can frame  
 Wreak for thy son, afford it. Scale Olympus, and implore  
 Jove (if by either word, or fact, thou ever didst restore 390  
 Joy to his griev'd heart) now to help. I oft have heard thee vaunt,  
 In court of Peleus, that alone thy hand was conversant  
 In rescue from a cruel spoil the black-cloud-gathering Jove,  
 Whom other Godheads would have bound (the Power whose pace doth move  
 The round earth, heaven's great Queen, and Pallas); to whose bands  
 Thou cam'st with rescue, bringing up him with the hundred hands 396  
 To great Olympus, whom the Gods call Briareus, men  
 Ægæon, who his sire surpass'd, and was as strong again,  
 And in that grace sat glad by Jove. Th' immortals stood dismay'd  
 At his ascension, and gave free passage to his aid. 400  
 Of all this tell Jove; kneel to him, embrace his knee, and pray,  
 If Troy's aid he will ever deign, that now their forces may  
 Beat home the Greeks to fleet and sea; embruing their retreat  
 In slaughter; their pains paying the wreak of their proud sovereign's heat;  
 And that far-ruling king may know from his poor soldier's harms 405  
 His own harm falls; his own and all in mine, his best in arms."

Her answer she pour'd out in tears: "O me, my son," said she,  
 "Why brought I up thy being at all, that brought thee forth to be  
 Sad subject of so hard a fate? O would to heaven, that since  
 Thy fate is little, and not long, thou might'st without offence 410  
 And tears perform it! But to live thrall to so stern a fate  
 As grants thee least life, and that least so most unfortunate,  
 Grieves me t' have given thee any life. But what thou wishest now,  
 If Jove will grant, I'll up and ask; Olympus crown'd with snow  
 I'll climb; but sit thou fast at fleet, renounce all war, and feed 415  
 Thy heart with wrath, and hope of wreak; till which come, thou shalt need

<sup>389</sup> *Wreak*—revenge. A frequent word in Elizabethan writers.

<sup>393</sup> *Spoil*—injury.

<sup>394</sup> Neptune, Juno, Minerva.

A little patience. Jupiter went yesterday to feast  
 Amongst the blameless Æthiops, in th' ocean's deepen'd breast,  
 All Gods attending him ; the twelfth, high heaven again he sees,  
 And then his brass-pav'd court I'll scale, cling to his pow'rful knees, 420  
 And doubt not but to win thy wish." Thus, made she her remove,  
 And left wrath tiring on her son for his enforced love.

Ulysses, with the hecatomb, arriv'd at Chrysa's shore ;  
 And when amidst the haven's deep mouth they came to use the oar,  
 They straight struck sail, then roll'd them up, and on the hatches  
 threw ; 425

The top-mast to the kelsine then with halyards down they drew ;  
 Then brought the ship to port with oars ; then forked anchor cast ;  
 And, 'gainst the violence of storm, for drifting made her fast.

All come ashore, they all expos'd the holy hecatomb  
 To angry Phœbus, and, with it, Chryseis welcom'd home ; 430  
 Whom to her sire, wise Ithacus, that did at th' altar stand,  
 For honour, led, and, speaking thus, resign'd her to his hand :  
 " Chryses, the mighty king of men, great Agamemnon, sends  
 Thy lov'd seed by my hands to thine ; and to thy God commends  
 A hecatomb, which my charge is to sacrifice, and seek 435  
 Our much-sigh-mix'd woe his recure, invok'd by every Greek."

Thus he resign'd her, and her sire receiv'd her highly joy'd.  
 About the well-built altar, then, they orderly employ'd  
 The sacred offering, wash'd their hands, took salt cakes ; and the priest,  
 With hands held up to heaven, thus pray'd : " O thou that all things seest,  
 Fautour of Chrysa, whose fair hand doth guardfully dispose 441  
 Celestial Cilla, governing in all power Tenedos,

<sup>422</sup> *Tiring*—a term in falconry ; from *tirer* (French) to drag or pull. The hawk was said to tire on her prey, when it was thrown at her, and she began to pull at it and tear it. Hence, metaphorically, for *being engaged eagerly on any thing*. Shakespeare thus uses it ; *Cymb.* III. 4, *Tim. of Athens*, III. 6.—NARES.

<sup>422</sup> *For his enforced love*—for Briseis forced from him.

<sup>432</sup> *Speaking thus*.—The first folio has "*spoken thus*."

<sup>436</sup> *Recure*—cure. *His* refers to cure—*our woe's recure*.

<sup>441</sup> *Fautour*—(Lat.) aider, protector.

O hear thy priest, and as thy hand, in free grace to my prayers,  
Shot fervent plague-shafts through the Greeks, now hearten their affairs  
With health renew'd, and quite remove th' infection from their blood." 445

He pray'd ; and to his pray'rs again the God propitious stood.  
All, after pray'r, cast on salt cakes, drew back, kill'd, flay'd the beeves,  
Cut out and dubb'd with fat their thighs, fair dress'd with doubled leaves,  
And on them all the sweetbreads prick'd. The priest, with small sere wood,  
Did sacrifice, pour'd on red wine ; by whom the young men stood, 450  
And turn'd, in five ranks, spits. On which (the legs enough) they eat  
The inwards ; then in giggots cut the other fit for meat,  
And put to fire ; which roasted well they drew. The labour done,  
They serv'd the feast in that fed all to satisfaction.

Desire of meat and wine thus quench'd, the youths crown'd cups of wine,  
Drunk off, and fill'd again to all. That day was held divine, 456  
And spent in pæans to the Sun, who heard with pleased ear ;  
When whose bright chariot stoop'd to sea, and twilight hid the clear,  
All soundly on their cables slept, even till the night was worn.  
And when the Lady of the light, the rosy-finger'd Morn, 460  
Rose from the hills, all fresh arose, and to the camp retir'd.  
Apollo with a fore-right wind their swelling bark inspir'd.  
The top-mast hoisted, milk-white sails on his round breast they put,  
The mizens strooted with the gale, the ship her course did cut  
So swiftly that the parted waves against her ribs did roar ; 465  
Which, coming to the camp, they drew aloft the sandy shore ;  
Where, laid on stocks, each soldier kept his quarter as before.

But Peleus' son, swift-foot Achilles, at his swift ships sate  
Burning in wrath, nor ever came to councils of estate

<sup>448</sup> *Dubb'd*—From the French *dauber*. We use the word *dabbed on* now in the same sense. Halliwell, in his *Archaic Dict.* quotes “ Morte Arthure, MS. Linc. f. 88 ;—”

“ His dyademe was droppede downe  
Dubbyde with stonys.”

<sup>452</sup> *Giggots*—quarters ; from French *gigot*.

<sup>464</sup> *Strooted*—swelled out. Halliwell spells it *strout*, which he says is still in use.

<sup>456</sup> *Aloft*—high up on.

That make men honour'd, never trod the fierce embattled field, 470  
 But kept close, and his lov'd heart pin'd, what fight and cries could yield  
 Thirsting at all parts to the host. And now, since first he told  
 His wrongs to Thetis, twelve fair morns their ensigns did unfold,  
 And then the ever-living gods mounted Olympus, Jove  
 First in ascension. Thetis then remember'd well to move 475  
 Achilles' motion, rose from sea, and, by the morn's first light,  
 The great heaven and Olympus climb'd; where, in supremest height  
 Of all that many-headed hill, she saw the far-seen son  
 Of Saturn, set from all the rest, in his free seat alone.  
 Before whom, on her own knees fall'n, the knees of Jupiter 480  
 Her left hand held, her right his chin, and thus she did prefer  
 Her son's petition: "Father Jove! If ever I have stood  
 Aidful to thee in word or work, with this implored good  
 Requite my aid, renown my son, since in so short a race  
 (Past others) thou confin'st his life. An insolent disgrace 485  
 Is done him by the king of men; he forc'd from him a prise  
 Won with his sword. But thou, O Jove, that art most strong, most wise,  
 Honour my son for my sake; add strength to the Trojans' side  
 By his side's weakness in his want; and see Troy amplified  
 In conquest, so much, and so long, till Greece may give again 490  
 The glory reft him, and the more illustrate the free reign  
 Of his wrong'd honour." Jove at this sate silent; not a word  
 In long space pass'd him. Thetis still hung on his knee, implor'd  
 The second time his help, and said: "Grant, or deny my suit,  
 Be free in what thou dost; I know thou canst not sit thus mute 495  
 For fear of any; speak, deny, that so I may be sure,  
 Of all heaven's Goddesses, 'tis I that only must endure  
 Dishonour by thee." Jupiter, the great cloud-gatherer, griev'd  
 With thought of what a world of griefs this suit ask'd, being achiev'd,

<sup>471</sup> "Eagerly desirous of what fight and cries could yield at all parts of the host. The Greek is more simple: 'He ardently desired shout and war.'"

DR. COOKE TAYLOR.

<sup>476</sup> The second folio reads "rose from the sea."



Swell'd, sigh'd, and answer'd: " Works of death thou urgest. O at this  
 Juno will storm, and all my powers inflame with contumelies. 501  
 Ever she wrangles, charging me in ear of all the Gods  
 That I am partial still, that I add the displeasing odds  
 Of my aid to the Ilians. Begone then, lest she see ;  
 Leave thy request to my care ; yet, that trust may hearten thee 505  
 With thy desire's grant, and my power to give it act approve  
 How vain her strife is, to thy prayer my eminent head shall move ;  
 Which is the great sign of my will with all th' immortal states ;  
 Irrevocable ; never fails ; never without the rates  
 Of all powers else ; when my head bows, all heads bow with it still 510  
 As their first mover ; and gives power to any work I will."

He said ; and his black eyebrows bent ; above his deathless head  
 Th' ambrosian curls flow'd ; great heaven shook ; and both were severed,  
 Their counsels broken. To the depth of Neptune's kingdom div'd  
 Thetis from heaven's height ; Jove arose, and all the Gods receiv'd 515  
 (All rising from their thrones) their sire, attending to his court.  
 None sate when he rose, none delay'd the furnishing his port  
 Till he came near, all met with him, and brought him to his throne.

Nor sate great Juno ignorant, when she beheld alone  
 Old Nereus' silver-footed seed with Jove, that she had brought 520  
 Counsels to heaven ; and straight her tongue had teeth in it, that wrought  
 This sharp invective : " Who was that (thou craftiest counsellor  
 Of all the Gods) that so apart some secret did implore ?  
 Ever, apart from me, thou lov'st to counsel and decree  
 Things of more close trust than thou think'st are fit t' impart to me.  
 Whatever thou determin'st, I must ever be denied 526  
 The knowledge of it by thy will." To her speech thus replied  
 The Father both of men and Gods : " Have never hope to know  
 My whole intentions, though my wife ; it fits not, nor would show

<sup>509</sup> *Rates*—ratifications

<sup>517</sup> *Furnishing his port*—assuming a proper deportment.

<sup>520</sup> *Nereus' silver-footed seed*—Thetis.



Well to thine own thoughts ; but what fits thy woman's ear to hear, 530  
 Woman, nor man, nor God, shall know before it grace thine ear.  
 Yet, what apart from men and Gods I please to know, forbear  
 T' examine, or enquire of that." She with the cow's fair eyes,  
 Respected Juno, this return'd : " Austere king of the skies,  
 What hast thou utter'd? When did I before this time inquire, 535  
 Or sift thy counsels? Passing close you are still. Your desire  
 Is serv'd with such care, that I fear you can scarce vouch the deed  
 That makes it public, being seduc'd by this old sea-god's seed,  
 That could so early use her knees, embracing thine. I doubt  
 The late act of thy bowed head was for the working out 540  
 Of some boon she ask'd ; that her son thy partial hand would please  
 With plaguing others." " Wretch !" said he, " thy subtle jealousies  
 Are still exploring ; my designs can never 'scape thine eye,  
 Which yet thou never canst prevent. Thy curiosity  
 Makes thee less car'd for at my hands, and horrible the end 545  
 Shall make thy humour. If it be what thy suspects intend,  
 What then? 'Tis my free will it should ; to which let way be given  
 With silence. Curb your tongue in time, lest all the Gods in heaven  
 Too few be and too weak to help thy punish'd insolence,  
 When my inaccessible hands shall fall on thee." The sense 550  
 Of this high threat'ning made her fear, and silent she sate down,  
 Humbling her great heart. All the Gods in court of Jove did frown  
 At this offence given ; amongst whom heaven's famous artizan,  
 Ephaistus, in his mother's care this comely speech began ;  
 " Believe it, these words will breed wounds beyond our powers to bear,  
 If thus for mortals ye fall out. Ye make a tumult here 556  
 That spoils our banquet. Evermore worst matters put down best.  
 But, mother, though yourself be wise, yet let your son request

<sup>533</sup> *With the cow's fair eyes*—Chapman has retained the original meaning of the word *βοῶπις*, and, I think, rightly. Oxen have beautiful eyes irrespective of their magnitude. In Bk. vii. 10, he translates it " *that had her eyes so clear.*"

<sup>543</sup> *Still exploring*—ever prying.

<sup>554</sup> *Ephaistus*—Vulcan.

His wisdom audience. Give good terms to our lov'd father Jove,  
 For fear he take offence again, and our kind banquet prove 560  
 A wrathful battle. If he will, the heavenly Light'ner can  
 Take you and toss you from your throne, his power Olympian  
 Is so surpassing. Soften then with gentle speech his spleen,  
 And drink to him; I know his heart will quickly down again."

This said, arising from his throne, in his lov'd mother's hand 565  
 He put the double-handed cup, and said: "Come, do not stand  
 On these cross humours, suffer, bear, though your great bosom grieve,  
 And lest blows force you, all my aid not able to relieve  
 Your hard condition, though these eyes behold it, and this heart  
 Sorrow to think it. 'Tis a task too dangerous to take part 570  
 Against Olympius. I myself the proof of this still feel.

When other Gods would fain have help'd, he took me by the heel,  
 And hurl'd me out of heaven. All day I was in falling down;  
 At length in Lemnos I struck earth. The likewise-falling sun  
 And I, together, set; my life almost set too; yet there 575  
 The Sintii cheer'd and took me up." This did to laughter cheer  
 White-wristed Juno, who now took the cup of him, and smil'd.

The sweet peace-making draught went round, and lame Ephaistus fill'd  
 Nectar to all the other Gods. A laughter never left  
 Shook all the blessed deities, to see the lame so deft 580

At that cup service. All that day, even till the sun went down,  
 They banqueted, and had such cheer as did their wishes crown.  
 Nor had they music less divine; Apollo there did touch  
 His most sweet harp, to which, with voice, the Muses pleas'd as much.  
 But when the sun's fair light was set, each Godhead to his house 585  
 Address'd for sleep, where every one, with art most curious,

<sup>559</sup> *Wisdom audience*—i. e. a hearing for his wisdom.

<sup>566</sup> *Double-handed*—so reads the second folio; in the first it was "*double-handed*." The *δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον*, however, was not a cup with two handles, but which was held in the middle with a cup at each end.

<sup>580</sup> *Deft*—dexterous, neat.

By heaven's great both-foot-halting God a several roof had built.  
Even he to sleep went, by whose hand heaven is with lightning gilt,  
High Jove, where he had us'd to rest when sweet sleep seiz'd his eyes ;  
By him the golden-thron'd Queen slept, the Queen of deities. 590

<sup>587</sup> *Great both-foot-halting God—Vulcan.*



## COMMENTARIUS.

SINCE I dissent from all other translators, and interpreters, that ever assayed exposition of this miraculous poem, especially where the divine rapture is most exempt from capacity in grammarians merely, and grammatical critics, and where the inward sense or soul of the sacred muse is only within eye-shot of a poetical spirit's inspection (lest I be prejudiced with opinion, to dissent, of ignorance, or singularity) I am bound, by this brief comment, to show I understand how all other extants understand; my reasons why I reject them; and how I receive my author. In which labour, if, where all others find discords and dissonances, I prove him entirely harmonious and proportionate; if, where they often alter and fly his original, I at all parts stand fast, and observe it; if, where they mix their most pitiful castigations with his praises, I render him without touch, and beyond admiration, (though truth in her very nakedness sits in so deep a pit, that from Gades to Aurora, and Ganges, few eyes can sound her) I hope yet those few here will so discover and confirm her, that, the date being out of her darkness in this morning of our Homer, he shall now gird his temples with the sun, and be confessed (against his good friend) *nunquam dormire*. But how all translators, censors, or interpreters, have slept, and been dead to his true understanding, I hope it will neither cast shadow of arrogance in me to affirm, nor of difficulty in you to believe, if you please to suspend censure, and diminution, till your impartial conference of their pains and mine be admitted. For induction and preparative to which patience, and persuasion, trouble yourselves but to know this. This never-enough-glorified poet (to vary and quicken his eternal poem) hath inspired his chief persons with different spirits, most ingenious and



inimitable characters, which not understood, how are their speeches, being one by another as conveniently and necessarily known as the instrument by the sound? If a translator or interpreter of a ridiculous and cowardly-described person (being deceived in his character) so violates, and vitiates, the original, to make his speech grave, and him valiant, can the negligence and numbness of such an interpreter or translator be less than the sleep and death I am bold to sprinkle upon him? Or could I do less than affirm and enforce this, being so happily discovered? This, therefore (in his due place) approved and explained, let me hope my other assumpts will prove as conspicuous.

This first and second book I have wholly translated again; the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth, books deferring still imperfect, being all Englished so long since, and my late hand (overcome with labour) not yet rested enough to refine them. Nor are the wealthy veins of this holy ground so amply discovered in my first twelve labours as my last; not having competent time, nor my profit in his mysteries being so ample, as when driving through his thirteenth and last books, I drew the main depth, and saw the round coming of this silver bow of our Phœbus; the clear scope and contexture of his work; the full and most beautiful figures of his persons. To those last twelve, then, I must refer you, for all the chief worth of my clear discoveries; and in the mean space I entreat your acceptance of some few new touches in the first. Not perplexing you in first or last with anything handled in any other interpreter, further than I must conscionably make congression with such as have diminished, mangled, and maimed, my most worthily most tendered author.

3. "Αἰδὶ προΐαψεν. αἰδῆς (being compounded *ex à privativa*, and εἶδω, *video*) signifies *locus tenebricosus*, or, according to Virgil, *sine lucidomus*; and therefore (different from others) I so convert it.

4. Κύνεσσιν, οἰωνοῖσί τε πᾶσι (Διὸς, &c.) is the vulgar reading, which I read κύνεσσιν οἰωνοῖσί τε (πᾶσι Διὸς δὲ τελείετο βελή), because πᾶσι referred to κύνεσσιν, &c., is redundant and idle; to the miseries of the Greeks by Jove's counsel, grave, and sententious.



5. Ἐξ ἧ δὴ τὰ πρῶτα, &c., *ex quo quidem primum*: Ἐξ ἧ δὴ τὰ πρῶτα, &c., *ex quo*. Here our common readers would have *tempore* understood, because βουλή (to which they think the poet must otherwise have reference) is the feminine gender. But Homer understands Jove; as in Ταυ, verse 273, he expounds himself in these words:—ἀλλά ποθι Ζεὺς, &c., which Pindarus Thebanus, in his epitome of these Iliads, rightly observes in these verses:—

“ Conficiebat enim summi sententia Regis,  
Ex quo contulerant discordi pectore pugnas  
Sceptryger Atrides, et bello clarus Achilles.”

21. Ἐπευφήμησαν Ἀχαιοὶ, *comprobárunť Græci* all others turn it; but since ἐπευφημέω signifies properly, *fausta acclamatione do significationem approbationis*, I therefore accordingly convert it, because the other intimates a comprobation of all the Greeks by word, which was not so, but only by inarticulate acclamations or shouts.

37. Ἀμφιβέβηκας ἀμφιβεβάω\* signifies properly *circumambulo*, and only metaphoricè, *protego*, or *tueor*, as it is always in this place translated; which suffers alteration with me, since our usual phrase of walking the round in towns of garrison, for the defence of it, fits so well the property of the original.

197. Πρὸ γὰρ ἦκε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη. *Præmiserat enim Dea alba ulnis Juno*. Why Juno should send Pallas is a thing not noted by any; I therefore answer, because Juno is Goddess of state. The allegory, therefore, in the prosopopœia both of Juno and Pallas, is, that Achilles, for respect to the state there present, the rather used that discretion and restraint of his anger. So in divers other places, when state is represented, Juno procures it; as in the eighteenth book, for the state of Patroclus's fetching off, Juno commands the sun to go down before his time, &c.

360. Ὡς φάτο δακρυχέων: *sic dixit lachrymans*, &c. These tears are called, by our commentators, unworthy, and fitter for children or women than such a hero as Achilles; and therefore Plato is cited in iii.

\* Chapman meant ἀμφιβάω, the obsolete, or radical, form of ἀμφιβαίνω.

de Repub. where he saith, Ὁρδῶς ἀρα, &c. *Meritò igitur clarorum virorum ploratus è medio tolleremus, &c.* To answer which, and justify the fitness of tears generally (as they may be occasioned) in the greatest and most renowned men (omitting examples of Virgil's Æneas, Alexander the Great, &c.,) I oppose against Plato only one precedent of great and most perfect humanity (to Whom infinitely above all other we must prostrate our imitations) that shed tears, viz., our All-perfect and Almighty Saviour, Who wept for Lazarus. This, then, leaving the fitness of great men's tears, generally, utterly unanswerable, these particular tears of unvented anger in Achilles are in him most natural; tears being the highest effects of greatest and most fiery spirits, either when their abilities cannot perform to their wills, or that they are restrained of revenge, being injured; out of other considerations, as now the consideration of the state and gravity of the counsel and public good of the army-curbed Achilles. Who can deny that there are tears of manliness and magnanimity, as well as womanish and pusillanimous? So Diomed wept for curst heart, when Apollo struck his scourge from him, and hindered his horse-race, having been warned by Pallas before not to resist the deities; and so his great spirits being curbed of revenge for the wrong he received then. So when not-enough-vented anger was not to be expressed enough by that tear-starting affection in courageous and fierce men, our most accomplished expressor helps the illustration in a simile of his fervour, in most fervent-spirited fowls, resembling the wrathful fight of Sarpedon and Patroclus to two vultures fighting, and crying on a rock; which thus I have afterwards Englished, and here for example inserted:—

“ Down jump'd he from his chariot; down leap'd his foe as light;  
 And as, on some far-seeing rock, a cast of vultures fight,  
 Fly on each other, strike, and truss, part, meet, and then stick by,  
 Tug both with crooked beaks and seres, cry, fight, and fight, and cry.  
 So fiercely fought these angry kings, &c.”

Wherein you see that crying in these eagerly-fought fowls (which is like tears in angry men) is so far from softness or faintness, that to the su-

perlative of hardiness and courage it expresseth both. Nor must we be so gross to imagine that Homer made Achilles or Diomed blubber, or sob, &c., but, in the very point and sting of their unvented anger, shed a few violent and seething-over tears. What ass-like impudence is it then for any merely vain-glorious and self-loving puff, that everywhere may read these inimitable touches of our Homer's mastery, anywhere to oppose his arrogant and ignorant castigations when he should rather (with his much better understander Spondanus) submit where he oversees him faulty, and say thus : " Quia tu tamen hoc voluisti, sacrosanctæ tuæ authoritati per me nihil detrahetur."

THE END OF THE FIRST BOOK.



## THE SECOND BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

JOVE calls a vision up from Somnus' den  
 To bid Atrides muster up his men.  
 The King, to Greeks dissembling his desire,  
 Persuades them to their country to retire.  
 By Pallas' will, Ulysses stays their flight;  
 And wise old Nestor heartens them to fight.  
 They take their meat; which done, to arms they go,  
 And march in good array against the foe.  
 So those of Troy; when Iris, from the sky,  
 Of Saturn's son performs the embassy.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Beta the dream and synod cites;  
 And catalogues the naval knights.



THE other Gods, and knights at arms, all night slept; only  
 Jove  
 Sweet slumber seiz'd not; he discours'd how best he  
 might approve  
 His vow made for Achilles' grace, and make the Grecians find  
 His miss in much death. All ways cast, this counsel serv'd his mind  
 With most allowance; to dispatch a harmful dream to greet 5  
 The king of men, and gave this charge: "Go to the Achive fleet,

<sup>4</sup> *Miss*—absence, or loss.

<sup>5</sup> *Allowance*—approbation.

"A stirring dwarf we most allowance give  
 Before a sleeping guest."

SHAKESPEARE. *Troil. and Cress.* II. 3.

Pernicious dream, and, being arriv'd in Agamemnon's tent,  
 Deliver truly all this charge. Command him to convent  
 His whole host arm'd before these towers; for now Troy's broad-way'd  
 town

He shall take in; the heaven-hous'd Gods are now indifferent grown;  
 Juno's request hath won them; Troy now under imminent ills 11  
 At all parts labours." This charge heard the vision straight fulfils;  
 The ships reach'd, and Atrides' tent, in which he found him laid,  
 Divine sleep pour'd about his powers. He stood above his head  
 Like Nestor, grac'd of old men most, and this did intimate: 15

"Sleeps the wise Atreus' tame-horse son? A counsellor of state  
 Must not the whole night spend in sleep, to whom the people are  
 For guard committed, and whose life stands bound to so much care.  
 Now hear me then, Jove's messenger, who, though far off from thee,  
 Is near thee yet in ruth and care, and gives command by me 20  
 To arm thy whole host. Thy strong hand the broad-way'd town of  
 Troy

Shall now take in; no more the Gods dissentiously employ  
 Their high-hous'd powers; Juno's suit hath won them all to her;  
 And ill fates overhang these towers, address'd by Jupiter.  
 Fix in thy mind this, nor forget to give it action when 25  
 Sweet sleep shall leave thee." Thus, he fled; and left the king of men  
 Repeating in discourse his dream, and dreaming still, awake,  
 Of power, not ready yet for act. O fool, he thought to take  
 In that next day old Priam's town; not knowing what affairs  
 Jove had in purpose, who prepar'd, by strong fight, sighs and cares 30  
 For Greeks and Trojans. The dream gone, his voice still murmured  
 About the king's ears, who sate up, put on him in his bed

<sup>8</sup> *Convent*—convene.

<sup>10</sup> *Take in*—conquer. Shakespeare

"Is it not strange, Canidius,  
 He could so quickly cut th' Ionian sea,  
 And take in Toryne?"—*Anton and Cleop.* III. 7.

<sup>20</sup> *Ruth*—pity, tender care. A word in use even in Milton's time.

<sup>24</sup> *Address'd*—prepared. A frequent word.



His silken inner weed, fair, new, and then in haste arose,  
 Cast on his ample mantle, tied to his soft feet fair shoes,  
 His silver-hilted sword he hung about his shoulders, took 35  
 His father's sceptre never stain'd, which then abroad he shook,  
 And went to fleet. And now great heaven Goddess Aurora scal'd,  
 To Jove, and all Gods, bringing light; when Agamemnon call'd  
 His heralds, charging them aloud to call to instant court  
 The thick-hair'd Greeks. The heralds call'd; the Greeks made quick  
 resort. 40

The Council chiefly he compos'd of old great-minded men,  
 At Nestor's ships, the Pylia king. All there assembled then,  
 Thus Atreus' son began the court: "Hear, friends: A dream divine,  
 Amidst the calm night in my sleep, did through my shut eyes shine,  
 Within my fantasy. His form did passing naturally 45  
 Resemble Nestor; such attire, a stature just as high.

He stood above my head, and words thus fashion'd did relate:

'Sleeps the wise Atreus' tame-horse son? A counsellor of state  
 Must not the whole night spend in sleep, to whom the people are  
 For guard committed, and whose life stands bound to so much care. 50  
 Now hear me then, Jove's messenger, who, though far off from thee,  
 Is near thee yet in love and care, and gives command by me  
 To arm thy whole host. Thy strong hand the broad-way'd town of Troy  
 Shall now take in; no more the Gods dissentiously employ  
 Their high hous'd powers; Saturnia's suit hath won them all to her; 55  
 And ill fates over-hang these towers, address'd by Jupiter.  
 Fix in thy mind this.' This express'd, he took wing and away,  
 And sweet sleep left me. Let us then by all our means assay  
 To arm our army; I will first (as far as fits our right)  
 Try their addictions, and command with full sail'd ships our flight; 60

<sup>33</sup> *Weed*—dress. Now generally used for mourning, but formerly for any dress. Thus Spenser,

"A goodlie ladie, clad in hunter's *weed*."—*F. Q.* II. iii. 21.

<sup>48</sup> *Tame-horse*—tamer of horses.

<sup>60</sup> *Additions*—will, inclinations.

Which if they yield to, oppose you." He sate, and up arose  
 Nestor, of sandy Pylos king, who, willing to dispose  
 Their counsel to the public good, propos'd this to the state :  
 " Princes and Councillors of Greece, if any should relate  
 This vision but the king himself, it might be held a tale, 65  
 And move the rather our retreat ; but since our General  
 Affirms he saw it, hold it true, and all our best means make  
 To arm our army." This speech us'd, he first the Council brake ;  
 The other sceptre-bearing States arose too, and obey'd  
 The people's Rector. Being abroad, the earth was overlaid 70  
 With flockers to them, that came forth, as when of frequent bees  
 Swarms rise out of a hollow rock, repairing the degrees  
 Of their egression endlessly, with ever rising new  
 From forth their sweet nest ; as their store, still as it faded, grew,  
 And never would cease sending forth her clusters to the spring, 75  
 They still crowd out so ; this flock here, that there, belabouring  
 The loaded flowers ; so from the ships and tents the army's store  
 Troop'd to these princes, and the court, along th' unmeasur'd shore ;  
 Amongst whom, Jove's ambassadress, Fame, in her virtue shin'd,  
 Exciting greediness to hear. The rabble, thus inclin'd, 80  
 Hurried together ; uproar seiz'd the high court ; earth did groan  
 Beneath the settling multitude ; tumult was there alone.  
 Thrice three vociferous heralds rose to check the rout, and get  
 Ear to their Jove-kept governors, and instantly was set  
 The huge confusion ; every man set fast, the clamour ceas'd. 85  
 Then stood divine Atrides up, and in his hand compress'd  
 His sceptre, th' elaborate work of fiery Mulciber,  
 Who gave it to Saturnian Jove ; Jove to his messenger ;

<sup>69</sup> *States*—rulers, persons of authority.

<sup>71</sup> *Frequent*—numerous.

<sup>72</sup> *Repairing the degrees*—filling up the ranks.

<sup>78</sup> *Unmeasur'd*—immeasurable. Chapman commonly uses the past participle thus

<sup>85</sup> *The huge confusion*—so the second folio ; in the first it is " *that huge confusion.*"

His messenger, Argicides, to Pelops, skill'd in horse ;  
 Pelops to Atreus, chief of men ; he, dying, gave it course 90  
 To prince Thyestes, rich in herds ; Thyestes to the hand  
 Of Agamemnon render'd it, and with it the command  
 Of many isles, and Argos all. On this he leaning, said :  
 " O friends, great sons of Danaus, servants of Mars, Jove laid  
 A heavy curse on me ; to vow, and bind it with the bent 95  
 Of his high forehead, that, this Troy of all her people spent,  
 I should return ; yet now to mock our hopes built on his vow,  
 And charge ingloriously my flight, when such an overthrow  
 Of brave friends I have author'd. But to his mightiest will  
 We must submit us, that hath raz'd and will be razing still 100  
 Men's footsteps from so many towns ; because his power is most,  
 He will destroy most. But how vile such and so great an host  
 Will show to future times, that, match'd with lesser numbers far,  
 We fly, not putting on the crown of our so long-held war,  
 Of which there yet appears no end. Yet should our foes and we 105  
 Strike truce, and number both our powers, Troy taking all that be  
 Her arm'd inhabitants, and we in tens should all sit down  
 At our truce banquet, every ten allow'd one of the town  
 To fill his feast-cup, many tens would their attendant want ;  
 So much I must affirm our power exceeds th' inhabitant. 110  
 But their auxiliary bands, those brandishers of spears,  
 From many cities drawn, are they that are our hinderers,  
 Not suffering well-rais'd Troy to fall. Nine years are ended now  
 Since Jove our conquest vow'd ; and now our vessels rotten grow,  
 Our tackling fails ; our wives, young sons, sit in their doors and long  
 For our arrival ; yet the work that should have wreak'd our wrong, 116

<sup>89</sup> *Argicides*—the slayer of Argus, Mercury.

<sup>90</sup> *Gave it course*—gave it in turn.

<sup>95</sup> *Bent*—bend, nod. See Bk. I. 575-6.

<sup>104</sup> *Putting on the crown*—concluding.

<sup>110</sup> *Inhabitant*—inhabiters, viz. of Troy ; the Trojans as distinguished from their allies.

And made us welcome, lies unwrought. Come then, as I bid, all  
 Obey, and fly to our lov'd home ; for now, nor ever, shall  
 Our utmost take in broad-way'd Troy." This said, the multitude  
 Was all for home ; and all men else that what this would conclude 120  
 Had not discover'd. All the crowd was shov'd about the shore,  
 In sway, like rude and raging waves, rous'd with the fervent blore  
 Of th' east and south winds, when they break from Jove's clouds, and  
 are borne  
 On rough backs of th' Icarian seas ; or like a field of corn  
 High grown, that Zephyr's vehement gusts bring easily underneath, 125  
 And make the stiff up-bristled ears do homage to his breath ;  
 For even so easily, with the breath Atrides us'd, was sway'd  
 The violent multitude. To fleet with shouts, and disarray'd,  
 All rush'd ; and with a fog of dust their rude feet dimm'd the day ; 129  
 Each cried to other, ' Cleanse our ships, come, launch, aboard, away.'  
 The clamour of the runners home reach'd heaven ; and then, past fate,  
 The Greeks had left Troy, had not then the Goddess of estate  
 Thus spoke to Pallas : " O foul shame ! Thou untam'd seed of Jove,  
 Shall thus the sea's broad back be charg'd with these our friends' remove,  
 Thus leaving Argive Helen here, thus Priam grac'd, thus Troy, 135  
 In whose fields, far from their lov'd own, for Helen's sake, the joy  
 And life of so much Grecian birth is vanish'd ? Take thy way  
 T' our brass-arm'd people, speak them fair, let not a man obey  
 The charge now given, nor launch one ship." She said, and Pallas did  
 As she commanded ; from the tops of heaven's steep hill she slid, 140  
 And straight the Greeks' swift ships she reach'd ; Ulysses (like to Jove  
 In gifts of counsel) she found out, who to that base remove  
 Stirr'd not a foot, nor touch'd a ship, but griev'd at heart to see  
 That fault in others. To him close the Blue-eyed Deity  
 Made way, and said : " Thou wisest Greek, divine Laertes' son, 145  
 Thus fly ye homewards to your ships ? Shall all thus headlong run ?

<sup>122</sup> *Fervent blore*—raging gale, blast.

<sup>132</sup> *Goddess of estate*—chief Goddess, Juno.



Glory to Priam thus ye leave, glory to all his friends,  
 If thus ye leave her here, for whom so many violent ends  
 Have clos'd your Greek eyes, and so far from their so loved home.  
 Go to these people, use no stay, with fair terms overcome 150  
 Their foul endeavour, not a man a flying sail let hoise."

Thus spake she ; and Ulysses knew 'twas Pallas by her voice,  
 Ran to the runners, cast from him his mantle, which his man  
 And herald, grave Eurybates, the Ithacensian,  
 That follow'd him, took up. Himself to Agamemnon went, 155  
 His incorrupted sceptre took, his sceptre of descent,  
 And with it went about the fleet. What prince, or man of name,  
 He found flight-giv'n, he would restrain with words of gentlest blame :

“ Good sir, it fits not you to fly, or fare as one afraid,  
 You should not only stay yourself, but see the people stayed. 160  
 You know not clearly, though you heard the king's words, yet his mind ;  
 He only tries men's spirits now, and, whom his trials find  
 Apt to this course, he will chastise. Nor you, nor I, heard all  
 He spake in council ; nor durst press too near our General,  
 Lest we incens'd him to our hurt. The anger of a king 165  
 Is mighty ; he is kept of Jove, and from Jove likewise spring  
 His honours, which, out of the love of wise Jove, he enjoys.”  
 Thus he the best sort us'd ; the worst, whose spirits brake out in noise,  
 He cudgell'd with his sceptre, chid, and said : “ Stay, wretch, be  
 still,

And hear thy betters ; thou art base, and both in power and skill 170  
 Poor and unworthy, without name in counsel or in war.  
 We must not all be kings. The rule is most irregular  
 Where many rule. One lord, one king, propose to thee ; and he,  
 To whom wise Saturn's son hath given both law and empery  
 To rule the public, is that king.” Thus ruling, he restrain'd 175  
 The host from flight ; and then again the Council was maintain'd

<sup>151</sup> *Hoise*—hoise, hoist.

<sup>156</sup> *Sceptre of descent*—which had descended to him from his father, see v. 36.



With such a concourse, that the shore rung with the tumult made ;  
 As when the far-resounding sea doth in its rage invade  
 His sandy confines, whose sides groan with his involved wave,  
 And make his own breast echo sighs. All sate, and audience gave. 180  
 Thersites only would speak all. A most disorder'd store  
 Of words he foolishly pour'd out, of which his mind held more  
 Than it could manage ; any thing, with which he could procure  
 Laughter, he never could contain. He should have yet been sure  
 To touch no kings ; t'oppose their states becomes not jesters' parts. 185  
 But he the filthiest fellow was of all that had deserts  
 In Troy's brave siege. He was squint-ey'd, and lame of either foot ;  
 So crook-back'd, that he had no breast ; sharp-headed, where did shoot  
 (Here and there spers'd) thin mossy hair. He most of all envied  
 Ulysses and Æacides, whom still his spleen would chide. 190  
 Nor could the sacred King himself avoid his saucy vein ;  
 Against whom since he knew the Greeks did vehement hates sustain,  
 Being angry for Achilles' wrong, he cried out, railing thus :  
 " Atrides, why complain'st thou now ? What would'st thou more of us ?  
 Thy tents are full of brass ; and dames, the choice of all, are thine, 195  
 With whom we must present thee first, when any towns resign  
 To our invasion. Want'st thou then, besides all this, more gold  
 From Troy's knights to redeem their sons, whom to be dearly sold  
 I or some other Greek must take ? Or would'st thou yet again  
 Force from some other lord his prise, to soothe the lusts that reign 200  
 In thy encroaching appetite ? It fits no prince to be  
 A prince of ill, and govern us, or lead our progeny  
 By rape to ruin. O base Greeks, deserving infamy,  
 And ills eternal ! Greekish girls, not Greeks, ye are ! Come, flee  
 Home with our ships ; leave this man here to perish with his preys, 205  
 And try if we help'd him or not. He wrong'd a man that weighs  
 Far more than he himself in worth. He forc'd from Thetis' son  
 And keeps his prise still. Nor think I that mighty man hath won

<sup>205</sup> *Preys*—booty. See Judges, ch. v. ver. 30.

The style of wrathful worthily ; he's soft, he's too remiss ;  
Or else, Atrides, his had been thy last of injuries." 210

Thus he the people's Pastor chid ; but straight stood up to him  
Divine Ulysses, who, with looks exceeding grave and grim,  
This bitter check gave : " Cease, vain fool, to vent thy railing vein  
On kings thus, though it serve thee well ; nor think thou canst restrain,  
With that thy railing faculty, their wills in least degree ; 215

For not a worse, of all this host, came with our King than thee,  
To Troy's great siege ; then do not take into that mouth of thine  
The names of kings, much less revile the dignities that shine  
In their supreme states, wresting thus this motion for our home,  
To soothe thy cowardice ; since ourselves yet know not what will come  
Of these designments, if it be our good to stay, or go. 221

Nor is it that thou stand'st on ; thou revil'st our General so,  
Only because he hath so much, not given by such as thou  
But our heroës. Therefore this thy rude vein makes me vow  
(Which shall be curiously observ'd) if ever I shall hear 225

This madness from thy mouth again, let not Ulysses bear  
This head, nor be the father call'd of young Telemachus,  
If to thy nakedness I take and strip thee not, and thus  
Whip thee to fleet from council ; send, with sharp stripes, weeping  
hence

This glory thou affect'st to rail." This said, his insolence 230  
He settled with his sceptre ; struck his back and shoulders so  
That bloody wales rose. He shrunk round ; and from his eyes did flow  
Moist tears, and, looking filthily, he sate, fear'd, smarted, dried  
His blubber'd cheeks ; and all the prease, though griev'd to be denied  
Their wish'd retreat for home, yet laugh'd delightfully, and spake  
Either to other : " O ye Gods, how infinitely take 236

<sup>225</sup> *Curiously*—scrupulously, carefully.

<sup>230</sup> *This glory thou affect'st to rail*—the sense (somewhat complicated) seems :  
" *This glory to rail thou affectest,*" this glorious railing power you pride yourself  
upon.

<sup>234</sup> *Prease*—press, crowd.

Ulysses' virtues in our good ! Author of counsels, great  
 In ordering armies, how most well this act became his heat,  
 To beat from council this rude fool. I think his saucy spirit,  
 Hereafter, will not let his tongue abuse the sovereign merit, 240  
 Exempt from such base tongues as his." Thus spake the people ; then  
 The city-razer Ithacus stood up to speak again,  
 Holding his sceptre. Close to him gray-eyed Minerva stood,  
 And, like a herald, silence caus'd, that all the Achive brood  
 (From first to last) might hear and know the counsel ; when, inclin'd  
 To all their good, Ulysses said : " Atrides, now I find 246  
 These men would render thee the shame of all men ; nor would pay  
 Their own vows to thee, when they took their free and honour'd way  
 From Argos hither, that, till Troy were by their brave hands rac'd,  
 They would not turn home. Yet, like babes, and widows, now they  
 haste 250  
 To that base refuge. 'Tis a spite to see men melted so  
 In womanish changes ; though 'tis true, that if a man do go  
 Only a month to sea, and leave his wife far off, and he,  
 Tortur'd with winter's storms, and toss'd with a tumultuous sea,  
 Grows heavy, and would home. Us then, to whom the thrice three year  
 Hath fill'd his revoluble orb since our arrival here, 256  
 I blame not to wish home much more ; yet all this time to stay,  
 Out of our judgments, for our end, and now to take our way  
 Without it, were absurd and vile. Sustain then, friends ; abide  
 The time set to our object ; try if Calchas prophesied 260  
 True of the time or not. We know, ye all can witness well,  
 (Whom these late death-conferring fates have fail'd to send to hell)  
 That when in Aulis, all our fleet assembled with a freight  
 Of ills to Ilion and her friends, beneath the fair grown height  
 A platane bore, about a fount, whence crystal water flow'd, 265  
 And near our holy altar, we upon the Gods bestowed

<sup>249</sup> *Rac'd*—razed.

<sup>258</sup> *Out of our judgments*—against our inclinations.

Accomplish'd hecatombs ; and there appear'd a huge portent,  
 A dragon with a bloody scale, horrid to sight, and sent  
 To light by great Olympius ; which, crawling from beneath  
 The altar, to the platane climb'd, and ruthless crash'd to death 270  
 A sparrow's young, in number eight, that in a top-bough lay  
 Hid under leaves, the dam the ninth, that hover'd every way,  
 Mourning her lov'd birth, till at length, the serpent, watching her,  
 Her wing caught, and devour'd her too. This dragon Jupiter,  
 That brought him forth, turn'd to a stone, and made a powerful mean  
 To stir our zeals up that admir'd, when of a fact so clean 276  
 Of all ills as our sacrifice, so fearful an ostent  
 Should be the issue. Calchas, then, thus prophesied th' event :  
 ' Why are ye dumb-struck, fair-hair'd Greeks ? Wise Jove is he hath  
 shown

This strange ostent to us. 'Twas late, and passing lately done, 280  
 But that grace it foregoes to us, for suffering all the state  
 Of his appearance (being so slow) nor time shall end, nor fate.  
 As these eight sparrows, and the dam (that made the ninth) were eat  
 By this stern serpent ; so nine years we are t' endure the heat  
 Of ravenous war, and, in the tenth, take in this broad-way'd town.' 285  
 Thus he interpreted this sign ; and all things have their crown  
 As he interpreted, till now. The rest, then, to succeed  
 Believe as certain. Stay we all, till, that most glorious deed  
 Of taking this rich town, our hands are honour'd with." This said,  
 The Greeks gave an unmeasur'd shout ; which back the ships repaid  
 With terrible echoes, in applause of that persuasion 291  
 Divine Ulysses us'd ; which yet had no comparison  
 With Nestor's next speech, which was this : " O shameful thing ! Ye talk  
 Like children all, that know not war. In what air's region walk  
 Our oaths, and covenants ? Now, I see the fit respects of men 295  
 Are vanish'd quite ; our right hands given, our faiths, our counsels, vain ;

<sup>281</sup> *That grace it foregoes to us*—the favour it foretells to us.



Our sacrifice with wine all fled in that profaned flame  
 We made to bind all ; for thus still we vain persuasions frame,  
 And strive to work our end with words, not joining stratagemes  
 And hands together, though, thus long, the power of our extremes 300  
 Hath urg'd us to them. Atreus' son ! Firm as at first hour stand ;  
 Make good thy purpose ; talk no more in councils, but command  
 In active field. Let two or three, that by themselves advise,  
 Faint in their crowning ; they are such as are not truly wise ;  
 They will for Argos, ere they know if that which Jove hath said 305  
 Be false or true. I tell them all, that high Jove bow'd his head,  
 As first we went aboard our fleet, for sign we should confer  
 These Trojans their due fate and death ; almighty Jupiter  
 All that day darting forth his flames, in an unmeasur'd light,  
 On our right hands. Let therefore none once dream of coward flight,  
 Till (for his own) some wife of Troy he sleeps withal, the rape 311  
 Of Helen wreaking, and our sighs enforc'd for her escape.  
 If any yet dare dote on home, let his dishonour'd haste  
 His black and well-built bark but touch, that (as he first disgrac'd  
 His country's spirit) fate, and death, may first his spirit let go. 315  
 But be thou wise, king, do not trust thyself, but others. Know  
 I will not use an abject word. See all thy men array'd  
 In tribes and nations, that tribes tribes, nations may nations, aid.  
 Which doing, thou shalt know what chiefs, what soldiers, play the  
 men,  
 And what the cowards ; for they all will fight in several then, 320  
 Easy for note. And then shalt thou, if thou destroy'st not Troy,  
 Know if the prophecy's defect, or men thou dost employ

<sup>300</sup> *Extremes*—necessities.

<sup>304</sup> *Crowning*—fulfilment of purpose.

<sup>307</sup> *Confer these Trojans*—confer on.

<sup>312</sup> *Escape*—frequently used for transgression of female virtue, thus Shakespeare,—

“Rome will despise her for this foul *escape*.”—*Titus And.* IV. 2.

<sup>320</sup> *In several*—severally, separately.



In their approv'd arts want in war, or lack of that brave heat  
Fit for the vent'rous spirits of Greece, was cause to thy defeat."

To this the king of men replied: " O father, all the sons 325  
Of Greece thou conquer'st in the strife of consultations.  
I would to Jove, Athenia, and Phœbus, I could make,  
Of all, but ten such counsellors; then instantly would shake  
King Priam's city, by our hands laid hold on and laid waste.  
But Jove hath order'd I should grieve, and to that end hath cast 330  
My life into debates past end. Myself, and Thetis' son,  
Like girls, in words fought for a girl, and I th' offence begun.  
But if we ever talk as friends, Troy's thus deferred fall  
Shall never vex us more one hour. Come then, to victuals all,  
That strong Mars all may bring to field. Each man his lance's steel  
See sharpen'd well, his shield well lin'd, his horses meated well, 336  
His chariot carefully made strong, that these affairs of death  
We all day may hold fiercely out. No man must rest, or breath;  
The bosoms of our targeteers must all be steep'd in sweat;  
The lancer's arm must fall dissolv'd; our chariot-horse with heat 340  
Must seem to melt. But if I find one soldier take the chace,  
Or stir from fight, or fight not still fix'd in his enemy's face,  
Or hid a-shipboard, all the world, for force, nor price, shall save  
His hated life, but fowls and dogs be his abhorred grave."

He said; and such a murmur rose as on a lofty shore 345  
The waves make when the south wind comes, and tumbles them before  
Against a rock, grown near the strand, which diversly beset  
Is never free, but, here and there, with varied uproars beat.

All rose then, rushing to the fleet, perfum'd their tents, and eat;  
Each off'ring to th' immortal gods, and praying to 'scape th' heat 350  
Of war and death. The king of men an ox of five years' spring  
T' almighty Jove slew, call'd the peers; first Nestor; then the king  
Idomenæus; after them th' Ajaces; and the son  
Of Tydeus; Ithacus the sixth, in counsel paragon

<sup>341</sup> *Take the chace*—take to flight.

To Jove himself. All these he bade ; but at-a-martial-cry 355  
 Good Menelaus, since he saw his brother busily  
 Employ'd at that time, would not stand on invitation,  
 But of himself came. All about the off'ring overthrown  
 Stood round, took salt-cakes, and the king himself thus pray'd for all :

“ O Jove, most great, most glorious, that, in that starry hall, 360  
 Sitt'st drawing dark clouds up to air, let not the sun go down,  
 Darkness supplying it, till my hands the palace and the town  
 Of Priam overthrow and burn, the arms on Hector's breast  
 Dividing, spoiling with my sword thousands, in interest  
 Of his bad quarrel, laid by him in dust, and eating earth.” 365

He pray'd ; Jove heard him not, but made more plentiful the birth  
 Of his sad toils, yet took his gifts. Prayers past, cakes on they threw ;  
 The ox then, to the altar drawn, they kill'd, and from him drew  
 His hide, then cut him up, his thighs, in two hewn, dubb'd with fat  
 Prick'd on the sweetbreads, and with wood, leaveless, and kindled at 370  
 Apposed fire, they burn the thighs ; which done, the inwards, slit,  
 They broil'd on coals and eat ; the rest, in giggots cut, they spit,  
 Roast cunningly, draw, sit, and feast. Nought lack'd to leave allay'd  
 Each temperate appetite ; which serv'd, Nestor began and said :

“ Atrides, most grac'd king of men, now no more words allow, 375  
 Nor more defer the deed Jove vows. Let heralds summon now  
 The brazen-coated Greeks, and us range everywhere the host,  
 To stir a strong war quickly up.” This speech no syllable lost ;  
 The high voic'd heralds instantly he charg'd to call to arms  
 The curl'd-head Greeks ; they call'd ; the Greeks straight answer'd  
 their alarms. 380

The Jove-kept kings about the king all gather'd, with their aid  
 Rang'd all in tribes and nations. With them the Gray-eyed Maid

<sup>355</sup> *At-a-martial-cry good*—Menelaus good at a shout ; *Βοήν ἀγαθόν* is the epithet of Menelaus.

<sup>364</sup> *In interest of*—on account of, &c.

<sup>378</sup> *This speech no syllable lost*—i. e. Agamemnon attended to every syllable of the speech.

<sup>382</sup> *Gray-eyed Maid*—Minerva.

Great Ægis (Jove's bright shield) sustain'd, that can be never old,  
 Never corrupted, fring'd about with serpents forg'd of gold,  
 As many as sufficed to make an hundred fringes, worth 385  
 An hundred oxen, every snake all sprawling, all set forth  
 With wondrous spirit. Through the host with this the Goddess ran,  
 In fury casting round her eyes, and furnish'd every man  
 With strength, exciting all to arms, and fight incessant. None  
 Now liked their lov'd homes like the wars; and as a fire upon 390  
 A huge wood, on the heights of hills, that far off hurls his light,  
 So the divine brass shin'd on these, thus thrusting on for fight.  
 Their splendour through the air reach'd heaven; and as about the flood  
 Caister, in an Asian mead, flocks of the airy brood,  
 Cranes, geese, or long-neck'd swans, here, there, proud of their pinions fly,  
 And in their falls lay out such throats, that with their spiritful cry 396  
 The meadow shrieks again; so here, these many-nation'd men  
 Flow'd over the Scamandrian field, from tents and ships; the din  
 Was dreadful that the feet of men and horse beat out of earth;  
 And in the flourishing mead they stood, thick as the odorous birth 400  
 Of flowers, or leaves bred in the spring; or thick as swarms of flies  
 Throng then to sheep-cotes, when each swarm his erring wing applies  
 To milk dew'd on the milk-maid's pails; all eagerly dispos'd  
 To give to ruin th' Ilians. And as in rude heaps clos'd,  
 Though huge goatherds are at their food, the goatherds easily yet 405  
 Sort into sundry herds; so here the chiefs in battle set  
 Here tribes, here nations, ordering all. Amongst whom shin'd the king  
 With eyes like lightning-loving Jove, his forehead answering,  
 In breast like Neptune, Mars in waist; and as a goodly bull  
 Most eminent of all a herd, most strong, most masterful, 410  
 So Agamemnon Jove that day made overheighten clear  
 That heaven-bright army, and preferr'd to all th' heroës there.

Now tell me, Muses, you that dwell in heavenly roofs, (for you  
 Are Goddesses, are present here, are wise, and all things know,

<sup>396</sup> *In their falls*—when they alight.

We only trust the voice of fame, know nothing,) who they were 415  
 That here were captains of the Greeks, commanding princes here.  
 The multitude exceed my song ; though fitted to my choice  
 Ten tongues were, harden'd palates ten, a breast of brass, a voice  
 Infract and trump-like ; that great work, unless the seed of Jove  
 (The deathless Muses) undertake, maintains a pitch above 420  
 All mortal powers. The princes then, and navy that did bring  
 These so inenarrable troops, and all their soils, I sing.

## THE CATALOGUE OF THE GRECIAN SHIPS AND CAPTAINS.

Peneleus, and Leitus, all that Bœotia bred,  
 Arcesilaus, Clonius, and Prothoenor, led ;  
 Th' inhabitants of Hyria, and stony Aulida, 425  
 Schæne, Scole, the hilly Eteon, and holy Thespia,  
 Of Græa, and great Mycalesse, that hath the ample plain,  
 Of Harma, and Ilesius, and all that did remain  
 In Eryth, and in Eleon, in Hylen, Peteona,  
 In fair Ocalea, and, the town well-built, Medeona, 430  
 Copas, Eutresis, Thisbe, that for pigeons doth surpass,  
 Of Coroneia, Haliart, that hath such store of grass,  
 All those that in Platea dwelt, that Glissa did possess,  
 And Hypothebs, whose well-built walls are rare and fellowless,  
 In rich Onchestus' famous wood, to watery Neptune vow'd, 435  
 And Arne, where the vine-trees are with vigorous bunches bow'd,  
 With them that dwelt in Midea, and Nissa most divine,  
 All those whom utmost Anthedon did wealthily confine.  
 From all these coasts, in general, full fifty sail were sent ;  
 And six score strong Bœotian youths in every burthen went. 440  
 But those who in Aspledon dwelt, and Minian Orchomen,  
 God Mars's sons did lead (Ascalaphus and Ialmen)  
 Who in Azidon Actor's house did of Astyoche come ;  
 The bashful maid, as she went up into the higher room,



The War-god secretly compress'd. In safe conduct of these, 445  
Did thirty hollow-bottom'd barks divide the wavy seas.

Brave Schedius and Epistrophus, the Phocian captains were,  
(Naubolida-Iphitus' sons) all proof 'gainst any fear ;  
With them the Cyparissians went, and bold Pythonians,  
Men of religious Chrysa's soil, and fat Daulidians, 450  
Panopæans, Anemores, and fierce Hyampolists ;  
And those that dwell where Cephisus casts up his silken mists ;  
The men that fair Lilæa held, near the Cephisian spring ;  
All which did forty sable barks to that designment bring.  
About th' entoil'd Phocensian fleet had these their sail assign'd ; 455  
And near to the sinister wing the arm'd Bœotians shin'd.

Ajax the less, Oileus' son, the Locrians led to war ;  
Not like to Ajax Telamon, but lesser man by far,  
Little he was, and ever wore a breastplate made of linne,  
But for the manage of his lance he general praise did win. 460  
The dwellers of Caliarus, of Bessa, Opoën,  
The youths of Cynus, Scarphis, and Augias, lovely men,  
Of Tarphis, and of Thronius, near flood Boagrius' fall ;  
Twice twenty martial barks of these, less Ajax sail'd withal.

Who near Eubœa's blessed soil their habitations had, 465  
Strength-breathing Abants, who their seats in sweet Eubœa made,  
The Histiaëans rich in grapes, the men of Chalcida,  
The Cerinths bordering on the sea, of rich Eretria,  
Of Dion's highly-seated town, Charistus, and of Styre,  
All these the duke Alphenor led, a flame of Mars's fire, 470  
Surnam'd Chalcodontiades, the mighty Abants' guide,  
Swift men of foot, whose broad-set backs their trailing hair did hide,  
Well seen in fight, and soon could pierce with far extended darts  
The breastplates of their enemies, and reach their dearest hearts.

<sup>459</sup> *Breastplate made of linne*—made of flax ; λινοθώραξ.

<sup>470</sup> *Duke*—leader. The translators of the Bible retained this word in mentioning Esau's descendants, Gen. xxxvi.

Forty black men of war did sail in this Alphenor's charge. 475

The soldiers that in Athens dwelt, a city builded large,  
 The people of Eristhius, whom Jove-sprung Pallas fed,  
 And plenteous-feeding Tellus brought out of her flow'ry bed;  
 Him Pallas placed in her rich fane, and, every ended year,  
 Of bulls and lambs th' Athenian youths please him with off'rings there;  
 Mighty Menestheus, Peteus' son, had their divided care; 481  
 For horsemen and for targeteers none could with him compare,  
 Nor put them into better place, to hurt or to defend;  
 But Nestor (for he elder was) with him did sole contend;  
 With him came fifty sable sail. And out of Salamine 485  
 Great Ajax brought twelve sail, that with th' Athenians did combine.

Who did in fruitful Argos dwell, or strong Tiryntha keep,  
 Hermion, or in Asinen whose bosom is so deep,  
 Trœzena, Eion, Epidaure where Bacchus crowns his head,  
 Ægina, and Maseta's soil, did follow Diomed, 490  
 And Sthenelus, the dear lov'd son of famous Capaneus,  
 Together with Euryalus, heir of Mecisteus,  
 The king of Talæonides; past whom in deeds of war,  
 The famous soldier Diomed of all was held by far.  
 Four score black ships did follow these. The men fair Mycene held,  
 The wealthy Corinth, Cleon that for beauteous site excell'd, 496  
 Aræthyrea's lovely seat, and in Ornia's plain,  
 And Sicyona, where at first did king Adrastus reign,  
 High-seated Gonoëssa's towers, and Hyperisius,  
 That dwelt in fruitful Pellenen, and in divine Ægius, 500  
 With all the sea-side borderers, and wide Helice's friends,  
 To Agamemnon every town her native birth commends,  
 In double-fifty sable barks. With him a world of men  
 Most strong and full of valour went, and he in triumph then

<sup>477</sup> *Eristhius*—Erectheus in the original.

<sup>496</sup> Dr. Taylor has printed "*sight*," whereas if he had consulted the original he would have seen that Chapman meant "*site*". (Εὐ κτιμμένας τε κλεωνάς.)

Put on his most resplendent arms, since he did overshadow  
The whole heroic host of Greece, in power of that design. 505

Who did in Lacedæmon's rule th' unmeasur'd concave hold,  
High Pharis, Sparta, Messe's towers for doves so much extoll'd,  
Bryseia's and Augia's grounds, strong Laa, Oetylon,  
Amyclas, Helos' harbour-town that Neptune beats upon, 510  
All these did Menelaus lead (his brother, that in cries  
Of war was famous). Sixty ships convey'd these enemies  
To Troy in chief, because their king was chiefly injur'd there,  
In Helen's rape, and did his best to make them buy it dear.

Who dwelt in Pylos' sandy soil, and Arene the fair, 515  
In Thryon, near Alphæus' flood, and Aepy full of air,  
In Cyparisseus, Amphigen, and little Pteleon,  
The town where all the Iliots dwelt, and famous Doreon,  
Where all the Muses, opposite, in strife of poesy,  
To ancient Thamyris of Thrace, did use him cruelly, 520  
(He coming from Eurytus' court, the wise Œchalian king,)  
Because he proudly durst affirm he could more sweetly sing  
Than that Pierian race of Jove; who, angry with his vaunt,  
Bereft his eyesight, and his song, that did the ear enchant,  
And of his skill to touch his harp disfurnished his hand. 525  
All these in ninety hollow keels grave Nestor did command.

The richly-blest inhabitants of the Arcadian land  
Below Cyllene's mount (that by Epytus' tomb did stand)  
Where dwelt the bold near-fighting men, who did in Phæneus live,  
And Orchomen, where flocks of sheep the shepherds clust'ring drive,  
In Ripé, and in Stratié, the fair Mantinean town, 531  
And strong Enispe, that for height is ever weather-blown,  
Tegea, and in Stymphalus, Parrhasia strongly wall'd,  
All these Alcæus' son to field (king Agapenor) call'd;  
In sixty barks he brought them on, and every bark well mann'd 535  
With fierce Arcadians, skill'd to use the utmost of a band.

<sup>511</sup> *His brother—Agamemnon's.*

King Agamemnon, on these men, did well-built ships bestow  
To pass the gulfy purple sea, that did no sea rites know.

They who in Hermin, Buphrasis, and Elis, did remain,  
What Olen's cliffs, Alisius, and Myrsin did contain, 540  
Were led to war by twice two dukes (and each ten ships did bring,  
Which many venturous Epians did serve for burthening,  
Beneath Amphimachus's charge, and valiant Thalpius,  
(Son of Eurytus-Actor one, the other, Cteatus,  
Diores Amaryncides the other did employ, 545  
The fourth divine Polixenus (Agasthenes's joy).

The king of fair Angeiades, who from Dulichius came,  
And from Echinaus' sweet isles, which hold their holy frame  
By ample Elis region, Meges Phylides led ;  
Whom duke Phyleus, Jove's belov'd, begat, and whilome fled 550  
To large Dulichius, for the wrath that fir'd his father's breast.  
Twice twenty ships with ebon sails were in his charge address'd.

The warlike men of Cephale, and those of Ithaca,  
Woody Neritus, and the men of wet Crocylia,  
Sharp Ægilipa, Samos' isle, Zacynthus, sea inclos'd, 555  
Epirus, and the men that hold the continent oppos'd,  
All these did wise Ulysses lead, in counsel peer to Jove ;  
Twelve ships he brought, which in their course vermilion sterns did move.

Thoas, Andremon's well-spoke son, did guide th' Ætolians well,  
Those that in Pleuron, Olenon, and strong Pylene dwell, 560  
Great Chalcis that by sea-side stands, and stony Calydon ;  
(For now no more of CENEUS' sons surviv'd ; they all were gone ;

<sup>538</sup> Agamemnon furnished ships for the Arcadians, as they were an inland people, and "*did no sea rites know.*"

<sup>544</sup> Dr. Taylor has printed this and the following line, thus:—  
(Son of Eurytus-Actor one, *the next of Cteatus*)  
Diores Amaryncides the *third ships* did employ.  
This is not authorized by either of the folios. The first has—  
Son of Eurytus-Actor one ; *the other Cteatus*)  
Diores Amarincides the *other* did employ.

The second folio in line 544, with its usual typographical inaccuracy, omits "*the other.*" I have thought it best to retain the reading of the first.



No more his royal self did live, no more his noble son  
 The golden Meleager now, their glasses all were run)  
 All things were left to him in charge, the Ætoliars' chief he was, 565  
 And forty ships to Trojan wars the seas with him did pass.

The royal soldier Idomen did lead the Cretans stout,  
 The men of Gnosus, and the town Gortyna wall'd about,  
 Of Lictus, and Miletus' towers, of white Lycastus' state,  
 Of Phæstus, and of Rhytias, the cities fortunate, 570  
 And all the rest inhabiting the hundred towns of Crete ;  
 Whom warlike Idomen did lead, co-partner in the fleet,  
 With kill-man Merion. Eighty ships with them did Troy invade.

Tlepolemus Heraclides, right strong and bigly made,  
 Brought nine tall ships of war from Rhodes, which haughty Rhodians  
 mann'd, 575

Who dwelt in three dissever'd parts of that most pleasant land,  
 Which Lyndus, and Jalissus, were, and bright Camirus, call'd.  
 Tlepolemus commanded these, in battle unappall'd,  
 Whom fair Astyoche brought forth, by force of Hercules,  
 Led out of Ephyr with his hand, from river Selleës, 580  
 When many towns of princely youths he levell'd with the ground.

Tlepolem, in his father's house (for building much renown'd)  
 Brought up to headstrong state of youth, his mother's brother slew,  
 The flower of arms, Licymnius, that somewhat aged grew ;  
 Then straight he gather'd him a fleet, assembling bands of men, 585  
 And fled by sea, to shun the threats that were denounced then  
 By other sons and nephews of th' Alciden fortitude.

He in his exile came to Rhodes, driven in with tempests rude.  
 The Rhodians were distinct in tribes, and great with Jove did stand,  
 The King of men and Gods, who gave much treasure to their land. 590

Nireus out of Syma's haven three well-built barks did bring ;  
 Nireus, fair Aglaia's son, and Charopes' the king ;

<sup>587</sup> *The Alciden fortitude*—a pleonasm for Hercules himself.

Nireus was the fairest man that to fair Ilion came  
 Of all the Greeks, save Peleus' son, who passed for general frame.  
 But weak this was, not fit for war, and therefore few did guide. 595

Who did in Cassus, Nisyru, and Crapathus, abide,  
 In Co, Eurypylus's town, and in Calydna's soils,  
 Phidippus and bold Antiphus did guide to Trojan toils,  
 (The sons of crowned Thessalus, deriv'd from Hercules)  
 Who went with thirty hollow ships well-order'd to the seas. 600

Now will I sing the sackful troops Pelasgian Argos held,  
 That in deep Alus, Alopé, and soft Trechina dwell'd,  
 In Phthia, and in Hellade where live the lovely dames,  
 The Myrmidons, Hellenians, and Achives, rob'd of fames ;  
 All which the great Æacides in fifty ships did lead. 605

For these forgat war's horrid voice, because they lack'd their head  
 That would have brought them bravely forth ; but now at fleet did lie  
 That wind-like user of his feet, fair Thetis' progeny,  
 Wroth for bright-cheek'd Briseis' loss, whom from Lyrnessus' spoils  
 (His own exploit) he brought away as trophy of his toils, 610  
 When that town was depopulate ; he sunk the Theban towers ;  
 Myneta, and Epistrophus, he sent to Pluto's bowers,  
 Who came of king Evenus' race, great Helepiades ;  
 Yet now he idly lives enrag'd, but soon must leave his ease.

Of those that dwelt in Phylace, and flow'ry Pyrason 615  
 The wood of Ceres, and the soil that sheep are fed upon  
 Iton, and Antron built by sea, and Pteleus full of grass,  
 Protesilaus, while he liv'd, the worthy captain was,  
 Whom now the sable earth detains. His tear-torn-faced spouse  
 He woful left in Phylace, and his half-finish'd house ; 620  
 A fatal Dardan first his life, of all the Greeks, bereft,  
 As he was leaping from his ship ; yet were his men unleft  
 Without a chief, for though they wish'd to have no other man  
 But good Protesilay their guide, Podarces yet began

<sup>595</sup> *This*—Nireus.

To govern them, (Iphitis' son, the son of Phylacus) 625  
 Most rich in sheep, and brother to short-liv'd Protesilaus,  
 Of younger birth, less, and less strong, yet serv'd he to direct  
 The companies, that still did more their ancient duke affect.  
 Twice twenty jetty sails with him the swelling stream did take.

But those that did in Pheres dwell, at the Bœbeian lake, 630  
 In Bœbe, and in Glaphyra, Iacolus builded fair,  
 In thrice six ships to Pergamus did through the seas repair,  
 With old Admetus' tender son, Eumelus, whom he bred  
 Of Alcest, Pelius' fairest child of all his female seed.

The soldiers that before the siege Methone's vales did hold, 635  
 Thaumacie, flow'ry Melibœ, and Olison the cold,  
 Duke Philoctetes governed, in darts of finest sleight ;  
 Seven vessels in his charge convey'd their honourable freight,  
 By fifty rowers in a bark, most expert in the bow ;  
 But he in sacred Lemnos lay, brought miserably low 640  
 By torment of an ulcer grown with Hydra's poison'd blood,  
 Whose sting was such, Greece left him there in most impatient mood ;  
 Yet thought they on him at his ship, and choos'd, to lead his men,  
 Medon, Oïleus' bastard son, brought forth to him by Rhen.

From Tricce, bleak Ithomen's cliffs, and hapless Oechaly, 645  
 (Eurytus' city, rul'd by him in wilful tyranny,)  
 In charge of Æsculapius' sons, physician highly prais'd,  
 Machaon, Podalirius, were thirty vessels rais'd.

Who near Hyperia's fountain dwelt, and in Ormenius,  
 The snowy tops of Titanus, and in Asterius, 650  
 Evemon's son, Eurypylus, did lead into the field ;  
 Whose towns did forty black-sail'd ships to that encounter yield.

Who Gyrton, and Argissa, held, Orthen, and Elon's seat,  
 And chalky Oloössone, were led by Polypœte,  
 The issue of Pirithous, the son of Jupiter. 655  
 Him the Athenian Theseus' friend Hippodamy did bear,

When he the bristled savages did give Ramnusia,  
 And drove them out of Pelius, as far as Æthica.  
 He came not single, but with him Leonteus, Coron's son,  
 An arm of Mars, and Coron's life Ceneus' seed begun. 660  
 Twice twenty ships attended these. Guneus next did bring  
 From Cyphus twenty sail and two; the Enians following;  
 And fierce Peræbi, that about Dodone's frozen mould  
 Did plant their houses; and the men that did the meadows hold  
 Which Titaesus decks with flowers, and his sweet current leads 665  
 Into the bright Peneïus, that hath the silver heads,  
 Yet with his admirable stream doth not his waves commix,  
 But glides aloft on it like oil; for 'tis the flood of Styx,  
 By which th' immortal Gods do swear. Teuthredon's honour'd birth,  
 Prothous, led the Magnets forth, who near the shady earth 670  
 Of Pelius, and Peneïon, dwelt; forty revengeful sail  
 Did follow him. These were the dukes and princes of avail  
 That came from Greece. But now the man, that overshin'd them all,  
 Sing, Muse, and their most famous steeds to my recital call,  
 That both th' Atrides followed. Fair Pheretiades 675  
 The bravest mares did bring by much; Eumelius manag'd these,  
 Swift of their feet as birds of wings, both of one hair did shine,  
 Both of an age, both of a height, as measur'd by a line,  
 Whom silver-bow'd Apollo bred in the Pierian mead,  
 Both slick and dainty, yet were both in war of wondrous dread. 680  
 Great Ajax Telamon for strength pass'd all the peers of war,  
 While vex'd Achilles was away; but he surpass'd him far.  
 The horse that bore that faultless man were likewise past compare;  
 Yet lay he at the crook'd-stern'd ships, and fury was his fare,  
 For Atreus' son's ungracious deed; his men yet pleas'd their hearts 685  
 With throwing of the holed stone, with hurling of their darts,

680 *Slick*—sleek, smooth.

683 *Faultless man*—Achilles.

686 *Throwing of the holed stone*—in the Greek, playing at quoits.



And shooting fairly on the shore ; their horse at chariots fed  
 On greatest parsley, and on sedge that in the fens is bred.  
 His princes' tents their chariots held, that richly cover'd were.  
 His princes, amorous of their chief, walk'd storming here and there 690  
 About the host, and scorn'd to fight ; their breaths as they did pass  
 Before them flew as if a fire fed on the trembling grass ;  
 Earth under-groan'd their high-rais'd feet, as when offended Jove,  
 In Arime, Typhœius with rattling thunder drove  
 Beneath the earth ; in Arime, men say, the grave is still 695  
 Where thunder tomb'd Typhœius, and is a monstrous hill ;  
 And as that thunder made earth groan, so groan'd it as they past,  
 They trod with such hard-set-down steps, and so exceeding fast.

To Troy the rainbow-girded Dame right heavy news relates  
 From Jove, as all to council drew in Priam's palace-gates, 700  
 Resembling Priam's son in voice, Polites, swift of feet,  
 In trust whereof, as sentinel, to see when from the fleet  
 The Grecians sallied, he was set upon the lofty brow  
 Of aged Æsytetes' tomb, and this did Iris show :

“ O Priam, thou art always pleas'd with indiscreet advice, 705  
 And fram'st thy life to times of peace, when such a war doth rise  
 As threats inevitable spoil. I never did behold  
 Such and so mighty troops of men, who trample on the mould  
 In number like Autumnus' leaves, or like the marine sand,  
 All ready round about the walls to use a ruining hand. 710  
 Hector, I therefore charge thee most, this charge to undertake.  
 A multitude remain in Troy, will fight for Priam's sake,  
 Of other lands and languages ; let every leader then  
 Bring forth well arm'd into the field his several bands of men.”

Strong Hector knew a deity gave charge to this assay, 715  
 Dismiss'd the council straight ; like waves, clusters to arms do sway ;

<sup>690</sup> *Amorous of their chief*—ardently desiring their chief, viz. to lead them to battle.

<sup>690</sup> Iris.

The ports are all wide open set ; out rush'd the troops in swarms,  
Both horse and foot ; the city rung with sudden-cried alarms.

A column stands without the town that high his head doth raise,  
A little distant, in a plain trod down with divers ways, 720  
Which men do Batieia call, but the Immortals name  
Myrine's famous sepulchre, the wondrous active dame.  
Here were th' auxiliary bands, that came in Troy's defence,  
Distinguish'd under several guides of special excellence.

The duke of all the Trojan power great helm-deck'd Hector was, 725  
Which stood of many mighty men well skill'd in darts of brass.  
Æneas of commixed seed (a Goddess with a man,  
Anchises with the Queen of love) the troops Dardanian  
Led to the field ; his lovely sire in Ida's lower shade  
Begot him of sweet Cyprides ; he solely was not made 730  
Chief leader of the Dardan powers, Antenor's valiant sons,  
Archilochus and Acamas, were join'd companions.

Who in Zelia dwelt beneath the sacred foot of Ide,  
That drank of black Æsepus' stream, and wealth made full of pride,  
The Aphnii, Lycaon's son, whom Phœbus gave his bow, 735  
Prince Pandarus did lead to field. Who Adrestinus owe,  
Apesus' city, Pityæ, and mount Tereiës,  
Adrestus and stout Amphius led ; who did their sire displease,  
(Merops Percosius, that excell'd all Troy in heavenly skill  
Of futures-searching prophecy) for, much against his will, 740  
His sons were agents in those arms ; whom since they disobey'd,  
The fates, in letting slip their threads, their hasty valours stay'd.

Who in Percotes, Practius, Arisba, did abide,  
Who Sestus and Abydus bred, Hyrtacides did guide ;  
Prince Asius Hyrtacides, that, through great Selees' force, 745  
Brought from Arisba to that fight the great and fiery horse.

Pylæus, and Hippothous, the stout Pelasgians led,  
Of them Larissa's fruitful soil before had nourished ;

These were Pelasgian Pithus' sons, son of Teutamidas.

The Thracian guides were Pirous, and valiant Acamas, 750  
Of all that the impetuous flood of Hellespont enclos'd.

Euphemus, the Ciconian troops, in his command dispos'd,  
Who from Trœzenius-Ceades right nobly did descend.

Pyræchmes did the Pæons rule, that crooked bows do bend ;  
From Axius, out of Amydon, he had them in command, 755  
From Axius, whose most beauteous stream still overflows the land.

Pylæmen, with the well-arm'd heart, the Paphlagonians led,  
From Enes, where the race of mules fit for the plough is bred.  
The men that broad Cytorus' bounds, and Sesamus, enfold,  
About Parthenius' lofty flood, in houses much extoll'd, 760  
From Cromna and Ægialus, the men that arms did bear,  
And Erythinus situate high, Pylæmen's soldiers were.

Epistrophus and Dius did the Halizonians guide,  
Far-fetch'd from Alybe, where first the silver mines were tried.

Chromis, and augur Ennomus, the Mysians did command, 765  
Who could not with his auguries the strength of death withstand,  
But suffer'd it beneath the stroke of great Æacides,  
In Xanthus ; where he made more souls dive to the Stygian seas.

Phorcys, and fair Ascanius, the Phrygians brought to war,  
Well train'd for battle, and were come out of Ascania far. 770

With Methles, and with Antiphus, (Pylæmen's sons) did fight  
The men of Meïon, whom the fen Gygæa brought to light,  
And those Meïonians that beneath the mountain Tmolus sprung.

The rude unletter'd Caribæ, that barbarous were of tongue,  
Did under Nastes' colours march, and young Amphimachus, 775  
(Nomion's famous sons) to whom, the mountain Phthirorus  
That with the famous wood is crown'd, Miletus, Mycales  
That hath so many lofty marks for men that love the seas,  
The crooked arms Mæander bow'd with his so snaky flood,  
Resign'd for conduct the choice youth of all their martial brood. 780

The fool Amphimachus, to field, brought gold to be his wrack,  
Proud-girl-like that doth ever bear her dower upon her back,  
Which wise Achilles mark'd, slew him, and took his gold in strife,  
At Xanthus' flood ; so little Death did fear his golden life.

Sarpedon led the Lycians, and Glaucus unprov'd,  
From Lycia, and the gulfy flood of Xanthus far remov'd.

785

<sup>785</sup> *Unprov'd*—irreproachable.





## COMMENTARIUS.

72. Ἵτε ἔθνεα, &c. *Sicut examina prodeunt apum frequentium,*  
 &c. In this simile Virgil (using the like in imitation) is preferred to Homer; with what reason I pray you see. Their ends are different; Homer intending to express the infinite multitude of soldiers every where dispersing; Virgil, the diligence of builders. Virgil's simile is this: I. *Æneid*, 430.

“ Qualis apes æstate nova per florea rura  
 Exercet sub sole labor; cum gentis adultos  
 Educunt fœtus; aut cum liquentia mella  
 Stipant; et dulci distendunt nectare cellas;  
 Aut onera accipiunt venientum; aut agmine facto,  
 Ignavum fucos pecus a præsepibus arcent:  
 Fervet opus, redolentque thymo fragrantia mella.”

Now compare this with Homer's, but in my translation; and judge if, to both their ends, there be any such betterness in Virgil's but that the reverence of the scholar, due to the master (even in these his maligners) might well have contained their lame censures of the poetical fury from these unmannerly and hateful comparisons. Especially, since Virgil hath nothing of his own, but only elocution; his invention, matter, and form, being all Homer's; which laid by a man, that which he addeth is only the work of a woman, to netify and polish. Nor do I, alas, but the foremost rank of the most ancient and best learned that ever were, come to the field for Homer, hiding all other poets under his ensign. Hate not me then, but them, to whom, before my book, I refer you. But much the rather I insist on the former simile; for the word *ἰλαδὸν*, *cateruatim*, or *confertim*, which is noted by Spondanus to contain all the *ἀπόδοσις*, reddition, or application of the comparison, and is nothing so.

For though it be all the reddition Homer expresseth, yet he intends two special parts in the application more, which he leaves to his judicial reader's understanding, as he doth in all his other similes; since a man may pervially (or, as he passeth) discern all that is to be understood. And here, besides their throngs of soldiers expressed in the swarms of bees, he intimates the infinite number in those throngs or companies, issuing from fleet so ceaselessly that there appeared almost no end of their issue; and thirdly, the every where dispersing themselves. But Spondanus would excuse Homer for expressing no more of his application, with affirming it impossible that the thing compared, and the comparison, should answer in all parts; and therefore alleges the vulgar understanding of a simile, which is as gross as it is vulgar, that a similitude must *uno pede semper claudicare*. His reason for it is as absurd as the rest; which is this, *Si ea inter se omnino responderent, falleret illud axioma, nullum simile est idem*; as though the general application of the compared and the comparison would make them any thing more the same, or all one; more than the swarms of bees and the throng of soldiers are all one or the same; for answering most aptly. But that a simile must needs halt of one foot still showeth how lame vulgar tradition is, especially in her censure of poesy. For who at first sight will not conceive it absurd to make a simile, which serves to the illustration and ornament of a poem, lame of a foot, and idle? The incredible violence suffered by Homer in all the rest of his most inimitable similes, being expressed in his place, will abundantly prove the stupidity of this tradition, and how injuriously short his interpreters must needs come of him in his strait and deep places, when in his open and fair passages they halt and hang back so.

275. Τὸν μὲν ἀρίζηλον θῆκεν Θεὸς, &c., *hunc quidem clarum* (or *illustrem*) *fecit Deus*, as it is by all translated; wherein I note the strange abuse (as I apprehend it) of the word ἀρίζηλος, beginning here, and continuing wheresoever it is found in these Iliads. It is by the transition of ζ into δ in derivation, according to the Doric; for which cause our interpreters will needs have Homer intend ἀρίδηλος, which is *clarus*

or *illustris*, when he himself saith ἀρίζηλος, which is a compound of ἀρι, which is *valde*, and ζήλος, and signifies *quem valde æmulamur*, or *valde æmulandus*, according to Scapula. But because ζήλος is most authentically expounded, *impetus mentis ad cultum divinum*, that exposition I follow in this place, and expound τὸν μὲν ἀρίζηλον θῆκεν Θεὸς *hunc quidem magnum impulsum ad cultum divinum fecit Deus*; because he turned so suddenly and miraculously the dragon to a stone. To make it ἀρίδηλον, and say *clarum* or *illustrem fecit Deus qui ostendit*, or *ostenderit*, which follows in the verse, and saith thus much in our tongue, *God that showed this, made it clear*, is very little more than, *God that showed this, showed it*. One way it observes the word (betwixt which, and the other, you see what great difference) and is fair, full, grave; the other alters the original, and is ugly, empty, idle.

355. Αὐτόματος δὲ οἱ ἦλθε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος, &c. *Spontaneus autem ei venit voce bonus Menelaus*; and some say *bello strenuus Menelaus*, which is far estranged from the mind of our Homer, βοὴ signifying *vociferatio*, or *clamor*, though some will have it *pugna*, *ex consequenti*, because fights are often made with clamour. But in *bello strenuus* (unless it be ironically taken) is here strained beyond sufferance, and is to be expounded *vociferatione bonus Menelaus*; which agreeth with that part of his character in the next book, that telleth his manner of utterance or voice, which is μαλὰ λιγέως, *valde stridulè*, or *arguto cum stridore*, λιγέως being commonly and most properly taken in the worse part, and signifieth *shrilly*, or *noisefully*, *squeaking*; howsoever in the vulgar conversion it is in that place most grossly abused. To the consideration whereof, being of much importance, I refer you in his place, and in the mean time show you, that, in this first and next verse, Homer (speaking scoptically) breaks open the fountain of his ridiculous humour following, never by any interpreter understood, or touched at, being yet the most ingenious conceited person that any man can show in any heroical poem, or in any comic poet. And that you may something perceive him before you read to him in his several places, I will, as I can in haste, give you him here together as Homer at all parts presents

him ; viz. simple, well-meaning, standing still affectedly on telling truth, small, and shrill voice, (not sweet, or eloquent, as some most against the hair would have him) short spoken, after his country the Laconical manner, yet speaking thick and fast, industrious in the field, and willing to be employed, and (being *mollis bellator* himself) set still to call to every hard service the hardest ; even by the wit of Ajax played upon, about whom he would still be diligent, and what he wanted of the martial fury and faculty himself, that he would be bold to supply out of Ajax ; Ajax and he, to any for blows ; Antilochus and he for wit ; (Antilochus old Nestor's son, a most ingenious, valiant, and excellently formed person) ; sometimes valiant, or daring (as what coward is not ?) sometimes falling upon sentence and good matter in his speeches (as what meanest capacity doth not ?). Nor useth our most inimitable imitator of nature this cross and deformed mixture of his parts, more to colour and avoid too broad a taxation of so eminent a person, than to follow the true life of nature, being often, or always, expressed so disparent in her creatures. And therefore the decorum that some poor critics have stood upon, to make fools always foolish, cowards at all times cowardly, &c., is far from the variant order of nature, whose principle being contrary, her productions must needs contain the like opposition.

But now to the first ; *αὐτόματος δὲ οἱ ἦλθε*, &c., *spontaneus autem ei venit*, &c., about which a passing great piece of work is picked out by our greatest philosophers, touching the unbidden coming of Menelaus to supper or council, which some commend, others condemn in him ; but the reason why he staid not the invitement, rendered immediately by Homer, none of them will understand, viz. Ἡδὲε γὰρ κατὰ θυμὸν &c., *sciebat enim in animo quantum frater laborabat* ; of which verse his interpreters cry out for the expunction, only because it was never entered in their apprehension, which I more then admire (for the easiness of it) so freely offering itself to their entertainment, and yet using the hoof of Pegasus, only with a touch breaking open (as above said) the fountain of his humour. For thus I expound it (laying all again together, to make it plain enough for you) ; Agamemnon, inviting all the chief



commanders to supper, left out his brother ; but he, seeing how much his brother was troubled about the dream, and busied, would not stand upon invitement, but came of himself. And this being spoken *scopticè*, or by way of irrision, argueth what manner of man he made of him. *Ineptus enim* (as it is affirmed in Plutarch, 1. Symp. and second question) *fuit Menelaus, et locum dedit proverbio, qui ad consilium dandum accessisset non vocatus.* And to this place he had reference, because a council of war was to be held at this supper. And here, I say, Homer opened the vein of his simplicity, not so much in his going unbidden to supper, and council, as in the reason for it ironically rendered, that he knew his brother was busy, &c. And yet that addition, without which the very sense of our poet is not safe, our interpreters would have rased.

THE END OF THE SECOND BOOK.



## THE THIRD BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

PARIS, betwixt the hosts, to single fight,  
Of all the Greeks, dares the most hardy knight.  
King Menelaus doth accept his brave,\*  
Conditioning that he again should have  
Fair Helena, with all she brought to Troy,  
If he subdu'd; else Paris should enjoy  
Her, and her wealth, in peace. Conquest doth grant  
Her dear wreath to the Grecian combatant; †  
But Venus to her champion's life doth yield  
Safe rescue, and conveys him from the field  
Into his chamber, and for Helen sends,  
Whom much her lover's foul disgrace offends;  
Yet Venus still for him makes good her charms,  
And ends the second combat in his arms.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Gamma the single fight doth sing  
'Twixt Paris and the Spartan king.



WHEN every least commander's will best soldiers had obey'd,  
And both the hosts were rang'd for fight, the Trojans  
would have fray'd  
The Greeks with noises, crying out, in coming rudely on  
At all parts, like the cranes that fill with harsh confusion

\* *His brave*—bravado, boasting speech, or challenge. A very frequent word.

† *Her dear wreath*—the wreath, or victor's crown, the sign of conquest. Here put for Helen herself.

Of brutish clanges all the air, and in ridiculous war 5  
 (Eschewing the unsuffer'd storms shot from the winter's star)  
 Visit the ocean, and confer the Pygmei soldiers death.  
 The Greeks charg'd silent, and, like men, bestow'd their thrifty breath  
 In strength of far-resounding blows, still entertaining care  
 Of either's rescue, when their strength did their engagements dare. 10  
 And as, upon a hill's steep top, the south wind pours a cloud,  
 To shepherds thankless, but by thieves, that love the night, allow'd,  
 A darkness letting down, that blinds a stone's cast off men's eyes :  
 Such darkness from the Greeks' swift feet (made all of dust) did rise.  
 But, ere stern conflict mix'd both strengths, fair Paris stept before 15  
 The Trojan host ; athwart his back a panther's hide he wore,  
 A crooked bow, and sword, and shook two brazen-headed darts,  
 With which well arm'd, his tongue provok'd the best of Grecian hearts  
 To stand with him in single fight. Whom when the man, wrong'd most  
 Of all the Greeks, so gloriously saw stalk before the host ; 20  
 As when a lion is rejoic'd, with hunger half forlorn,  
 That finds some sweet prey, as a hart, whose grace lies in his horn,  
 Or sylvan goat, which he devours, though never so pursu'd  
 With dogs and men ; so Sparta's king exulted, when he view'd  
 The fair-faced Paris so expos'd to his so thirsted wreak, 25  
 Whereof his good cause made him sure. The Grecian front did break,  
 And forth he rush'd, at all parts arm'd, leapt from his chariot,  
 And royally prepar'd for charge. Which seen, cold terror shot

<sup>5</sup> *Clanges*—so both the folios. Dr. Taylor has printed *clangour*. I have retained the old reading, as Chapman probably meant it for the plural of *clange* or *clang*.

<sup>6</sup> *Unsuffer'd*—insufferable.

<sup>7</sup> *Pygmei*—Pygmy, the battle of the Cranes and Pygmies.

<sup>12</sup> *Thankless*—not liked by, not grateful to.

<sup>12</sup> *Allow'd*—liked by, approved of.

“ O heavens

If you do love old men, if your sweet sway

Allow obedience.”—SHAKESPEARE. *Lear*, II. 4.

<sup>13</sup> *That blinds a stone's cast off men's eyes*—that prevents one seeing beyond a stone's throw.

<sup>25</sup> *So thirsted wreak*—so desired revenge.

The heart of Paris, who retir'd as headlong from the king  
 As in him he had shunn'd his death ; and as a hilly spring 30  
 Presents a serpent to a man, full underneath his feet,  
 Her blue neck, swoln with poison, rais'd, and her sting out, to greet  
 His heedless entry, suddenly his walk he altereth,  
 Starts back amaz'd, is shook with fear, and looks as pale as death ;  
 So Menelaus Paris scar'd ; so that divine-fac'd foe 35  
 Shrunk in his beauties. Which beheld by Hector, he let go  
 This bitter check at him : " Accurs'd, made but in beauty's scorn,  
 Impostor, woman's man ! O heaven, that thou hadst ne'er been born,  
 Or, being so manless, never liv'd to bear man's noblest state,  
 The nuptial honour ! Which I wish, because it were a fate 40  
 Much better for thee than this shame. This spectacle doth make  
 A man a monster. Hark ! how loud the Greeks laugh, who did take  
 Thy fair form for a continent of parts as fair. A rape  
 Thou mad'st of nature, like their queen. No soul, an empty shape,  
 Takes up thy being ; yet how spite to every shade of good 45  
 Fills it with ill, for, as thou art, thou couldst collect a brood  
 Of others like thee, and far hence fetch ill enough to us,  
 Even to thy father ; all these friends make those foes mock them thus  
 In thee, for whose ridiculous sake, so seriously they lay  
 All Greece, and fate, upon their necks. O wretch ! Not dare to stay 50  
 Weak Menelaus ? But 'twas well ; for in him thou hadst tried  
 What strength lost beauty can infuse, and with the more grief died,  
 To feel thou robb'st a worthier man, to wrong a soldier's right.  
 Your harp's sweet touch, curl'd locks, fine shape, and gifts so exquisite,  
 Given thee by Venus, would have done your fine dames little good, 55  
 When blood and dust had ruffled them, and had as little stood  
 Thyselves in stead ; but what thy care of all these in thee flies  
 We should inflict on thee ourselves. Infectious cowardice

<sup>42</sup> *Monster*—Dr. Taylor observes this is used here in its primitive sense, " a thing to be gazed at."

<sup>47</sup> Dr. Taylor, following the second folio, has incorrectly printed "*fetched*."



In thee hath terrified our host ; for which thou well deserv'st  
 A coat of tombstone, not of steel in which for form thou serv'st." 60  
 To this thus Paris spake, (for form, that might inhabit heaven)  
 " Hector, because thy sharp reproof is out of justice given,  
 I take it well ; but though thy heart, inur'd to these affrights,  
 Cuts through them as an axe through oak, that more us'd more excites  
 The workman's faculty, whose art can make the edge go far, 65  
 Yet I, less practis'd than thyself in these extremes of war,  
 May well be pardon'd, though less bold ; in these your worth exceeds,  
 In others mine. Nor is my mind of less force to the deeds  
 Requir'd in war, because my form more flows in gifts of peace.  
 Reproach not therefore the kind gifts of golden Cyprides. 70  
 All heaven's gifts have their worthy price ; as little to be scorn'd  
 As to be won with strength, wealth, state ; with which, to be adorn'd,  
 Somemen would changestate, wealth, or strength. But if your martial heart  
 Wish me to make my challenge good, and hold it such a part  
 Of shame to give it over thus, cause all the rest to rest, 75  
 And, 'twixt both hosts, let Sparta's king and me perform our best  
 For Helen and the wealth she brought ; and he that overcomes,  
 Or proves superior any way, in all your equal dooms,  
 Let him enjoy her utmost wealth, keep her, or take her home ;  
 The rest strike leagues of endless date, and hearty friends become ; 80  
 You dwelling safe in gleby Troy, and Greeks retire their force  
 T' Achaia, that breeds fairest dames, and Argos, fairest horse."

He said, and his amendsful words did Hector highly please,  
 Who rush'd betwixt the fighting hosts, and made the Trojans cease,  
 By holding up in midst his lance. The Grecians noted not 85  
 The signal he for parley used, but at him fiercely shot,  
 Hurl'd stones, and still were levelling darts. At last the king of men,  
 Great Agamemnon, cried aloud : " Argives ! for shame, contain ;

<sup>60</sup> *A coat of tombstone.*—The expression *to put on a coat of stone* was a Greek mode of speaking of those who were *stoned*. Similarly *to put on the earth* (γαῖαν ἐπέσασθαι) was a term for *burial*.

<sup>78</sup> *Equal dooms*—just decisions, judgments.

Youths of Achaia, shoot no more ; the fair-helm'd Hector shows  
 As he desir'd to treat with us." This said, all ceas'd from blows, 90  
 And Hector spake to both the hosts : " Trojans, and hardy Greeks,  
 Hear now what he that stirr'd these wars for their cessation seeks.  
 He bids us all, and you, disarm, that he alone may fight  
 With Menelaus, for us all, for Helen and her right,  
 With all the dow'r she brought to Troy ; and he that wins the day, 95  
 Or is in all the art of arms superior any way,  
 The queen, and all her sorts of wealth, let him at will enjoy ;  
 The rest strike truce, and let loveseal firm leagues 'twixt Greece and Troy."

The Greek host wonder'd at this brave ; silence flew everywhere ;  
 At last spake Sparta's warlike king : " Now also give me ear, 100  
 Whom grief gives most cause of reply. I now have hope to free  
 The Greeks and Trojans of all ills they have sustain'd for me,  
 And Alexander, that was cause I stretch'd my spleen so far.  
 Of both then, which is nearest fate, let his death end the war ;  
 The rest immediately retire, and greet all homes in peace. 105  
 Go then (to bless your champion, and give his powers success)  
 Fetch for the Earth, and for the Sun (the Gods on whom ye call)  
 Two lambs, a black one and a white, a female and a male ;  
 And we another for ourselves will fetch, and kill to Jove.  
 To sign which rites bring Priam's force, because we well approve 110  
 His sons perfidious, envious, and, out of practis'd bane  
 To faith, when she believes in them, Jove's high truce may profane.  
 All young men's hearts are still unstead ; but in those well-weigh'd deeds  
 An old man will consent to pass things past, and what succeeds  
 He looks into, that he may know how best to make his way 115  
 Through both the fortunes of a fact, and will the worst obey."

This granted, a delightful hope both Greeks and Trojans fed  
 Of long'd-for rest from those long toils their tedious war had bred.  
 Their horses then in rank they set, drawn from their chariots round,  
 Descend themselves, took off their arms, and plac'd them on the ground,

<sup>103</sup> *Alexander*—Paris.

<sup>110</sup> *Priam's force*—see Bk. II. 587.

Near one another ; for the space 'twixt both the hosts was small. 121  
 Hector two heralds sent to Troy, that they from thence might call  
 King Priam, and to bring the lambs, to rate the truce they swore.  
 But Agamemnon to the fleet Talthybius sent before,  
 To fetch their lamb, who nothing slackt the royal charge was given.

Iris, the rainbow, then came down, ambassadress from heaven, 126  
 To white-arm'd Helen. She assum'd at every part the grace  
 Of Helen's last love's sister's shape, who had the highest place  
 In Helen's love, and had to name Laodice, most fair  
 Of all the daughters Priam had, and made the nuptial pair 130  
 With Helicaon, royal sprout of old Antenor's seed.

She found queen Helena at home, at work about a weed,  
 Wov'n for herself ; it shin'd like fire, was rich, and full of size,  
 The work of both sides being alike ; in which she did comprise  
 The many labours warlike Troy and brass-arm'd Greece endur'd 135  
 For her fair sake, by cruel Mars and his stern friends procur'd.  
 Iris came in in joyful haste, and said : " O come with me,  
 Lov'd nymph, and an admired sight of Greeks and Trojans see,  
 Who first on one another brought a war so full of tears,  
 Even thirsty of contentious war. Now every man forbears, 140  
 And friendly by each other sits, each leaning on his shield,  
 Their long and shining lances pitch'd fast by them in the field.  
 Paris, and Sparta's king, alone must take up all the strife ;  
 And he that conquers only call fair Helena his wife."

Thus spake the thousand-colour'd Dame, and to her mind commends  
 The joy to see her first espous'd, her native tow'rs, and friends ; 146  
 Which stirr'd a sweet desire in her, to serve the which she hied,  
 Shadow'd her graces with white veils, and (though she took a pride  
 To set her thoughts at gaze, and see, in her clear beauty's flood,  
 What choice of glory swum to her yet tender womanhood) 150  
 Season'd with tears her joys to see more joys the more offence,  
 And that perfection could not flow from earthly excellence.

<sup>123</sup> *Rate*—see Bk. I. 508.

<sup>128</sup> *Helen's last love's sister*—Paris's sister.

Thus went she forth, and took with her her women most of name,  
 Æthra, Pitthëus' lovely birth, and Clymene, whom fame  
 Hath for her fair eyes memoris'd. They reach'd the Scæan tow'rs,  
 Where Priam sat, to see the fight, with all his counsellors ; 156  
 Panthous, Lampus, Clytius, and stout Hicetaon,  
 Thymœtes, wise Antenor, and profound Ucalegon ;  
 All grave old men ; and soldiers they had been, but for age  
 Now left the wars ; yet counsellors they were exceeding sage. 160  
 And as in well grown woods, on trees, cold spiny grasshoppers  
 Sit chirping, and send voices out that scarce can pierce our ears  
 For softness, and their weak faint sounds ; so, talking on the tow'r,  
 These seniors of the people sat ; who when they saw the pow'r  
 Of beauty, in the queen, ascend, even those cold-spirited peers, 165  
 Those wise and almost wither'd men, found this heat in their years  
 That they were forc'd (though whispering) to say : " What man can  
 blame

The Greeks and Trojans to endure, for so admir'd a dame,  
 So many miseries, and so long ? In her sweet countenance shine  
 Looks like the Goddesses. And yet (though never so divine) 170  
 Before we boast, unjustly still, of her enforced prise,  
 And justly suffer for her sake, with all our progenies,  
 Labour and ruin, let her go ; the profit of our land  
 Must pass the beauty." Thus, though these could bear so fit a hand  
 On their affections, yet, when all their gravest powers were us'd, 175  
 They could not choose but welcome her, and rather they accus'd  
 The Gods than beauty, for thus spake the most fam'd king of Troy :  
 " Come, loved daughter, sit by me, and take the worthy joy  
 Of thy first husband's sight, old friends, and princes near allied,  
 And name me some of these brave Greeks, so manly beautified. 180  
 Come, do not think I lay the wars endur'd by us on thee,  
 The Gods have sent them, and the tears in which they swum to me.

<sup>161</sup> *Spiny*.—Nares says he never met with this word. *Thin, thorny-looking*. It is peculiarly expressive here.



Sit then, and name this goodly Greek, so tall, and broadly spread,  
 Who than the rest, that stand by him, is higher by the head ;  
 The bravest man I ever saw, and most majestic, 185  
 His only presence makes me think him king amongst them all."

The fairest of her sex replied : " Most reverend father-in-law,  
 Most lov'd, most fear'd, would some ill death had seiz'd me, when I saw  
 The first mean why I wrong'd you thus ; that I had never lost  
 The sight of these my ancient friends, of him that lov'd me most, 190  
 Of my sole daughter, brothers both, with all those kindly mates,  
 Of one soil, one age, born with me, though under different fates !  
 But these boons envious stars deny ; the memory of these  
 In sorrow pines those beauties now that then did too much please ;  
 Nor satisfy they your demand, to which I thus reply : 195  
 That's Agamemnon, Atreus' son, the great in empery ;  
 A king, whom double royalty doth crown, being great and good,  
 And one that was my brother-in-law, when I contain'd my blood,  
 And was more worthy ; if at all I might be said to be,  
 My being being lost so soon in all that honour'd me." 200

The good old king admir'd, and said : " O Atreus' blessed son,  
 Born unto joyful destinies, that hast the empire won  
 Of such a world of Grecian youths as I discover here,  
 I once march'd into Phrygia, that many vines doth bear,  
 Where many Phrygians I beheld, well skill'd in use of horse, 205  
 That of the two men, like two Gods, were the commanded force,  
 Otrëus, and great Mygdonus, who on Sangarius' sands  
 Set down their tents, with whom myself, for my assistant bands,  
 Was number'd as a man in chief ; the cause of war was then  
 Th' Amazon dames, that in their facts affected to be men. 210  
 In all there was a mighty pow'r, which yet did never rise  
 To equal these Achaian youths that have the sable eyes."

<sup>186</sup> *Only presence*—his mere appearance.

<sup>194</sup> *Pines*—causes to pine.

<sup>198</sup> *Contained my blood*—restrained my passions.

Then (seeing Ulysses next) he said: " Lov'd daughter, what is he  
 That, lower than great Atreus' son, seems by the head to me,  
 Yet, in his shoulders and big breast, presents a broader show? 215  
 His armour lies upon the earth; he up and down doth go,  
 To see his soldiers keep their ranks, and ready have their arms,  
 If, in this truce, they should be tried by any false alarms.  
 Much like a well-grown bell-wether, or feltred ram, he shows,  
 That walks before a wealthy flock of fair white-fleeced ewes." 220

High Jove and Leda's fairest seed to Priam thus replies:  
 " This is the old Laertes' son, Ulysses, call'd the wise;  
 Who, though unfruitful Ithaca was made his nursing seat,  
 Yet knows he every sort of sleight, and is in counsels great."

The wise Antenor answer'd her: " 'Tis true, renowned dame, 225  
 For, some times past, wise Ithacus to Troy a legate came,  
 With Menelaus, for your cause; to whom I gave receipt  
 As guests, and welcom'd to my house, with all the love I might.  
 I learn'd the wisdoms of their souls, and humours of their blood;  
 For when the Trojan council met, and these together stood, 230  
 By height of his broad shoulders had Atrides eminence,  
 Yet, set, Ulysses did exceed, and bred more reverence.  
 And when their counsels and their words they wove in one, the speech  
 Of Atreus' son was passing loud, small, fast, yet did not reach  
 To much, being naturally born Laconical, nor would 235  
 His humour lie for anything, or was, like th' other, old;  
 But when the prudent Ithacus did to his counsels rise,  
 He stood a little still, and fix'd upon the earth his eyes,  
 His sceptre moving neither way, but held it formally,  
 Like one that vainly doth affect. Of wrathful quality, 240  
 And frantic (rashly judging him) you would have said he was,  
 But when out of his ample breast he gave his great voice pass,

<sup>219</sup> *Feltred*—matted close together, like *felt*; applied to the wool.

<sup>229</sup> *Blood*—disposition, a sense in which it is used by Shakespeare and others.

And words that flew about our ears like drifts of winter's snow,  
Nonethenceforth might contend with him, though nought admir'd for show."

The third man, aged Priam mark'd, was Ajax Telamon, 245  
Of whom he ask'd: "What lord is that, so large of limb and bone,  
So rais'd in height, that to his breast I see there reacheth none?"

To him the Goddess of her sex, the large-veil'd Helen, said:  
"That lord is Ajax Telamon, a bulwark in their aid.

On th' other side stands Idomen, in Crete of most command, 250  
And round about his royal sides his Cretan captains stand;  
Oft hath the warlike Spartan king given hospitable due  
To him within our Lacene court, and all his retinue.

And now the other Achive dukes I generally discern;  
All which I know, and all their names could make thee quickly learn.  
Two princes of the people yet I nowhere can behold, 256  
Castor, the skilful knight on horse, and Pollux, uncontroll'd  
For all stand-fights, and force of hand; both at a burthen bred;  
My natural brothers; either here they have not followed  
From lovely Sparta, or, arriv'd within the sea-born fleet, 260  
In fear of infamy for me in broad field shame to meet."

Nor so; for holy Tellus' womb inclos'd those worthy men  
In Sparta, their beloved soil. The voiceful heralds then  
The firm agreement of the Gods through all the city ring,  
Two lambs, and spirit-refreshing wine (the fruit of earth) they bring,  
Within a goat-skin bottle clos'd; Idæus also brought 266  
A massy glittering bowl, and cups, that all of gold were wrought;  
Which bearing to the king, they cried: "Son of Laomedon  
Rise, for the well-rode peers of Troy, and brass-arm'd Greeks, in one,  
Send to thee to descend the field, that they firm vows may make; 270  
For Paris, and the Spartan king, must fight for Helen's sake,  
With long arm'd lances; and the man that proves victorious,  
The woman, and the wealth she brought, shall follow to his house;

<sup>259</sup> *Natural*—by the same father and mother.

The rest knit friendship, and firm leagues ; we safe in Troy shall dwell,  
In Argos and Achaia they, that do in dames excel." 275

He said ; and Priam's aged joints with chilled fear did shake,  
Yet instantly he bade his men his chariot ready make.  
Which soon they did, and he ascends. He takes the reins, and guide  
Antenor calls ; who instantly mounts to his royal side,  
And, through the Scæan ports to field, the swift-foot horse they drive.  
And when at them of Troy and Greece the aged lords arrive, 281  
From horse, on Troy's well-feeding soil, 'twixt both the hosts they go.  
When straight up rose the king of men, up rose Ulysses too,  
The heralds in their richest coats repeat (as was the guise)  
The true vows of the Gods (term'd theirs, since made before their eyes)  
Then in a cup of gold they mix the wine that each side brings, 286  
And next pour water on the hands of both the kings of kings.  
Which done, Atrides drew his knife, that evermore he put  
Within the large sheath of his sword, with which away he cut  
The wool from both fronts of the lambs, which (as a rite in use 290  
Of exeration to their heads that brake the plighted truce)  
The heralds of both hosts did give the peers of both ; and then,  
With hands and voice advanc'd to heav'n, thus pray'd the king of men :  
" O Jove, that Ida dost protect, and hast the titles won  
Most glorious, most invincible ; and thou all-seeing Sun, 295  
All-hearing, all re-comforting ; Floods ; Earth ; and Powers beneath,  
Tha' all the perjuries of men chastise even after death !  
Be witnesses, and see perform'd the hearty vows we make.—  
If Alexander shall the life of Menelaus take,  
He shall from henceforth Helena, with all her wealth, retain, 300  
And we will to our household Gods, hoise sail, and home again.  
If by my honour'd brother's hand be Alexander slain,  
The Trojans then shall his forc'd queen with all her wealth restore,  
And pay convenient fine to us, and ours for evermore.  
If Iriam and his sons deny to pay this, thus agreed, 305  
When Alexander shall be slain, for that perfidious deed,



And for the fine, will I fight here, till dearly they repay,  
By death and ruin, the amends that falsehood keeps away."

This said, the throats of both the lambs cut with his royal knife,  
He laid them panting on the earth, till, quite depriv'd of life, 310  
The steel had robb'd them of their strength; then golden cups they crown'd  
With wine out of a cistern drawn; which pour'd upon the ground,  
They fell upon their humble knees to all the Deities,  
And thus pray'd one of both the hosts that might do sacrifice:

"O Jupiter, most high, most great, and all the deathless Powers!  
Who first shall dare to violate the late sworn oaths of ours, 316  
So let the bloods and brains of them, and all they shall produce,  
Flow on the stain'd face of the earth, as now this sacred juice;  
And let their wives with bastardice brand all their future race."  
Thus pray'd they; but with wish'd effects their pray'rs Jove did not grace;  
When Priam said: "Lords of both hosts, I can no longer stay 321  
To see my lov'd son try his life, and so must take my way  
To wind-exposed Ilium. Jove yet and heaven's high States  
Know only which of these must now pay tribute to the Fates."

Thus, putting in his coach the lambs, he mounts and reins his horse;  
Antenor to him; and to Troy both take their speedy course. 326

Then Hector, Priam's martial son, stepp'd forth, and met the ground,  
With wise Ulysses, where the blows of combat must resound;  
Which done, into a helm they put two lots, to let them know  
Which of the combatants should first his brass-pil'd javelin throw; 330  
When all the people standing by, with hands held up to heaven,  
Pray'd Jove the conquest might not be by force or fortune given,  
But that the man, who was in right the author of most wrong,  
Might feel his justice, and no more these tedious wars prolong,  
But, sinking to the house of death, leave them (as long before) 335  
Link'd fast in leagues of amity that might dissolve no more.

Then Hector shook the helm that held the equal dooms of chance,  
Look'd back, and drew; and Paris first had lot to hurl his lance.

<sup>327</sup> *Met*—meted, measured.

<sup>330</sup> *Brass-piled*—brass-pointed.

The soldiers all sat down enrank'd, each by his arms and horse 339  
 That then lay down and cool'd their hoofs. And now th' allotted course  
 Bids fair-hair'd Helen's husband arm; who first makes fast his greaves  
 With silver buckles to his legs; then on his breast receives  
 The curets that Lycaon wore (his brother) but made fit  
 For his fair body; next his sword he took, and fasten'd it,  
 All damask'd, underneath his arm; his shield then grave and great 345  
 His shoulders wore; and on his head his glorious helm he set,  
 Topp'd with a plume of horse's hair, that horribly did dance,  
 And seem'd to threaten as he mov'd; at last he takes his lance,  
 Exceeding big, and full of weight, which he with ease could use.

In like sort, Sparta's warlike king himself with arms indues. 350  
 Thus arm'd at either army both, they both stood bravely in,  
 Possessing both hosts with amaze, they came so chin to chin,  
 And, with such horrible aspects, each other did salute.

A fair large field was made for them, where wraths, for hugeness mute,  
 And mutual, made them mutually at either shake their darts 355  
 Before they threw. Then Paris first with his long javelin parts;  
 It smote Atrides' orby targe, but ran not through the brass,  
 For in it (arming well the shield) the head reflected was.

Then did the second combatant apply him to his spear,  
 Which ere he threw, he thus besought almighty Jupiter: 360

“ O Jove! Vouchsafe me now revenge, and that my enemy,  
 For doing wrong so undeserv'd, may pay deservedly  
 The pains he forfeited; and let these hands inflict those pains,  
 By conquering, ay, by conquering dead, him on whom life complains;  
 That any now, or any one of all the brood of men 365  
 To live hereafter, may with fear from all offence abstain,  
 Much more from all such foul offence to him that was his host,  
 And entertain'd him as the man whom he affected most.”

<sup>343</sup> *Curets*—cuirass. Sometimes spelt *curace*, *curat*, and *curiet*.

<sup>345</sup> *Damask'd*—inlaid.

<sup>358</sup> *Reflected*—turned back.

This said, he shook and threw his lance ; which struck through Paris' shield,  
 And, with the strength he gave to it, it made the currets yield, 370  
 His coat of mail, his breast, and all, and drove his entrails in,  
 In that low region where the guts in three small parts begin ;  
 Yet he, in bowing of his breast, prevented sable death.  
 This taint he follow'd with his sword, drawn from a silver sheath,  
 Which lifting high, he struck his helm full where his plume did stand,  
 On which it piecemeal brake, and fell from his unhappy hand. 376  
 At which he sighing stood, and star'd upon the ample sky,  
 And said : " O Jove, there is no God given more illiberally  
 To those that serve thee than thyself, why have I pray'd in vain ?  
 I hop'd my hand should have reveng'd the wrongs I still sustain 380  
 On him that did them, and still dares their foul defence pursue,  
 And now my lance hath miss'd his end, my sword in shivers flew,  
 And he 'scapes all." With this, again he rush'd upon his guest,  
 And caught him by the horse-hair plume that dangled on his crest,  
 With thought to drag him to the Greeks, which he had surely done, 385  
 And so, besides the victory, had wondrous glory won,  
 Because the needle-painted lace, with which his helm was tied  
 Beneath his chin, and so about his dainty throat implied,  
 Had strangled him but that, in time, the Cyprian seed of Jove  
 Did break the string, with which was lin'd that which the needle wove,  
 And was the tough thong of a steer, and so the victor's palm 391  
 Was, for so full a man-at-arms, only an empty helm.  
 That then he swung about his head, and cast among his friends,  
 Who scrambled, and took 't up with shouts. Again then he intends  
 To force the life-blood of his foe, and ran on him amain, 395  
 With shaken javelin ; when the Queen, that lovers loves, again

<sup>374</sup> *Taint*—a term at tilting, when the blow, or thrust, given by the lance, failed in its effect. Halliwell explains it "injuring a lance without breaking it;" Gifford, "breaking a staff, but not in the most honourable manner." Chapman however frequently uses it to express simply a thrust with a spear.

<sup>395</sup> *When the Queen, &c.*—"This place Virgil imitateth."—CHAPMAN.

Attended, and now ravish'd him from that encounter quite,  
 With ease, and wondrous suddenly, for she, a Goddess, might.  
 She hid him in a cloud of gold, and never made him known  
 Till in his chamber, fresh and sweet, she gently set him down, 400  
 And went for Helen, whom she found in Scæa's utmost height,  
 To which whole swarms of city dames had climb'd to see the sight.

To give her errand good success, she took on her the shape  
 Of beldame Græa, who was brought by Helen, in her rape,  
 From Lacedæmon, and had trust in all her secrets still, 405  
 Being old, and had (of all her maids) the main bent of her will,  
 And spun for her her finest wool. Like her, Love's Empress came,  
 Pull'd Helen by the heavenly veil, and softly said: "Madame,  
 My lord calls for you, you must needs make all your kind haste home;  
 He's in your chamber, stays, and longs; sits by your bed; pray come,  
 'Tis richly made, and sweet; but he more sweet, and looks so clear, 411  
 So fresh, and movingly attir'd, that, seeing, you would swear  
 He came not from the dusty fight, but from a courtly dance,  
 Or would to dancing." This she made a charm for dalliance;  
 Whose virtue Helen felt, and knew, by her so radiant eyes, 415  
 White neck, and most enticing breasts, the deified disguise.

At which amaz'd, she answer'd her: "Unhappy Deity!  
 Why lov'st thou still in these deceits to wrap my phantasy?  
 Or whither yet, of all the towns given to their lust beside,  
 In Phrygia, or Mæonia, com'st thou to be my guide, 420  
 If there (of divers languag'd men) thou hast, as here in Troy,  
 Some other friend to be my shame, since here thy latest joy  
 By Menelaus now subdu'd, by him shall I be borne  
 Home to his court, and end my life in triumphs of his scorn?  
 And, to this end, would thy deceits my wanton life allure? 425  
 Hence, go thyself to Priam's son, and all the ways abjure  
 Of Gods, or godlike-minded dames, nor ever turn again  
 Thy earth-affecting feet to heaven, but for his sake sustain

<sup>404</sup> *Beldame*—formerly a term of respect for an old woman.



Toils here ; guard, grace him endlessly, till he requite thy grace  
 By giving thee my place with him ; or take his servant's place, 430  
 If, all dishonourable ways, your favours seek to serve  
 His never-pleas'd incontinence ; I better will deserve,  
 Than serve his dotage now. What shame were it for me to feed  
 This lust in him ; all honour'd dames would hate me for the deed ;  
 He leaves a woman's love so sham'd, and shows so base a mind 435  
 To feel nor my shame nor his own ; griefs of a greater kind  
 Wound me than such as can admit such kind delights so soon."

The Goddess, angry that, past shame, her mere will was not done,  
 Replied : " Incense me not, you wretch, lest, once incens'd, I leave  
 Thy curs'd life to as strange a hate, as yet it may receive 440  
 A love from me ; and lest I spread through both hosts such despite,  
 For those plagues they have felt for thee, that both abjure thee quite,  
 And setting thee in midst of both, turn all their wraths on thee,  
 And dart thee dead ; that such a death may wreak thy wrong of me."

This struck the fair dame with such fear it took her speech away, 445  
 And, shadow'd in her snowy veil, she durst not but obey ;  
 And yet, to shun the shame she fear'd, she vanish'd undescried  
 Of all the Trojan ladies there, for Venus was her guide.

Arriv'd at home, her women both fell to their work in haste ;  
 When she that was of all her sex the most divinely grac'd 450  
 Ascended to a higher room, though much against her will,  
 Where lovely Alexander was, being led by Venus still.

The Laughter-loving Dame discern'd her mov'd mind by her grace,  
 And, for her mirth' sake, set a stool, full before Paris' face,  
 Where she would needs have Helen sit ; who, though she durst not  
 choose

But sit, yet look'd away for all the Goddess' pow'r could use, 456  
 And used her tongue too, and to chide whom Venus sooth'd so much,  
 And chid, too, in this bitter kind : " And was thy cowardice such,  
 So conquer'd, to be seen alive ? O would to God, thy life  
 Had perish'd by his worthy hand to whom I first was wife ! 460

Before this, thou wouldst glorify thy valour and thy lance,  
 And, past my first love's, boast them far. Go once more, and advance  
 Thy braves against his single power; this foil might fall by chance.  
 Poor conquer'd man! 'Twas such a chance, as I would not advise  
 Thy valour should provoke again. Shun him, thou most unwise, 465  
 Lest next, thy spirit sent to hell, thy body be his prise."

He answer'd: "Pray thee, woman, cease to chide and grieve me thus.  
 Disgraces will not ever last. Look on their end. On us  
 Will other Gods, at other times, let fall the victor's wreath,  
 As on him Pallas put it now. Shall our love sink beneath 470  
 The hate of fortune? In love's fire let all hates vanish. Come,  
 Love never so inflam'd my heart; no, not when, bringing home  
 Thy beauty's so delicious prise, on Cranaë's blest shore  
 I long'd for, and enjoy'd thee first." With this he went before,  
 She after, to th' odorous bed. While these to pleasure yield, 475  
 Perplex'd Atrides, savage-like, ran up and down the field,  
 And every thickest troop of Troy, and of their far-call'd aid,  
 Search'd for his foe, who could not be by any eye betray'd;  
 Nor out of friendship (out of doubt) did they conceal his sight,  
 All hated him so like their deaths, and ow'd him such despite. 480

At last thus spake the king of men: "Hear me, ye men of Troy,  
 Ye Dardans, and the rest, whose pow'rs you in their aids employ.  
 The conquest on my brother's part ye all discern is clear,  
 Do you then Argive Helena, with all her treasure here,  
 Restore to us, and pay the mulct that by your vows is due, 485  
 Yield us an honour'd recompense, and, all that should accrue  
 To our posterities, confirm; that when you render it,  
 Our acts may here be memoris'd." This all Greeks else thought fit.

## COMMENTARIUS.

126. Ἴρις δ' αὖθ' Ἑλένη, &c. *Iris autem Helene, &c.* Elegantly and most aptly (saith Spondanus) is Helen called by Homer to the spectacle of this single fight, as being the chief person in cause of all the action. The chief end of whose coming yet, enviously and most vainly, Scaliger's Criticus taxeth; which was her relation to Priam of the persons he noted there; jesting (with his French wit) at this Greek father, and fount, of all wit, for making Priam to seek now of their names and knowledges, when nine years together they had lain there before. A great piece of necessity to make him therefore know them before, when there was no such urgent occasion before to bring Priam to note them, nor so calm a convenience in their ordered and quiet distinction! But let this criticism in this be weighed with his other faults found in our master;—as, for making lightning in winter before snow or rain, which the most ignorant upland peasant could teach him out of his observations. For which yet his Criticus hath the project impudence to tax Homer; most falsely repeating his words too; saying, *ubi ningit*, when he saith, *τεύχων ἢ πολὺν ὄμβρον*, &c. *parans*, or *struens*, *vel multum imbrem*, *immensamve grandinem*, *vel nivem*: preparing, or going about those moist impressions in the air, not in present act with them. From this, immediately and most rabidly, he ranges to Ulysses' reprehension, for killing the wooers with his bow, in the Odyssey. Then to his late vomit again in the Iliads the very next word, and envieth Achilles' horse for speaking (because himself would have all the tongue) when, in Sacred Writ, Balaam's ass could have taught him the like hath been heard of. Yet now to the Odyssey again with a breath, and challengeth Ulysses' ship for suffering Neptune to turn it to a rock.

Here is strange laying out for a master so curiously methodical. Not with what Graces, with what Muses, we may ask, he was inspired, but with what Harpies, what Furies, putting the *putidum mendacium* upon Homer? *Putidus, ineptus, frigidus, puerilis* (being terms fitter for a scold or a bawd, than a man softened by learning) he belcheth against him whom all the world hath revered, and admired, as the fountain of all wit, wisdom, and learning. What touch is it to me, then, to bear spots of depravations, when my great master is thus muddily daubed with it? But whoever saw true learning, wisdom, or wit, vouchsafe mansion in any proud, vain-glorious, and braggartly spirit, when their chief act and end is to abandon and abhor it? Language, reading, habit of speaking, or writing in other learning, I grant in this reviler great and abundant; but, in this poesy, redundant I affirm him, and rammish. To conclude, I will use the same words of him, that he of Erasmus, (in calce Epinomidis), which are these (as I convert it):—"Great was his name, but had been futurely greater, would himself have been less; where now, bold with the greatness of his wit, he hath undertaken the more, with much less exactness; and so his confidence, set on by the renown of his name, hath driven him headlong, &c."

162. Ὅπα λειριόεσσαν ἰεῖσι. *Vocem suavem emittunt*, saith the interpreter (intending the grasshoppers, to whom he compareth the old counsellors); but it is here to be expounded, *vocem teneram*, not *suavem* (*λειριόεις* in this place signifying *tener*) for grasshoppers sing not sweetly, but harshly and faintly, wherein the weak and tender voice of the old counsellors is to admiration expressed. The similé Spondanus highly commends as most apt and expressive; but his application in one part doth abuse it, in the other right it, and that is, to make the old men resemble grasshoppers for their cold and bloodless spininess, Tython being for age turned to a grasshopper, but where they were grave and wise counsellors, to make them garrulous, as grasshoppers are stridulous; that application holdeth not in these old men, though some old men are so, these being Ἐσθλοὶ ἀγορηταὶ *boni, et periti, concionatores*; the word ἔσθλος signifying *frugi* also, which is temperate or full of all



moderation, and, so, far from intimating any touch of garrulity. Nor was the conceit of our poet by Spondanus or any other understood in this simile.

234. Ἐπιτροχάδην ἀγόρευε, *succincte concionabatur Menelaus*; he speaks succinctly, or compendiously, say his interpreters; which is utterly otherwise, in the voice ἐπιτροχάδην, signifying *velociter*, properly, *modo eorum qui currunt*; he spake fast or thick.

παῦρα μὲν, &c. few words yet, he used, ἀλλὰ μάλα λιγέως, *sed valde acutè*, they expound it, when it is *valde stridulè*, shrilly, smally, or aloud; λιγέως (as I have noted before) being properly taken in the worse part; and accordingly expounded, maketh even with his simple character at all parts, his utterance being noiseful, small, or squeaking, an excellent pipe for a fool. Nor is the voice or manner of utterance in a man the least key that discovereth his wisdom or folly. And therefore worth the noting is that of Ulysses in the second book—that he knew Pallas by her voice.

ἐπεὶ ἔ πολύμυθος, *quoniam non garrulus, or loquax*; being born naturally Laconical; which agreeth not the less with his fast or thick speaking, for a man may have that kind of utterance, and yet few words.

235. Οὐ δ' ἀφάρματοεπῆς: *neque in verbis peccans*, say the commentators, as though a fool were perfectly spoken; when the word here hath another sense, and our Homer a far other meaning, the words being thus to be expounded: *neque mendax erat*, he would not lie by any means, for that affectedly he stands upon hereafter. But to make a fool *non peccans verbis*, will make a man nothing wonder at any peccancy or absurdity in men of mere language.

You see, then, to how extreme a difference and contrariety the word and sense lie subject, and that, without first finding the true figures of persons in this kind presented, it is impossible for the best linguist living to express an author truly, especially any Greek author, the language being so differently significant, which not judicially fitted with the exposition that the place (and coherence with other places) requireth, what a motley and confused man a translator may present! As now they do

all of Menelaus, who, wheresoever he is called Ἀρηίφιλος, is there untruly translated *bellicosus*, but *cui Mars est charus*, because he might love the war, and yet be no good warrior, as many love many exercises at which they will never be good ; and Homer gave it to him for another of his peculiar epithets, as a vain-glorious affectation in him, rather than a solid affection.

And here haste makes me give end to these new annotations, deferring the like in the next nine books for more breath and encouragement, since time (that hath ever oppressed me) will not otherwise let me come to the last twelve, in which the first free light of my author entered and emboldened me ; where so many rich discoveries importune my poor expression, that I fear rather to betray them to the world than express them to their price. But howsoever envy and prejudice stand squirting their poison through the eyes of my readers, this shall appear to all competent apprehensions, I have followed the original with authentical expositions, according to the proper signification of the word in his place, though I differ therein utterly from others ; I have rendered all things of importance with answerable life and height to my author, though with some periphrasis, without which no man can worthily translate any worthy poet. And since the translation itself, and my notes (being impartially conferred) amply approve this, I will still be confident in the worth of my pains, how idly and unworthily soever I be censured. And thus to the last twelve books (leaving other horrible errors in his other interpreters unmoved) with those free feet that entered me, I haste, sure of nothing but my labour.

THE END OF THE THIRD BOOK.



## THE FOURTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

THE Gods in council, at the last, decree  
That famous Ilium shall expugned be ;  
And that their own continued faults may prove  
The reasons that have so incensed Jove,  
Minerva seeks, with more offences done  
Against the lately injur'd Atreus' son,  
(A ground that clearest would make seen their sin)  
To have the Lycian Pandarus begin.  
He ('gainst the truce with sacred covenants bound)  
Gives Menelaus a dishonour'd wound.  
Machaon heals him. Agamemnon then  
To mortal war incenseth all his men.  
The battles join ; and, in the heat of fight,  
Cold death shuts many eyes in endless night.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

In Delta is the Gods' Assize ;  
The truce is broke ; wars freshly rise.



WITHIN the fair-pav'd court of Jove he and the Gods conferr'd  
About the sad events of Troy ; amongst whom minister'd  
Bless'd Hebe nectar. As they sat, and did Troy's tow'rs  
behold,  
They drank, and pledg'd each other round in full-crown'd cups of gold.

The mirth at whose feast was begun by great Saturnides 5  
 In urging a begun dislike amongst the Goddesses,  
 But chiefly in his solemn queen, whose spleen he was dispos'd  
 To tempt yet further, knowing well what anger it inclos'd,  
 And howwives' angers should be used. On which, thus pleas'd, he play'd:  
 " Two Goddesses there are that still give Menelaus aid, 10  
 And one that Paris loves. The two that sit from us so far  
 (Which Argive Juno is, and She that rules in deeds of war,)  
 No doubt are pleas'd to see how well the late-seen fight did frame ;  
 And yet, upon the adverse part, the Laughter-loving Dame 14  
 Made her power good too for her friend ; for, though he were so near  
 The stroke of death in th' others' hopes, she took him from them clear.  
 The conquest yet is questionless the martial Spartan king's.  
 We must consult then what events shall crown these future things,  
 If wars and combats we shall still with even successes strike,  
 Or as impartial friendship plant on both parts. If ye like 20  
 The last, and that it will as well delight as merely please  
 Your happy deities, still let stand old Priam's town in peace,  
 And let the Lacedæmon king again his queen enjoy."

As Pallas and Heaven's Queen sat close, complotting ill to Troy,  
 With silent murmurs they receiv'd this ill-lik'd choice from Jove ; 25  
 'Gainst whom was Pallas much incens'd, because the Queen of Love  
 Could not, without his leave, relieve in that late point of death  
 The son of Priam, whom she loath'd ; her wrath yet fought beneath  
 Her supreme wisdom, and was curb'd ; but Juno needs must ease  
 Her great heart with her ready tongue, and said ; " What words are  
 these,  
 Austere, and too-much-Saturn's son ? Why wouldst thou render still 31  
 My labours idle, and the sweat of my industrious will  
 Dishonour with so little power ? My chariot horse are tir'd  
 With posting to and fro for Greece, and bringing banes desir'd  
 To people-must'ring Priamus, and his perfidious sons ; 35  
 Yet thou protect'st, and join'st with them whom each just Deity shuns.



Go on, but ever go resolv'd all other Gods have vow'd  
To cross thy partial course for Troy in all that makes it proud."

At this, the cloud-compelling Jove a far-fetch'd sigh let fly,  
And said: "Thou fury! What offence of such impiety 40  
Hath Priam or his sons done thee, that, with so high a hate,  
Thou shouldst thus ceaselessly desire to raze and ruate  
So well a builded town as Troy? I think, hadst thou the pow'r,  
Thou wouldst the ports and far-stretch'd walls fly over, and devour  
Old Priam and his issue quick, and make all Troy thy feast, 45  
And then at length I hope thy wrath and tired spleen would rest,  
To which run on thy chariot, that nought be found in me  
Of just cause to our future jars. In this yet strengthen thee,  
And fix it in thy memory fast, that if I entertain  
As peremptory a desire to level with the plain 50  
A city where thy loved live, stand not betwixt my ire  
And what it aims at, but give way, when thou hast thy desire,  
Which now I grant thee willingly, although against my will.  
For not beneath the ample sun, and heaven's star-bearing hill,  
There is a town of earthly men so honour'd in my mind 55  
As sacred Troy; nor of earth's kings as Priam and his kind,  
Who never let my altars lack rich feast of off'rings slain,  
And their sweet savours; for which grace I honour them again."

Dread Juno, with the cow's fair eyes, replied: "Three towns there are  
Of great and eminent respect both in my love and care; 60  
Mycene, with the broad highways; and Argos, rich in horse;  
And Sparta; all which three destroy, when thou envi'st their force,  
I will not aid them, nor malign thy free and sovereign will,  
For if I should be envious, and set against their ill,  
I know my envy were in vain, since thou art mightier far. 65  
But we must give each other leave, and wink at either's war.  
I likewise must have power to crown my works with wished end,  
Because I am a Deity, and did from thence descend

<sup>37</sup> *Resolved*—informed.

Whence thou thyself, and th' elder born ; wise Saturn was our sire ;  
 And thus there is a two-fold cause that pleads for my desire, 70  
 Being sister, and am call'd thy wife ; and more, since thy command  
 Rules all Gods else, I claim therein a like superior hand.

All wrath before then now remit, and mutually combine  
 In either's empire ; I, thy rule, and thou, illustrate, mine ;  
 So will the other Gods agree, and we shall all be strong. 75

And first (for this late plot) with speed let Pallas go among  
 The Trojans, and some one of them entice to break the truce  
 By offering in some treacherous wound the honour'd Greeks abuse."

The Father both of men and Gods agreed, and Pallas sent,  
 With these wing'd words, to both the hosts : " Make all haste, and  
 invent

Some mean by which the men of Troy, against the truce agreed, 81  
 May stir the glorious Greeks to arms with some inglorious deed."

Thus charg'd he her with haste that did before in haste abound,  
 Who cast herself from all the heights with which steep heaven is crown'd ;  
 And as Jove, brandishing a star, which men a comet call, 85

Hurls out his curled hair abroad, that from his brand exhals  
 A thousand sparks, to fleets at sea, and every mighty host,  
 Of all presages and ill-haps a sign mistrusted most ;  
 So Pallas fell 'twixt both the camps, and suddenly was lost,  
 When through the breasts of all that saw she struck a strong amaze 90  
 With viewing in her whole descent her bright and ominous blaze.

When straight one to another turn'd, and said : " Now thund'ring Jove  
 (Great Arbiter of peace and arms) will either stablish love  
 Amongst our nations, or renew such war as never was."

Thus either army did presage, when Pallas made her pass 95  
 Amongst the multitude of Troy ; who now put on the grace  
 Of brave Laodocus, the flow'r of old Antenor's race,

<sup>85</sup> *Which men a comet call*—so both the folios. Dr. Taylor has printed "*which man a comet calls.*" This certainly suits the rhyme, but I adhere to Chapman's text.

And sought for Lycian Pandarus, a man that, being bred  
 Out of a faithless family, she thought was fit to shed  
 The blood of any innocent, and break the covenant sworn ; 100  
 He was Lycaon's son, whom Jove into a wolf did turn  
 For sacrificing of a child, and yet in arms renown'd  
 As one that was inculpable. Him Pallas standing found,  
 And round about him his strong troops that bore the shady shields ;  
 He brought them from Æsepus flood let through the Lycian fields ; 105  
 Whom standing near, she whisper'd thus : " Lycaon's warlike son,  
 Shall I despair at thy kind hands to have a favour done ?  
 Nor dar'st thou let an arrow fly upon the Spartan king ?  
 It would be such a grace to Troy, and such a glorious thing,  
 That every man would give his gift ; but Alexander's hand 110  
 Would load thee with them, if he could discover from his stand  
 His foe's pride struck down with thy shaft, and he himself ascend  
 The flaming heap of funeral. Come, shoot him, princely friend ;  
 But first invoke the God of Light, that in thy land was born,  
 And is in archers' art the best that ever sheaf hath worn, 115  
 To whom a hundred first-ew'd lambs vow thou in holy fire,  
 When safe to sacred Zelia's tow'rs thy zealous steps retire."

With this the mad gift-greedy man Minerva did persuade,  
 Who instantly drew forth a bow, most admirably made  
 Of th' antler of a jumping goat bred in a steep up-land, 120  
 Which archer-like (as long before he took his hidden stand,  
 The evicke skipping from a rock) into the breast he smote,  
 And headlong fell'd him from his cliff. The forehead of the goat

<sup>98</sup> *A man that being bred out of a faithless family.*—This description of Pandarus has been introduced into the text by Chapman from the commentators, as Dr. Taylor observes.

<sup>115</sup> *Sheaf*—bundle of arrows.

<sup>122</sup> *The evicke.*—It is doubtful what this word really is. Dr. Taylor suggests that it may probably mean the *evict*, or doomed one—but? It is possible Chapman meant to Anglicise the Greek *αἴξ* ; or should we read *Ibex*, as the *αἴξ ἰξάλοσ* was such ?

Held out a wondrous goodly palm that sixteen branches brought,  
 Of all which, join'd, an useful bow a skilful bowyer wrought, 125  
 Which pick'd and polish'd, both the ends he hid with horns of gold.  
 And this bow, bent, he close laid down, and bad his soldiers hold  
 Their shields before him, lest the Greeks, discerning him, should rise  
 In tumults ere the Spartan king could be his arrow's prise.  
 Mean space, with all his care he choos'd, and from his quiver drew, 130  
 An arrow, feather'd best for flight, and yet that never flew,  
 Strong headed, and most apt to pierce; then took he up his bow,  
 And nock'd his shaft, the ground whence all their future grief did grow.  
 When, praying to his God the Sun, that was in Lycia bred,  
 And king of archers, promising that he the blood would shed 135  
 Of full an hundred first-fall'n lambs, all offer'd to his name,  
 When to Zelia's sacred walls from rescu'd Troy he came,  
 He took his arrow by the nock, and to his bended breast  
 The oxy sinew close he drew, even till the pile did rest  
 Upon the bosom of the bow; and as that savage prise 140  
 His strength constrain'd into an orb, as if the wind did rise  
 The coming of it made a noise, the sinew-forged string  
 Did give a mighty twang, and forth the eager shaft did sing,  
 Affecting speediness of flight, amongst the Achive throng.  
 Nor were the blessed Heavenly Pow'rs unmindful of thy wrong, 145  
 O Menelaus, but, in chief, Jove's seed, the Pillager,  
 Stood close before, and slack'd the force the arrow did confer  
 With as much care and little hurt as doth a mother use,  
 And keep off from her babe, when sleep doth through his pow'rs diffuse  
 His golden humour, and th' assaults of rude and busy flies 150  
 She still checks with her careful hand; for so the shaft she plies

<sup>124</sup> *Palm*—Nares says “the broad part of a deer's horns, when fully grown.”

<sup>126</sup> *Pick'd*—piked, pointed.

<sup>138</sup> “Virgil useth these verses.”—CHAPMAN.

<sup>138</sup> *Nock*—the notch of the arrow, where it rests upon the string.

<sup>139</sup> *Pile*—point, barb of the arrow.

<sup>140</sup> *Prise*—here used for *grasp*.

<sup>145</sup> *The Pillager*—the goddess Ageleia.



That on the buttons made of gold which made his girdle fast,  
 And where his cures double were, the fall of it she plac'd.  
 And thus much proof she put it to: the buckle made of gold ;  
 The belt it fast'ned, bravely wrought ; his cures' double fold ; 155  
 And last, the charmed plate he wore which help'd him more than all,  
 And, 'gainst all darts and shafts bestow'd, was to his life a wall ;  
 So, through all these, the upper skin the head did only race ;  
 Yet forth the blood flow'd, which did much his royal person grace,  
 And show'd upon his ivory skin, as doth a purple dye 160  
 Laid, by a dame of Caïra, or lovely Mæony,  
 On ivory, wrought in ornaments to deck the cheeks of horse ;  
 Which in her marriage room must lie ; whose beauties have such force  
 That they are wish'd of many knights, but are such precious things,  
 That they are kept for horse that draw the chariots of kings, 165  
 Which horse, so deck'd, the charioteer esteems a grace to him ;  
 Like these, in grace, the blood upon thy solid thighs did swim,  
 O Menelaus, down thy calves and ankles to the ground.  
 For nothing decks a soldier so, as doth an honour'd wound.  
 Yet, fearing he had far'd much worse, the hair stood up on end 170  
 On Agamemnon, when he saw so much black blood descend ;  
 And stiff'ned with the like dismay was Menelaus too,  
 But seeing th' arrow's stale without, and that the head did go  
 No further than it might be seen, he call'd his spirits again ;  
 Which Agamemnon marking not, but thinking he was slain, 175  
 He grip'd his brother by the hand, and sigh'd as he would break,  
 Which sigh the whole host took from him, who thus at last did speak :  
 " O dearest brother, is't for this, that thy death must be wrought,  
 Wrought I this truce ? For this hast thou the single combat fought

<sup>158</sup> *Race*—rase, slightly scratch. I have retained this orthography throughout, for the rhyme's sake.

<sup>173</sup> *Stale*—" *stale*, the stem or stalk of any thing. The stem or body of an arrow ;—

' A shaft hath three principle parts, the *stale*, the fethers, and the head.'

ASCHAM'S *Toxophilus*, p. 161."

NARES'S GLOSS. in voc.

For all the army of the Greeks? For this hath Ilion sworn, 180  
 And trod all faith beneath their feet? Yet all this hath not worn  
 The right we challeng'd out of force; this cannot render vain  
 Our stricken right hands, sacred wine, nor all our off'rings slain;  
 For though Olympius be not quick in making good our ill,  
 He will be sure as he is slow, and sharplier prove his will. 185  
 Their own hands shall be ministers of those plagues they despise,  
 Which shall their wives and children reach, and all their progenies.  
 For both in mind and soul I know that there shall come a day  
 When Ilion, Priam, all his pow'r, shall quite be worn away,  
 When heaven-inhabiting Jove shall shake his fiery shield at all, 190  
 For this one mischief. This, I know, the world cannot recall.  
 But be all this, all my grief still for thee will be the same,  
 Dear brother. If thy life must here put out his royal flame,  
 I shall to sandy Argos turn with infamy my face;  
 And all the Greeks will call for home; old Priam and his race 195  
 Will flame in glory; Helena untouch'd be still their prey;  
 And thy bones in our enemies' earth our cursed fates shall lay;  
 Thy sepulchre be trodden down; the pride of Troy desire  
 Insulting on it, ' Thus, O thus, let Agamemnon's ire  
 In all his acts be expiate, as now he carries home 200  
 His idle army, empty ships, and leaves here overcome  
 Good Menelaus.' When this brave breaks in their hated breath,  
 Then let the broad earth swallow me, and take me quick to death."  
 " Nor shall this ever chance," said he, " and therefore be of cheer,  
 Lest all the army, led by you, your passions put in fear. 205  
 The arrow fell in no such place as death could enter at,  
 My girdle, curets doubled here, and my most trusted plate,  
 Objected all 'twixt me and death, the shaft scarce piercing one."  
 " Good brother," said the king, " I wish it were no further gone,  
 For then our best in medicines skill'd shall ope and search the wound,  
 Applying balms to ease thy pains, and soon restore thee sound." 211

<sup>208</sup> *Objected*—interposed.

This said, divine Talthybius he call'd, and bad him haste  
 Machaon, Æsculapius' son, who most of men was grac'd  
 With physic's sovereign remedies, to come and lend his hand  
 To Menelaus shot by one well-skill'd in the command 215  
 Of bow and arrows, one of Troy, or of the Lycian aid,  
 Who much hath glorified our foe, and us as much dismay'd.

He heard, and hasted instantly, and cast his eyes about  
 The thickest squadrons of the Greeks, to find Machaon out.  
 He found him standing guarded well with well-arm'd men of Thrace ;  
 With whom he quickly join'd, and said : " Man of Apollo's race, 221  
 Haste, for the king of men commands, to see a wound impress'd  
 In Menelaus, great in arms, by one instructed best  
 In th' art of archery, of Troy, or of the Lycian bands,  
 That them with much renown adorns, us with dishonour brands." 225

Machaon much was mov'd with this, who with the herald flew  
 From troop to troop amongst the host, and soon they came in view  
 Of hurt Atrides circled round with all the Grecian kings,  
 Who all gave way, and straight he draws the shaft, which forth he  
 brings

Without the forks ; the girdle then, plate, curets, off he plucks, 230  
 And views the wound ; when first from it the clotter'd blood he sucks,  
 Then medicines, wondrously compos'd, the skilful leech applied,  
 Which loving Chiron taught his sire, he from his sire had tried.

While these were thus employ'd to ease the Atrean martialist,  
 The Trojans arm'd, and charg'd the Greeks ; the Greeks arm and resist.  
 Then not asleep, nor maz'd with fear, nor shifting off the blows, 236  
 You could behold the king of men, but in full speed he goes  
 To set a glorious fight on foot ; and he examples this,  
 With toiling, like the worst, on foot ; who therefore did dismiss  
 His brass-arm'd chariot, and his steeds, with Ptolemeus' son, 240  
 Son of Piraides, their guide, the good Eurymedon ;  
 " Yet," said the king, " attend with them, lest weariness should seize  
 My limbs, surcharg'd with ordering troops so thick and vast as these."

Eurymedon then rein'd his horse, that trotted neighing by ;  
The king a footman, and so scours the squadrons orderly. 245

Those of his swiftly-mounted Greeks that in their arms were fit,  
Those he put on with cheerful words, and bad them not remit  
The least spark of their forward spirits, because the Trojans durst  
Take these abhorr'd advantages, but let them do their worst ;  
For they might be assur'd that Jove would patronise no lies, 250  
And that who with the breach of truce would hurt their enemies  
With vultures should be torn themselves ; that they should raze their town,  
Their wives, and children at their breast, led vassals to their own.

But such as he beheld hang off from that increasing fight,  
Such would he bitterly rebuke, and with disgrace excite : 255  
“ Base Argives, blush ye not to stand as made for butts to darts ?  
Why are ye thus discomfited like hinds that have no hearts,  
Who, wearied with a long-run field, are instantly emboss'd,  
Stand still, and in their beastly breasts is all their courage lost ?  
And so stand you struck with amaze, nor dare to strike a stroke. 260  
Would ye the foe should nearer yet your dastard spleens provoke,  
Even where on Neptune's foamy shore our navies lie in sight,  
To see if Jove will hold your hands, and teach ye how to fight ?”

Thus he, commanding, rang'd the host, and, passing many a band,  
He came to the Cretensian troops, where all did armed stand 265  
About the martial Idomen ; who bravely stood before  
In vanguard of his troops, and match'd for strength a savage boar,  
Meriones, his charioteer, the rearguard bringing on.  
Which seen to Atreus' son, to him it was a sight alone,  
And Idomen's confirmed mind with these kind words he seeks : 270  
“ O Idomen ! I ever lov'd thy self past all the Greeks,  
In war, or any work of peace, at table, every where ;  
For when the best of Greece besides mix ever at our cheer

<sup>258</sup> *Emboss'd.*—A hunting term. “ When the hart is foamy at the mouth, we say, that he is *embossed.*”—TURBERVILLE *on Hunt.* p. 242. See NARES'S GLOSSARY.



My good old ardent wine with small, and our inferior mates  
 Drinkeven that mix'd wine measur'd too, thou drink'st, without those rates,  
 Our old wine neat, and evermore thy bowl stands full like mine, 276  
 To drink still when and what thou wilt. Then rouse that heart of thine,  
 And, whatsoever heretofore thou hast assum'd to be,  
 This day be greater." To the king in this sort answer'd he :

“ Atrides, what I ever seem'd, the same at every part 280  
 This day shall show me at the full, and I will fit thy heart.  
 But thou shouldst rather cheer the rest, and tell them they in right  
 Of all good war must offer blows, and should begin the fight,  
 (Since Troy first brake the holy truce) and not endure these braves,  
 To take wrong first, and then be dar'd to the revenge it craves ; 285  
 Assuring them that Troy in fate must have the worse at last,  
 Since first, and 'gainst a truce, they hurt, where they should have embrac'd.”

This comfort and advice did fit Atrides' heart indeed,  
 Who still through new-rais'd swarms of men held his laborious speed,  
 And came where both th' Ajaces stood ; whom like the last he found 290  
 Arm'd, casqued, and ready for the fight. Behind them, hid the ground  
 A cloud of foot, that seem'd to smoke. And as a goatherd spies,  
 On some hill's top, out of the sea, a rainy vapour rise,  
 Driven by the breath of Zephyrus, which, though far off he rest,  
 Comes on as black as pitch, and brings a tempest in his breast, 295  
 Whereat he frighted, drives his herds apace into a den ;  
 So dark'ning earth with darts and shields show'd these with all their men.

This sight with like joy fir'd the king, who thus let forth the flame  
 In crying out to both the dukes : “ O you of equal name,  
 I must not cheer, nay, I disclaim all my command of you, 300  
 Yourselves command with such free minds, and make your soldiers show,  
 As you nor I led, but themselves. O would our father Jove,  
 Minerva, and the God of Light, would all our bodies move  
 With such brave spirits as breathe in you, then Priam's lofty town  
 Should soon be taken by our hands, for ever overthrown !” 305

<sup>275</sup> *Rates*—ratifications, agreements. Here perhaps, qualifications.

Then held he on to other troops, and Nestor next beheld,  
 The subtle Pylian orator, range up and down the field,  
 Embattelling his men at arms, and stirring all to blows,  
 Points every legion out his chief, and every chief he shows  
 The forms and discipline of war, yet his commanders were 310  
 All éxpert, and renowned men. Great Pelagon was there,  
 Alastor, manly Chromius, and Hæmon worth a throne,  
 And Bias that could armies lead. With these he first put on  
 His horse troops with their chariots ; his foot (of which he choos'd  
 Many, the best and ablest men, and which he ever us'd 315  
 As rampire to his general power) he in the rear dispos'd.  
 The slothful, and the least in spirit, he in the midst inclos'd,  
 That such as wanted noble wills base need might force to stand.  
 His horse troops, that the vanguard had, he strictly did command  
 To ride their horses temperately, to keep their ranks, and shun 320  
 Confusion, lest their horsemanship and courage made them run  
 (Too much presum'd on) much too far, and, charging so alone,  
 Engage themselves in th' enemy's strength, where many fight with one.  
 " Who his own chariot leaves to range, let him not freely go,  
 But straight unhorse him with a lance ; for 'tis much better so. 325  
 And with this discipline," said he, " this form, these minds, this trust,  
 Our ancestors have walls and towns laid level with the dust."

Thus prompt, and long inur'd to arms, this old man did exhort ;  
 And this Atrides likewise took in wondrous cheerful sort,  
 And said : " O father, would to heaven, that as thy mind remains 330  
 In wonted vigour, so thy knees could undergo our pains !  
 But age, that all men overcomes, hath made his prise on thee ;  
 Yet still I wish that some young man, grown old in mind, might be  
 Put in proportion with thy years, and thy mind, young in age,  
 Be fitly answer'd with his youth ; that still where conflicts rage, 335  
 And young men us'd to thirst for fame, thy brave exampling hand  
 Might double our young Grecian spirits, and grace our whole command."

The old knight answer'd: " I myself could wish, O Atreus' son,  
 I were as young as when I slew brave Ereuthalion,  
 But Gods at all times give not all their gifts to mortal men. 340  
 If then I had the strength of youth, I miss'd the counsels then  
 That years now give me ; and now years want that main strength of youth ;  
 Yet still my mind retains her strength (as you now said the sooth)  
 And would be where that strength is us'd, affording counsels sage  
 To stir youth's minds up ; 'tis the grace and office of our age ; 345  
 Let younger sinews, men sprung up whole ages after me,  
 And such as have strength, use it, and as strong in honour be."

The king, all this while comforted, arriv'd next where he found  
 Well-rode Menestheus (Peteus' son) stand still, environ'd round  
 With his well-train'd Athenian troops ; and next to him he spied 350  
 The wise Ulysses, deedless too, and all his bands beside  
 Of strong Cephalians ; for as yet th' alarm had not been heard  
 In all their quarters, Greece and Troy were then so newly stirr'd,  
 And then first mov'd, as they conceiv'd ; and they so look'd about  
 To see both hosts give proof of that they yet had cause to doubt. 355

Atrides seeing them stand so still, and spend their eyes at gaze,  
 Began to chide : " And why," said he, " dissolv'd thus in amaze,  
 Thou son of Peteus, Jove-nurs'd king, and thou in wicked sleight  
 A cunning soldier, stand ye off ? Expect ye that the fight  
 Should be by other men begun ? 'Tis fit the foremost band 360  
 Should show you there ; you first should front who first lifts up his hand.  
 First you can hear when I invite the princes to a feast,  
 When first, most friendly, and at will, ye eat and drink the best,  
 Yet in the fight, most willingly, ten troops ye can behold  
 Take place before ye." Ithacus at this his brows did fold, 365  
 And said : " How hath thy violent tongue broke through thy set of teeth  
 To say that we are slack in fight, and to the field of death

<sup>343</sup> *Sooth*—truth, a common word. Thus Shakespeare,—  
 " He looks like *sooth* ; he says he loves my daughter,  
 I think so too."—*Wint. Tale*, IV. 3.

Look others should enforce our way, when we were busied then,  
 Even when thou speak'st against the foe to cheer and lead our men?  
 But thy eyes shall be witnesses, if it content thy will, 370  
 And that (as thou pretend'st) these cares do so affect thee still,  
 The father of Telemachus (whom I esteem so dear,  
 And to whom, as a legacy, I'll leave my deeds done here)  
 Even with the foremost band of Troy hath his encounter dar'd,  
 And therefore are thy speeches vain, and had been better spar'd." 375

He, smiling, since he saw him mov'd, recall'd his words, and said:  
 " Most generous Laertes' son, most wise of all our aid,  
 I neither do accuse thy worth, more than thyself may hold  
 Fit, (that inferiors think not much, being slack, to be controll'd)  
 Nor take I on me thy command; for well I know thy mind 380  
 Knows how sweet gentle counsels are, and that thou stand'st inclin'd,  
 As I myself, for all our good. On then; if now we spake  
 What hath displeas'd, another time we full amends will make;  
 And Gods grant that thy virtue here may prove so free and brave  
 That my reproofs may still be vain, and thy deservings grave." 385

Thus parted they; and forth he went, when he did leaning find,  
 Against his chariot, near his horse, him with the mighty mind,  
 Great Diomedes, Tydeus' son, and Sthenelus, the seed  
 Of Capaneius; whom the king seeing likewise out of deed,  
 Thus cried he out on Diomed: " O me! In what a fear 390  
 The wise great warrior, Tydeus' son, stands gazing everywhere  
 For others to begin the fight! It was not Tydeus' use  
 To be so daunted, whom his spirit would evermore produce  
 Before the foremost of his friends in these affairs of fright,  
 As they report that have beheld him labour in a fight. 395  
 For me, I never knew the man, nor in his presence came,  
 But excellent, above the rest, he was in general fame;  
 And one renown'd exploit of his, I am assur'd, is true.  
 He came to the Mycenian court, without arms, and did sue



At godlike Polynices' hands to have some worthy aid 400  
 To their designs that 'gainst the walls of sacred Thebes were laid.  
 He was great Polynices' guest, and nobly entertain'd,  
 And of the kind Mycenian state what he requested gain'd,  
 In mere consent ; but when they should the same in act approve,  
 By some sinister prodigies, held out to them by Jove, 405  
 They were discourag'd. Thence he went, and safely had his pass  
 Back to Asopus flood, renown'd for bulrushes and grass.  
 Yet, once more, their ambassador, the Grecian peers address  
 Lord Tydeus to Eteocles ; to whom being given access,  
 He found him feasting with a crew of Cadmeans in his hall ; 410  
 Amongst whom, though an enemy, and only one to all,  
 To all yet he his challenge made at every martial feat,  
 And eas'ly foil'd all, since with him Minerva was so great.  
 The rank-rode Cadmeans, much incens'd with their so foul disgrace,  
 Lodg'd ambuscadoes for their foe in some well-chosen place 415  
 By which he was to make return. Twice five-and-twenty men,  
 And two of them great captains too, the ambush did contain.  
 The names of those two men of rule were Mæon, Hæmon's son,  
 And Lycophontes, Keep-field call'd, the heir of Autophon,  
 By all men honour'd like the Gods ; yet these and all their friends 420  
 Were sent to hell by Tydeus' hand, and had untimely ends.  
 He trusting to the aid of Gods, reveal'd by augury,  
 Obeying which one chief he sav'd, and did his life apply  
 To be the heavy messenger of all the others' deaths ;  
 And that sad message, with his life, to Mæon he bequeaths. 425  
 So brave a knight was Tydeus ; of whom a son is sprung,  
 Inferior far in martial deeds, though higher in his tongue."

<sup>408</sup> The construction is, "Once more the Grecian peers address (send) Tydeus to Eteocles as their ambassador."

<sup>414</sup> *Rank-rode*—daring-riders.

<sup>419</sup> *Keep-field*.—The original is *μεινεπτόλεμος*, one who remains in the battle. Dr. Taylor observes, "This is one of the happiest of Chapman's translations of Homer's compound epithets."

All this Tydides silent heard, aw'd by the reverend king ;  
Which stung hot Sthenelus with wrath, who thus put forth his sting :

“ Atrides, when thou know'st the truth, speak what thy knowledge is,  
And do not lie so ; for I know, and I will brag in this, 431  
That we are far more able men than both our fathers were.

We took the seven-fold ported Thebes, when yet we had not there  
So great help as our fathers had ; and fought beneath a wall,  
Sacred to Mars, by help of Jove, and trusting to the fall 435  
Of happy signs from other Gods, by whom we took the town  
Untouch'd ; our fathers perishing there by follies of their own ;  
And therefore never more compare our fathers' worth with ours.”

Tydides frown'd at this, and said : “ Suppress thine anger's pow'rs,  
Good friend, and hear why I refrain'd. Thou seest I am not mov'd  
Against our general, since he did but what his place behov'd, 441  
Admonishing all Greeks to fight ; for, if Troy prove our prise,  
The honour and the joy is his, if here our ruin lies,  
The shame and grief for that as much is his in greatest kinds. 444  
As he then his charge, weigh we ours ; which is our dauntless minds.”

Thus, from his chariot, amply arm'd, he jump'd down to the ground.  
The armour of the angry king so horribly did sound,  
It might have made his bravest foe let fear take down his braves.  
And as when with the west-wind flaws the sea thrusts up her waves,  
One after other, thick and high, upon the groaning shores, 450  
First in herself loud, but oppos'd with banks and rocks she roars,  
And, all her back in bristles set, spits every way her foam ;  
So after Diomed instantly the field was overcome  
With thick impressions of the Greeks, and all the noise that grew  
(Ordering and cheering up their men) from only leaders flew. 455  
The rest went silently away, you could not hear a voice,  
Nor would have thought in all their breasts they had one in their choice,  
Their silence uttering their awe of them that them controll'd,  
Which made each man keep bright his arms, march, fight still where he  
should.

The Trojans, like a sort of ewes penn'd in a rich man's fold, 460  
 Close at his door, till all be milk'd, and never baaing hold  
 Hearing the bleating of their lambs, did all their wide host fill  
 With shouts and clamours, nor observ'd one voice, one baaing still,  
 But show'd mix'd tongues from many a land of men call'd to their aid.  
 Rude Mars had th' ordering of their spirits; of Greeks, the learned Maid.  
 But Terror follow'd both the hosts, and Flight, and furious Strife 465  
 (The sister, and the mate, of Mars) that spoil of human life;  
 And never is her rage at rest, at first she is but small,  
 Yet after, but a little fed, she grows so vast and tall  
 That, while her feet move here in earth, her forehead is in heaven; 470  
 And this was she that made even then both hosts so deadly given.  
 Through every troop she stalk'd, and stirr'd rough sighs up as she went;  
 But when in one field both the foes her fury did content,  
 And both came under reach of darts, then darts and shields oppos'd  
 To darts and shields; strength answer'd strength; then swords and 475  
                   targets clos'd  
 With swords and targets; both with pikes; and then did tumult rise  
 Up to her height; then conquerors' boasts mix'd with the conquer'd's cries;  
 Earth flow'd with blood. And as from hills rain-waters headlong fall,  
 That all ways eat huge ruts, which, met in one bed, fill a vall  
 With such a confluence of streams that on the mountain grounds 480  
 Far off, in frighted shepherds' ears, the bustling noise rebounds:  
 So grew their conflicts, and so show'd their scuffling to the ear,  
 With flight and clamour still commix'd, and all effects of fear.  
 And first renown'd Antilochus slew (fighting, in the face  
 Of all Achaia's foremost bands, with an undaunted grace) 485

<sup>460</sup> *Sort*—set, or, as we say, a lot of pigs, sheep, &c.

“Remember who you are to cope withall,  
 A sort of vagabonds, rascals, and runaways.”

SHAKESPEARE. *Rich. III.* v. 3.

<sup>465</sup> *The learned Maid*—Pallas.

<sup>470</sup> Chapman observes that Virgil has applied this description of Strife to Fame.

<sup>479</sup> *Vall*—ravine, valley.

Echepolus Thalysiades ; he was an armed man ;  
 Whom on his hair-plum'd helmet's crest the dart first smote, then ran  
 Into his forehead, and there stuck ; the steel pile making way  
 Quite through his skull ; a hasty night shut up his latest day.  
 His fall was like a fight-rac'd tow'r ; like which lying there dispread,  
 King Elephenor (who was son to Chalcodon, and led 491  
 The valiant Abants) covetous that he might first possess  
 His arms, laid hands upon his feet, and hal'd him from the press  
 Of darts and javelins hurl'd at him. The action of the king  
 When great-in-heart Agenor saw, he made his javelin sing 495  
 To th' others' labour ; and along as he the trunk did wrest,  
 His side (at which he bore his shield) in bowing of his breast  
 Lay naked, and receiv'd the lance that made him lose his hold  
 And life together ; which, in hope of that he lost, he sold.  
 But for his sake the fight grew fierce, the Trojans and their foes 500  
 Like wolves on one another rush'd, and man for man it goes.

The next of name, that serv'd his fate, great Ajax Telamon  
 Preferr'd so sadly. He was heir to old Anthemion,  
 And deck'd with all the flow'r of youth, the fruit of which yet fled  
 Before the honour'd nuptial torch could light him to his bed. 505  
 His name was Simoisius ; for, some few years before,  
 His mother walking down the hill of Ida, by the shore  
 Of silver Simois, to see her parents' flocks, with them  
 She, feeling suddenly the pains of child-birth, by the stream  
 Of that bright river brought him forth ; and so (of Simois) 510  
 They call'd him Simoisius. Sweet was that birth of his  
 To his kind parents, and his growth did all their care employ ;  
 And yet those rites of piety, that should have been his joy  
 To pay their honour'd years again in as affectionate sort,  
 He could not graciously perform, his sweet life was so short, 515

<sup>490</sup> *Fight-raced*—razed in battle.

<sup>499</sup> An unworthy conceit of Chapman's, as Dr. Taylor observes, and unwarranted.



Cut off with mighty Ajax' lance ; for, as his spirit put on,  
 He struck him at his breast's right pap, quite through his shoulder-bone,  
 And in the dust of earth he fell that was the fruitful soil  
 Of his friends' hopes ; but where he sow'd he buried all his toil.  
 And as a poplar shot aloft, set by a river side, 520  
 In moist edge of a mighty fen, his head in curls implied,  
 But all his body plain and smooth, to which a wheelwright puts  
 The sharp edge of his shining axe, and his soft timber cuts  
 From his innative root, in hope to hew out of his bole  
 The fell'ffs, or out-parts of a wheel, that compass in the whole, 525  
 To serve some goodly chariot, but being big and sad,  
 And to be hal'd home through the bogs, the useful hope he had  
 Sticks there, and there the goodly plant lies withering out his grace :  
 So lay, by Jove-bred Ajax' hand, Anthemion's forward race,  
 Nor could through that vast fen of toils be drawn to serve the ends 530  
 Intended by his body's pow'rs, nor cheer his aged friends.

But now the gay-arm'd Antiphus, a son of Priam, threw  
 His lance at Ajax through the press, which went by him, and flew  
 On Leucus, wise Ulysses' friend ; his groin it smote, as fain  
 He would have drawn into his spoil the carcass of the slain, 535  
 By which he fell, and that by him ; it vex'd Ulysses heart,  
 Who thrust into the face of fight, well arm'd at every part,  
 Came close, and look'd about to find an object worth his lance ;  
 Which when the Trojans saw him shake, and he so near advance,  
 All shrunk, he threw, and forth it shin'd, nor fell but where it fell'd,  
 His friend's grief gave it angry pow'r, and deadly way it held 541  
 Upon Democoon, who was sprung of Priam's wanton force,  
 Came from Abydus, and was made the master of his horse.

<sup>516</sup> *As his spirit put on*—urged him forwards.

<sup>525</sup> *Fell'ffs*—fellies of a wheel.

<sup>526</sup> *Sad*—heavy. In the North the word is applied to bread, when the dough, from bad yeast, or not being well kneaded, does not rise properly. HALLIWELL, ARCHAIC AND PROVIN. DICT.

<sup>531</sup> From line 516 to this, Chapman has unwarrantably amplified, and somewhat distorted, the original.

<sup>540</sup> *Nor fell but where it fell'd*—a silly quibble of Chapman's.

Through both his temples struck the dart, the wood of one side show'd,  
 The pile out of the other look'd, and so the earth he strew'd 545  
 With much sound of his weighty arms. Then back the foremost went ;  
 Even Hector yielded ; then the Greeks gave worthy clamours vent,  
 Effecting then their first-dumb powers ; some drew the dead, and spoil'd ;  
 Some follow'd, that, in open flight, Troy might confess it foil'd.

Apollo, angry at the sight, from top of Ilion cried : 550  
 " Turn head, ye well-rode peers of Troy, feed not the Grecians' pride,  
 They are not charm'd against your points, of steel, nor iron, fram'd ;  
 Nor fights the fair-hair'd Thetis' son, but sits at fleet inflam'd."

So spake the dreadful God from Troy. The Greeks Jove's noblest Seed  
 Encourag'd to keep on the chace, and, where fit spirit did need, 555  
 She gave it, marching in the midst. Then flew the fatal hour  
 Back on Dioces, in return of Ilion's sun-burn'd pow'r ;  
 Dioces Amaryncides, whose right leg's ankle-bone,  
 And both the sinews, with a sharp and handful-charging stone  
 Pirus Imbrasides did break, that led the Thracian bands 560  
 And came from Ænos ; down he fell, and up he held his hands  
 To his lov'd friends ; his spirit wing'd to fly out of his breast ;  
 With which not satisfied, again Imbrasides address'd  
 His javelin at him, and so ripp'd his navel, that the wound,  
 As endlessly it shut his eyes, so, open'd, on the ground 565  
 It pour'd his entrails. As his foe went then suffic'd away,  
 Thoas Ætolius threw a dart that did his pile convey,  
 Above his nipple, through his lungs ; when, quitting his stern part,  
 He clos'd with him, and, from his breast first drawing out his dart,  
 His sword flew in, and by the midst it wip'd his belly out ; 570  
 So took his life, but left his arms ; his friends so flock'd about,  
 And thrust forth lances of such length before their slaughter'd king,  
 Which, though their foe were big and strong, and often brake the ring

<sup>552</sup> *Of steel, nor iron, fram'd.*—i. e. they (the Greeks) are not framed of steel or iron.

<sup>554</sup> *Jove's noblest Seed*—Pallas.

<sup>566</sup> *His stern part*—breast-bone ; from the Greek *στέρνον*.

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Forg'd of their lances, yet (enforc'd) he left th' affected prise.

The Thracian and Epeian dukes, laid close with closed eyes 575

By either other, drown'd in dust, and round about the plain

All hid with slaughter'd carcasses, yet still did hotly reign

The martial planet, whose effects had any eye beheld,

Free and unwounded (and were led by Pallas through the field,

To keep off javelins, and suggest the least fault could be found) 580

He could not reprehend the fight, so many strew'd the ground.

THE END OF THE FOURTH BOOK.



## THE FIFTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

KING Diomed (by Pallas' spirit inspir'd  
With will and power) is for his acts admir'd.  
Mere men, and men deriv'd from Deities,  
And Deities themselves, he terrifies.  
Adds wounds to terrors. His inflamed lance  
Draws blood from Mars, and Venus. In a trance  
He casts Æneas, with a weighty stone;  
Apollo quickens him, and gets him gone.  
Mars is recur'd by Pæon, but by Jove  
Rebuk'd for authoring breach of human love.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

In Epsilon, Heaven's blood is shed  
By sacred rage of Diomed.



WHEN Pallas breath'd in Tydeus' son; to render whom supreme  
To all the Greeks, at all his parts, she cast a hotter beam  
On his high mind, his body fill'd with much superior might,  
And made his complete armour cast a far more complete light.  
From his bright helm and shield did burn a most unwearied fire, 5  
Like rich Autumnus' golden lamp, whose brightness men admire  
Past all the other host of stars, when, with his cheerful face  
Fresh wash'd in lofty Ocean waves, he doth the skies enchase.

<sup>6</sup> "This simile likewise Virgil learns of him."—CHAPMAN. *Autumnus' golden lamp*—Sirius, or the Dog Star.



To let whose glory lose no sight, still Pallas made him turn  
Where tumult most express'd his power, and where the fight did burn.

An honest and a wealthy man inhabited in Troy, 11  
Dares the priest of Mulciber, who two sons did enjoy,  
Idæus, and bold Phegeus, well seen in every fight.  
These (singled from their troops, and hors'd) assail'd Minerva's knight,  
Who rang'd from fight to fight on foot. All hasting mutual charge, 15  
And now drawn near, first Phegeus threw a javelin swift and large,  
Whose head the king's left shoulder took, but did no harm at all ;  
Then rush'd he out a lance at him, that had no idle fall,  
But in his breast stuck 'twixt the paps, and struck him from his horse.  
Which stern sight when Idæus saw, distrustful of his force 20  
To save his slaughter'd brother's spoil, it made him headlong leap  
From his fair chariot, and leave all, yet had not 'scap'd the heap  
Of heavy funeral, if the God, great President of fire,  
Had not in sudden clouds of smoke, and pity of his sire  
To leave him utterly unheir'd, given safe pass to his feet. 25  
He gone, Tydides sent the horse and chariot to the fleet.

The Trojans seeing Dares' sons, one slain, the other fled,  
Were struck amaz'd. The blue-ey'd Maid, to grace her Diomed  
In giving free way to his power, made this so ruthless fact  
A fit advantage to remove the War-god out of act, 30  
Who rag'd so on the Ilium side. She grip'd his hand, and said :  
“ Mars, Mars, thou ruiner of men, that in the dust hast laid  
So many cities, and with blood thy godhead dost distain,  
Now shall we cease to show our breasts as passionate as men,  
And leave the mixture of our hands, resigning Jove his right, 35  
As Rector of the Gods, to give the glory of the fight  
Where he affecteth, lest he force what we should freely yield ?”  
He held it fit, and went with her from the tumultuous field,  
Who set him in a herby seat on broad Scamander's shore.  
He gone, all Troy was gone with him, the Greeks drave all before, 40

And every leader slew a man ; but first the king of men  
 Deserv'd the honour of his name, and led the slaughter then,  
 And slew a leader, one more huge than any man he led,  
 Great Odius, duke of Halizons ; quite from his chariot's head  
 He struck him with a lance to earth, as first he flight address'd ; 45  
 It took his forward-turned back, and look'd out of his breast ;  
 His huge trunk sounded, and his arms did echo the resound.

Idomenæus to the death did noble Phæstus wound,  
 The son of Meon-Borus, that from cloddy Terna came ;  
 Who, taking chariot, took his wound, and tumbled with the same 50  
 From his attempted seat ; the lance through his right shoulder strook,  
 And horrid darkness struck through him ; the spoil his soldiers took.

Atrides-Menelaus slew, as he before him fled,  
 Scamandrius, son of Strophius, that was a huntsman bred ;  
 A skilful huntsman, for his skill Diana's self did teach, 55  
 And made him able with his dart infallibly to reach  
 All sorts of subtlest savages, which many a woody hill  
 Bred for him, and he much preserv'd, and all to show his skill.  
 Yet not the dart-delighting Queen taught him to shun this dart,  
 Nor all his hitting so far off, the mast'ry of his art ; 60  
 His back receiv'd it, and he fell upon his breast withal ;  
 His body's ruin, and his arms, so sounded in his fall,  
 That his affrighted horse flew off, and left him, like his life.

Meriones slew Phereclus, whom she that ne'er was wife,  
 Yet Goddess of good housewives, held in excellent respect 65  
 For knowing all the witty things that grace an architect,  
 And having pow'r to give it all the cunning use of hand.  
 Harmonides, his sire, built ships, and made him understand,  
 With all the practice it requir'd, the frame of all that skill.  
 He built all Alexander's ships, that author'd all the ill 70  
 Of all the Trojans and his own, because he did not know  
 The oracles advising Troy, for fear of overthrow,

<sup>65</sup> Goddess of housewives—Minerva.

To meddle with no sea affair, but live by tilling land.

This man Meriones surpris'd, and drave his deadly hand  
Through his right hip ; the lance's head ran through the region 75  
About the bladder, underneath th' in-muscles and the bone ;  
He, sighing, bow'd his knees to death, and sacrific'd to earth.

Phylides stay'd Pedæus' flight, Antenor's bastard birth,  
Whom virtuous Theano his wife, to please her husband, kept  
As tenderly as those she lov'd. Phylides near him stept, 80  
And in the fountain of his nerves did drench his fervent lance,  
At his head's back-part ; and so far the sharp head did advance,  
It cleft the organ of his speech, and th' iron, cold as death,  
He took betwixt his grinning teeth, and gave the air his breath.

Eurypylus, the much renown'd, and great Evemon's son, 85  
Divine Hypsenor slew, begot by stout Dolopion,  
And consecrate Scamander's priest ; he had a God's regard  
Amongst the people ; his hard flight the Grecian follow'd hard,  
Rush'd in so close, that with his sword he on his shoulder laid  
A blow that his arm's brawn cut off ; nor there his vigour stay'd, 90  
But drave down, and from off his wrist it hew'd his holy hand  
That gush'd out blood, and down it dropp'd upon the blushing sand ;  
Death, with his purple finger, shut, and violent fate, his eyes.

Thus fought these, but distinguish'd well. Tydides so implies  
His fury that you could not know whose side had interest 95  
In his free labours, Greece or Troy ; but as a flood, increas'd  
By violent and sudden show'rs, let down from hills, like hills  
Melted in fury, swells and foams, and so he overfills  
His natural channel, that besides both hedge and bridge resigns  
To his rough confluence, far spread and lusty flourishing vines 100  
Drown'd in his outrage ; Tydeus' son so overran the field,  
Strew'd such as flourish'd in his way, and made whole squadrons yield.

When Pandarus, Lycaon's son, beheld his ruining hand,  
With such resistless insolence, make lanes through every band,

<sup>81</sup> *Fountain of the nerves*—nape of the neck.

He bent his gold-tipp'd bow of horn, and shot him rushing in, 105  
 At his right shoulder, where his arms were hollow ; forth did spin  
 The blood, and down his cures ran ; then Pandarus cried out :  
 " Rank-riding Trojans, now rush in. Now, now, I make no doubt  
 Our bravest foe is mark'd for death ; he cannot long sustain  
 My violent shaft, if Jove's fair Son did worthily constrain 110  
 My foot from Lycia." Thus he brav'd, and yet his violent shaft  
 Struck short with all his violence, Tydides' life was saft ;  
 Who yet withdrew himself behind his chariot and steeds,  
 And call'd to Sthenelus : " Come friend, my wounded shoulder needs  
 Thy hand to ease it of this shaft." He hasted from his seat 115  
 Before the coach, and drew the shaft ; the purple wound did sweat,  
 And down his shirt of mail in blood, and as it bled he pray'd :  
 " Hear me, of Jove-Ægiochus thou most unconquer'd Maid !  
 If ever in the cruel field thou hast assistful stood  
 Or to my father, or myself, now love, and do me good. 120  
 Give him into my lance's reach that thus hath given a wound  
 To him thou guard'st, preventing me, and brags that never more  
 I shall behold the cheerful sun." Thus did the king implore.  
 The Goddess heard, came near, and took the weariness of fight  
 From all his nerves and lineaments, and made them fresh and light,  
 And said : " Be bold, O Diomed, in every combat shine, 126  
 The great shield-shaker Tydeus' strength (that knight, that sire of thine)  
 By my infusion breathes in thee ; and from thy knowing mind  
 I have remov'd those erring mists that made it lately blind,  
 That thou may'st difference Gods from men, and therefore use thy skill  
 Against the tempting Deities, if any have a will 131  
 To try if thou presum'st of that, as thine, that flows from them,  
 And so assum'st above thy right. Where thou discern'st a beam  
 Of any other Heavenly Power than She that rules in love  
 That calls thee to the change of blows, resist not, but remove ; 135

<sup>112</sup> *Saft*—secured, saved. The past tense of the verb to *safe*, to secure, or make safe, used by Shakespeare.



But if that Goddess be so bold, since she first stirr'd this war,  
Assault and mark her from the rest with some infámous scar."

The blue-eyed Goddess vanished, and he was seen again  
Amongst the foremost, who before though he were prompt and fain  
To fight against the Trojans' powers, now, on his spirits were call'd 140  
With thrice the vigour ; lion-like, that hath been lately gall'd  
By some bold shepherd in a field, where his curl'd flocks were laid,  
Who took him as he leap'd the fold, not slain yet, but appaid  
With greater spirit, comes again, and then the shepherd hides,  
(The rather for the desolate place) and in his cote abides, 145  
His flocks left guardless, which, amaz'd, shake and shrink up in heaps,  
He, ruthless, freely takes his prey, and out again he leaps ;  
So sprightly, fierce, victorious, the great heroë flew  
Upon the Trojans, and, at once, he two commanders slew,  
Hypenor and Astynous ; in one his lance he fix'd 150  
Full at the nipple of his breast, the other smote betwixt  
The neck and shoulder with his sword, which was so well laid on  
It swept his arm and shoulder off. These left, he rush'd upon  
Abas and Polyëidus, of old Eurydamas  
The hapless sons, who could by dreams tell what would come to pass,  
Yet, when his sons set forth to Troy, the old man could not read 156  
By their dreams what would chance to them, for both were stricken dead  
By great Tydides. After these, he takes into his rage  
Xanthus and Thoön, Phænops' sons, born to him in his age ;  
The good old man even pin'd with years, and had not one son more  
To heir his goods, yet Diomed took both, and left him store 161  
Of tears and sorrows in their steads, since he could never see  
His sons leave those hot wars alive ; so this the end must be  
Of all his labours ; what he heap'd to make his issue great  
Authority heir'd, and with her seed fill'd his forgotten seat. 165

<sup>165</sup> *Authority heir'd*—The word that Chapman here translates *authority* is in the Greek *χρηωσται*, and means those more remote relatives who succeeded by authority, or law, to the property when there had been a *χρήρωσις*, or the family had lost its nearer heirs.

Then snatch'd he up two Priamists that in one chariot stood,  
 Echemon, and fair Chromius. As feeding in a wood  
 Oxen or steers are, one of which a lion leaps upon,  
 Tears down, and wrings in two his neck; so, sternly, Tydeus' son  
 Threw from their chariot both these hopes of old Dardanides, 170  
 Then took their arms, and sent their horse to those that ride the seas.

Æneas, seeing the troops thus toss'd, brake through the heat of fight,  
 And all the whizzing of the darts, to find the Lycian knight,  
 Lycaon's son; whom having found, he thus bespake the peer:

“ O Pandarus, where's now thy bow, thy deathful arrows where,  
 In which no one in all our host but gives the palm to thee, 176  
 Nor in the sun-lov'd Lycian greens, that breed our archery,  
 Lives any that exceeds thyself? Come, lift thy hands to Jove,  
 And send an arrow at this man, if but a man he prove,  
 That wins such god-like victories, and now affects our host 180  
 With so much sorrow, since so much of our best blood is lost  
 By his high valour. I have fear some God in him doth threat,  
 Incens'd for want of sacrifice; the wrath of God is great.”

Lycaon's famous son replied: “ Great counsellor of Troy,  
 This man, so excellent in arms, I think is Tydeus' joy; 185  
 I know him by his fiery shield, by his bright three-plum'd casque,  
 And by his horse; nor can I say, if or some God doth mask  
 In his appearance, or he be whom I nam'd Tydeus' son,  
 But without God the things he does for certain are not done.  
 Some great Immortal, that conveys his shoulders in a cloud, 190  
 Goes by and puts by every dart at his bold breast bestow'd,  
 Or lets it take with little hurt; for I myself let fly  
 A shaft that shot him through his arms, but had as good gone by,  
 Yet which I gloriously affirm'd had driven him down to hell.  
 Some God is angry, and with me, for far hence, where I dwell, 195  
 My horse and chariots idle stand, with which some other way  
 I might repair this shameful miss. Eleven fair chariots stay

<sup>171</sup> *That ride the seas*—Greek “ to the ships.”

In old Lycaon's court, new made, new trimm'd to have been gone,  
 Curtain'd, and arrast under foot; two horse to every one,  
 That eat white barley and black oats, and do no good at all; 200  
 And these Lycaon (that well knew how these affairs would fall)  
 Charg'd, when I set down this design, I should command with here,  
 And gave me many lessons more, all which much better were  
 Than any I took forth myself. The reason I laid down  
 Was but the sparing of my horse, since in a sieged town 205  
 I thought our horse-meat would be scant, when they were us'd to  
 have

Their manger full; so I left them, and like a lackey slave  
 Am come to Ilion, confident in nothing but my bow  
 That nothing profits me. Two shafts I vainly did bestow  
 At two great princes, but of both my arrows neither slew; 210  
 Nor this, nor Atreus' younger son; a little blood I drew,  
 That serv'd but to incense them more. In an unhappy star  
 I therefore from my armoury have drawn those tools of war  
 That day, when, for great Hector's sake, to amiable Troy  
 I came to lead the Trojan bands. But if I ever joy, 215  
 In safe return, my country's sight, my wife's, my lofty tow'rs,  
 Let any stranger take this head, if to the fiery Powers  
 This bow, these shafts, in pieces burst, by these hands be not thrown;  
 Idle companions that they are to me and my renown."

Æneas said: "Use no such words; for, any other way 220  
 Than this, they shall not now be us'd. We first will both assay  
 This man with horse and chariot. Come then, ascend to me,  
 That thou mayst try our Trojan horse, how skill'd in field they be,  
 And in pursuing those that fly, or flying, being pursued,  
 How excellent they are of foot; and these, if Jove conclude 225  
 The 'scape of Tydeus again, and grace him with our flight,  
 Shall serve to bring us safely off. Come, I'll be first shall fight,

<sup>216</sup> Both the folios have "*wives*," but the true reading is "*wife's*," if we consult the Greek.

Take thou these fair reins and this scourge ; or, if thou wilt, fight thou,  
 And leave the horses' care to me." He answer'd : " I will now  
 Descend to fight, keep thou the reins, and guide thyself thy horse, 230  
 Who with their wonted manager will better wield the force  
 Of the impulsive chariot, if we be driven to fly,  
 Than with a stranger ; under whom they will be much more shy,  
 And, fearing my voice, wishing thine, grow resty, nor go on  
 To bear us off, but leave engag'd for mighty Tydeus' son 235  
 Themselves and us. Then be thy part thy one-hoof'd horses' guide,  
 I'll make the fight, and with a dart receive his utmost pride."

With this the gorgeous chariot both, thus prepar'd, ascend,  
 And make full way at Diomed ; which noted by his friend,  
 " Mine own most-loved mind," said he, " two mighty men of war 240  
 I see come with a purpos'd charge ; one's he that hits so far  
 With bow and shaft, Lycaon's son, the other fames the brood  
 Of great Anchises and the Queen that rules in amorous blood,  
 Æneas, excellent in arms. Come up, and use your steeds,  
 And look not war so in the face, lest that desire that feeds 245  
 Thy great mind be the bane of it." This did with anger sting  
 The blood of Diomed, to see his friend, that chid the king  
 Before the fight, and then preferr'd his ablesse and his mind  
 To all his ancestors in fight, now come so far behind ;  
 Whom thus he answer'd : " Urge no flight, you cannot please me so ;  
 Nor is it honest in my mind to fear a coming foe, 251  
 Or make a flight good, though with fight. My powers are yet entire,  
 And scorn the help-tire of a horse. I will not blow the fire  
 Of their hot valours with my flight, but cast upon the blaze  
 This body borne upon my knees. I entertain amaze 255

<sup>235</sup> *Engag'd for*.—The second folio (which Dr. Taylor follows) omits " *for* ;" a typographical error.

<sup>239</sup> *Friend*—Sthenelus.

<sup>248</sup> *Ablesse*.—The second folio reads " *ableness*" which Dr. Taylor has followed. I retain the original reading which the metre requires.



Minerva will not see that shame ; and since they have begun,  
 They shall not both elect their ends, and he that 'scapes shall run,  
 Or stay and take the other's fate. And this I leave for thee ;—  
 If amply-wise Athenia give both their lives to me,  
 Rein our horse to their chariot hard, and have a special heed 260  
 To seize upon Æneas' steeds, that we may change their breed,  
 And make a Grecian race of them that have been long of Troy.  
 For these are bred of those brave beasts which, for the lovely boy  
 That waits now on the cup of Jove, Jove, that far-seeing God,  
 Gave Tros the king in recompense ; the best that ever trod 265  
 The sounding centre, underneath the morning and the sun.  
 Anchises stole the breed of them ; for, where their sires did run,  
 He closely put his mares to them, and never made it known  
 To him that heir'd them, who was then the king Laomedon.  
 Six horses had he of that race, of which himself kept four, 270  
 And gave the other two his son ; and these are they that scour  
 The field so bravely towards us, expert in charge and flight.  
 If these we have the power to take, our prise is exquisite,  
 And our renown will far exceed." While these were talking thus,  
 The fir'd horse brought th' assailants near, and thus spake Pandarus :  
 " Most suffering-minded Tydeus' son, that hast of war the art, 276  
 My shaft, that struck thee, slew thee not, I now will prove a dart."  
 This said, he shook, and then he threw, a lance, aloft and large,  
 That in Tydides' curets stuck, quite driving through his targe ;  
 Then bray'd he out so wild a voice that all the field might hear : 280  
 " Now have I reach'd thy root of life, and by thy death shall bear  
 Our praise's chief prise from the field." Tydides undismay'd  
 Replied : " Thou err'st, I am not touch'd ; but more charge will be laid  
 To both your lives before you part ; at least the life of one  
 Shall satiate the throat of Mars." This said, his lance was gone, 285  
 Minerva led it to his face, which at his eye ran in,  
 And, as he stoop'd, struck through his jaws, his tongue's root, and his  
 chin.

Down from the chariot he fell, his gay arms shin'd and rung,  
 The swift horse trembled, and his soul for ever charm'd his tongue.  
 Æneas with his shield, and lance, leapt swiftly to his friend, 290  
 Afraid the Greeks would force his trunk, and that he did defend,  
 Bold as a lion of his strength ; he hid him with his shield,  
 Shook round his lance, and horribly did threaten all the field  
 With death, if any durst make in. Tydides rais'd a stone  
 With his one hand, of wondrous weight, and pour'd it mainly on 295  
 The hip of Anchisiades, wherein the joint doth move  
 The thigh ('tis call'd the huckle-bone) which all in sherds it drove,  
 Brake both the nerves, and with the edge cut all the flesh away.  
 It stagger'd him upon his knees, and made the heroë stay  
 His struck-blind temples on his hand, his elbow on the earth ; 300  
 And there this prince of men had died, if She that gave him birth,  
 (Kiss'd by Anchises on the green where his fair oxen fed)  
 Jove's loving daughter, instantly had not about him spread  
 Her soft embraces, and convey'd within her heavenly veil  
 (Us'd as a rampire 'gainst all darts that did so hot assail) 305  
 Her dear-lov'd issue from the field. Then Sthenelus in haste,  
 Remembering what his friend advis'd, from forth the press made fast  
 His own horse to their chariot, and presently laid hand  
 Upon the lovely-coated horse Æneas did command ;  
 Which bringing to the wond'ring Greeks, he did their guard com-  
 mend  
 To his belov'd Deipylus, who was his inward friend, 311  
 And, of his equals, one to whom he had most honour shown,  
 That he might see them safe at fleet ; then stept he to his own,  
 With which he cheerfully made in to Tydeus' mighty race.  
 He, mad with his great enemy's rape, was hot in desperate chace 315  
 Of her that made it, with his lance, arm'd less with steel than spite,  
 Well knowing her no Deity that had to do in fight,

<sup>315</sup> *Rape*—here used for his being carried off by Venus.

Minerva his great patroness, nor, She that raceth towns,  
 Bellona, but a Goddess weak, and foe to men's renowns.  
 Her, through a world of fight pursu'd, at last he overtook, 320  
 And, thrusting up his ruthless lance, her heavenly veil he strook  
 (That even the Graces wrought themselves, at her divine command)  
 Quite through, and hurt the tender back of her delicious hand.  
 The rude point piercing through her palm, forth flow'd th' immortal blood ;  
 Blood, such as flows in blessed Gods, that eat no human food, 325  
 Nor drink of our inflaming wine, and therefore bloodless are,  
 And call'd Immortals ; out she cried, and could no longer bear  
 Her lov'd son, whom she cast from her, and in a sable cloud  
 Phœbus, receiving, hid him close from all the Grecian crowd,  
 Lest some of them should find his death. Away flew Venus then, 330  
 And after her cried Diomed : " Away, thou spoil of men,  
 Though sprung from all-preserving Jove, these hot encounters leave.  
 Is't not enough that silly dames thy sorceries should deceive,  
 Unless thou thrust into the war, and rob a soldier's right ?  
 I think a few of these assaults will make thee fear the fight, 335  
 Wherever thou shalt hear it nam'd." She, sighing, went her way  
 Extremely griev'd, and with her griefs her beauties did decay,  
 And black her ivory body grew. Then from a dewy mist  
 Brake swift-foot Iris to her aid from all the darts that hiss'd  
 At her quick rapture, and to Mars they took their plaintive course, 340  
 And found him on the fight's left hand, by him his speedy horse,  
 And huge lance, lying in a fog. The Queen of all things fair  
 Her loved brother on her knees besought, with instant prayer,  
 His golden-riband-bound-man'd horse to lend her up to heaven,  
 For she was much griev'd with a wound a mortal man had given, 345  
 Tydides, that 'gainst Jove himself durst now advance his arm.

He granted, and his chariot (perplex'd with her late harm)  
 She mounted, and her waggoness was She that paints the air.  
 The horse she rein'd, and with a scourge importun'd their repair,

That of themselves out-flew the wind, and quickly they ascend 350  
 Olympus, high seat of the Gods. Th' horse knew their journey's end,  
 Stood still, and from their chariot the windy-footed dame  
 Dissolv'd, and gave them heavenly food ; and to Dione came  
 Her wounded daughter, bent her knees. She kindly bade her stand,  
 With sweet embraces help'd her up, strok'd her with her soft hand, 355  
 Call'd kindly by her name, and ask'd : " What God hath been so rude,  
 Sweet daughter, to chastise thee thus, as if thou wert pursued  
 Even to the act of some light sin, and apprehended so ?  
 For otherwise, each close escape is in the great let go."

She answer'd : " Haughty Tydeus' son hath been so insolent, 360  
 Since, he whom most my heart esteems of all my lov'd descent,  
 I rescu'd from his bloody hand. Now battle is not given  
 To any Trojans by the Greeks, but by the Greeks to heaven."

She answer'd : " Daughter, think not much, though much it grieve  
 thee ; use  
 The patience, whereof many Gods examples may produce, 365  
 In many bitter ills receiv'd, as well that men sustain  
 By their inflictions as by men repaid to them again.  
 Mars suffer'd much more than thyself by Ephialtes' power,  
 And Otus', Aloeus' sons, who in a brazen tower,  
 And in inextricable chains, cast that war-greedy God, 370  
 Where twice six months and one he liv'd, and there the period  
 Of his sad life perhaps had clos'd, if his kind stepdame's eye,  
 Fair Erebaea, had not seen, who told it Mercury,  
 And he by stealth enfranchis'd him ; though he could scarce enjoy  
 The benefit of franchisement, the chains did so destroy 375  
 His vital forces with their weight. So Juno suffer'd more  
 When, with a three-fork'd arrow's head, Amphytrio's son did gore  
 Her right breast, past all hope of cure. Pluto sustain'd no less  
 By that self man, and by a shaft of equal bitterness

353 *Dione* — mother of *Venus*.



Shot through his shoulder at hell gates, and there, amongst the dead,  
 Were he not deathless, he had died ; but up to heaven he fled, 381  
 Extremely tortur'd, for recure, which instantly he won  
 At Pæon's hand, with sovereign balm ; and this did Jove's great son,  
 Unblest, great-high-deed-daring man, that car'd not doing ill,  
 That with his bow durst wound the Gods ! But, by Minerva's will, 385  
 Thy wound the foolish Diomed was so profane to give,  
 Not knowing he that fights with Heaven hath never long to live,  
 And for this deed, he never shall have child about his knee  
 To call him father, coming home. Besides, hear this from me,  
 Strength-trusting man, though thou be strong, and art in strength a  
 tower,

Take heed a stronger meet thee not, and that a woman's power 391  
 Contains not that superior strength, and lest that woman be  
 Adrastus' daughter, and thy wife, the wise Ægiale,  
 When, from this hour not far, she wakes, even sighing with desire  
 To kindle our revenge on thee, with her enamouring fire, 395  
 In choosing her some fresh young friend, and so drown all thy fame,  
 Won here in war, in her court-piece, and in an opener shame."

This said, with both her hands she cleans'd the tender back and palm  
 Of all the sacred blood they lost ; and, never using balm,  
 The pain ceas'd, and the wound was cur'd of this kind Queen of love.

Juno and Pallas, seeing this, assay'd to anger Jove, 401  
 And quit his late-made mirth with them about the loving Dame,  
 With some sharp jest, in like sort, built upon her present shame.  
 Grey-ey'd Athenia began, and ask'd the Thunderer,  
 If, nothing moving him to wrath, she boldly might prefer, 405  
 What she conceiv'd, to his conceit ; and, staying no reply,  
 She bade him view the Cyprian fruit he lov'd so tenderly,  
 Whom she thought hurt, and by this means ;—intending to suborn  
 Some other lady of the Greeks (whom lovely veils adorn)

<sup>408</sup> *Whom she thought hurt.*—Both the folios read "*though* hurt." Dr. Taylor prints "*thought*," which is perhaps the true reading.

To gratify some other friend of her much-loved Troy, 410  
 As she embrac'd and stirr'd her blood to the Venerean joy,  
 The golden clasp those Grecian dames upon their girdles wear  
 Took hold of her delicious hand, and hurt it, she had fear.

The Thunderer smil'd, and call'd to him love's golden Arbitress,  
 And told her those rough works of war were not for her access, 415  
 She should be making marriages, embracings, kisses, charms,  
 Stern Mars and Pallas had the charge of those affairs in arms.

While these thus talk'd, Tydides' rage still thirsted to achieve  
 His prise upon Anchises' son, though well he did perceive  
 The Sun himself protected him ; but his desires (enflam'd 420  
 With that great Trojan prince's blood, and arms so highly fam'd)  
 Not that great God did reverence. Thrice rush'd he rudely on,  
 And thrice, betwixt his darts and death, the Sun's bright target shone ;  
 But when upon the fourth assault, much like a spirit, he flew,  
 The far-off-working Deity exceeding wrathful grew, 425  
 And ask'd him : " What ! Not yield to gods ? Thy equals learn to  
 know.

The race of Gods is far above men creeping here below."

This drave him to some small retreat ; he would not tempt more near  
 The wrath of him that struck so far, whose power had now set clear  
 Æneas from the stormy field within the holy place 430  
 Of Pergamus, where, to the hope of his so sovereign grace,  
 A goodly temple was advanc'd, in whose large inmost part  
 He left him, and to his supply inclin'd his mother's heart,  
 Latona, and the dart-pleas'd Queen, who cur'd, and made him strong.

The silver-bow'd fair God then threw in the tumultuous throng 435  
 An image, that in stature, look, and arms, he did create  
 Like Venus' son ; for which the Greeks and Trojans made debate,  
 Laid loud strokes on their ox-hide shields and bucklers easily borne ;  
 Which error Phœbus pleas'd to urge on Mars himself in scorn :

<sup>434</sup> *Dart-pleas'd Queen* — Diana.

“ Mars, Mars,” said he, “ thou plague of men, smear’d with the  
 dust and blood 440  
 Of humans, and their run’d walls, yet thinks thy Godhead good  
 To fright this fury from the field, who next will fight with Jove?  
 First, in a bold approach, he hurt the moist palm of thy love,  
 And next, as if he did affect to have a Deity’s power,  
 He held out his assault on me.” This said, the lofty tower 445  
 Of Pergamus he made his seat ; and Mars did now excite  
 The Trojan forces, in the form of him that led to fight  
 The Thracian troops, swift Acamas. “ O Priam’s sons,” said he,  
 “ How long the slaughter of your men can ye sustain to see ?  
 Even till they brave you at your gates ? Ye suffer beaten down 450  
 Æneas, great Anchises’ son, whose prowess we renown  
 As much as Hector’s ; fetch him off from this contentious prease.”  
 With this, the strength and spirits of all his courage did increase ;  
 And yet Sarpedon seconds him, with this particular taunt  
 Of noble Hector : “ Hector, where is thy unthankful vaunt, 455  
 And that huge strength on which it built, that thou, and thy allies,  
 With all thy brothers (without aid of us or our supplies,  
 And troubling not a citizen) the city safe would hold ?  
 In all which friends’ and brothers’ helps I see not, nor am told  
 Of any one of their exploits, but (all held in dismay 460  
 Of Diomed, like a sort of dogs that at a lion bay,  
 And entertain no spirit to pinch) we, your assistants here,  
 Fight for the town as you help’d us, and I, an aiding peer,  
 No citizen, even out of care that doth become a man  
 For men and children’s liberties, add all the aid I can ; 465  
 Not out of my particular cause ; far hence my profit grows,  
 For far hence Asian Lycia lies, where gulfy Xanthus flows,

<sup>452</sup> *Prease*—press.

<sup>461</sup> *Sort*—See Bk. iv. 460.

<sup>462</sup> *Pinch*—a term frequently used for dogs pressing on and seizing their game.

<sup>463</sup> *As*—as if.

And where my lov'd wife, infant son, and treasure nothing scant,  
 I left behind me, which I see those men would have that want,  
 And therefore they that have would keep. Yet I, as I would lose 470  
 Their sure fruition, cheer my troops, and with their lives propose  
 Mine own life, both to general fight, and to particular cope  
 With this great soldier; though, I say, I entertain no hope  
 To have such gettings as the Greeks, nor fear to lose like Troy.  
 Yet thou, even Hector, deedless stand'st, and car'st not to employ 475  
 Thy town-born friends, to bid them stand, to fight and save their wives,  
 Lest as a fowler casts his nets upon the silly lives  
 Of birds of all sorts, so the foe your walls and houses hales,  
 One with another, on all heads; or such as 'scape their falls,  
 Be made the prey and prise of them (as willing overthrown) 480  
 That hope not for you with their force; and so this brave-built town  
 Will prove a chaos. That deserves in thee so hot a care  
 As should consume thy days and nights, to hearten and prepare  
 Th' assistant princes; pray their minds to bear their far-brought toils;  
 To give them worth with worthy fight; in victories and foils 485  
 Still to be equal; and thyself, exampling them in all,  
 Need no reproofs nor spurs. All this in thy free choice should fall."

This stung great Hector's heart; and yet, as every generous mind  
 Should silent bear a just reproof, and show what good they find  
 In worthy counsels, by their ends put into present deeds, 490  
 Not stomach nor be vainly sham'd, so Hector's spirit proceeds,  
 And from his chariot, wholly arm'd, he jump'd upon the sand,  
 On foot so toiling through the host, a dart in either hand,  
 And all hands turn'd against the Greeks. The Greeks despis'd their  
 worst,  
 And, thick'ning their instructed powers, expected all they durst. 495

<sup>471</sup> *Propose*.—Bk. I. 14.

<sup>481</sup> Both the folios read "*hope*." Dr. Taylor has "*holp*"—help, which seems preferable.

<sup>494</sup> *All hands turn'd*—excited all the army.



Then with the feet of horse and foot the dust in clouds did rise ;  
 And as, in sacred floors of barns, upon corn-winnowers flies  
 The chaff, driven with an opposite wind, when yellow Ceres dites,  
 Which all the deters' feet, legs, arms, their heads and shoulders whites,  
 So look'd the Grecians grey with dust, that struck the solid heaven, 500  
 Rais'd from returning chariots, and troops together driven.  
 Each side stood to their labours firm. Fierce Mars flew through the air,  
 And gather'd darkness from the fight, and, with his best affair,  
 Obey'd the pleasure of the Sun, that wears the golden sword,  
 Who bade him raise the spirits of Troy when Pallas ceas'd t' afford 505  
 Her helping office to the Greeks ; and then his own hands wrought,  
 Which, from his fane's rich chancel, cur'd, the true Æneas brought,  
 And plac'd him by his peers in field, who did with joy admire  
 To see him both alive and safe, and all his powers entire,  
 Yet stood not sifting how it chanc'd, another sort of task, 510  
 Then stirring th' idle sieve of news, did all their forces ask,  
 Inflam'd by Phœbus, harmful Mars, and Eris eag'rer far.  
 The Greeks had none to hearten them ; their hearts rose with the war ;  
 But chiefly Diomed, Ithacus, and both th' Ajaces us'd  
 Stirring examples and good words ; their own fames had infus'd 515  
 Spirit enough into their bloods, to make them neither fear  
 The Trojans' force, nor Fate itself, but still expecting were,  
 When most was done, what would be more ; their ground they still made  
     good,  
 And in their silence, and set powers, like fair still clouds, they stood,  
 With which Jove crowns the tops of hills in any quiet day, 520  
 When Boreas and the ruder winds (that use to drive away  
 Air's dusky vapours, being loose, in many a whistling gale)  
 Are pleasingly bound up, and calm, and not a breath exhale.  
 So firmly stood the Greeks, nor fled for all the Ilion's aid.  
 Atrides yet coasts through the troops, confirming men so staid : 525

<sup>498</sup> *Dites*—winnows. NARES quotes this passage for the word. I have not met with it elsewhere.

<sup>503</sup> *Affair*—action, endeavour.

“ O friends,” said he, “ hold up your minds ; strength is but strength  
of will ;

Reverence each other's good in fight, and shame at things done ill.

Where soldiers show an honest shame, and love of honour lives  
That ranks men with the first in fight, death fewer liveries gives 529  
Than life, or than where Fame's neglect makes cowards fight at length.  
Flight neither doth the body grace, nor shows the mind hath strength.”

He said, and swiftly through the troops a mortal lance did send  
That reft a standard-bearer's life, renown'd Æneas' friend,  
Deïcoön Pergasides, whom all the Trojans lov'd

As he were one of Priam's sons, his mind was so approv'd 535  
In always fighting with the first. The lance his target took,  
Which could not interrupt the blow that through it clearly strook,  
And in his belly's rim was sheath'd, beneath his girdle-stead.  
He sounded falling, and his arms with him resounded, dead.

Then fell two princes of the Greeks by great Æneas' ire, 540  
Diocleus' sons, Orsilochus and Crethon, whose kind sire  
In bravely-built Phæra dwelt, rich, and of sacred blood.

He was descended lineally from great Alphæus' flood,  
That broadly flows through Pylos' fields ; Alphæus did beget  
Orsilochus, who in the rule of many men was set ; 545  
And that Orsilochus begat the rich Diocleus ;

Diocleus sire to Crethon was, and this Orsilochus.

Both these, arriv'd at man's estate, with both th' Atrides went,  
To honour them in th' Ilion wars ; and both were one way sent,  
To death as well as Troy, for death hid both in one black hour. 550

As two young lions (with their dam sustain'd but to devour)  
Bred on the tops of some steep hill, and in the gloomy deep  
Of an inaccessible wood, rush out, and prey on sheep,

<sup>529</sup> *Liveries*—deliveries.

<sup>530</sup> The first folio has “ *cow-herds*.” This has frequently been given as the derivation of the word “ *coward*.”

<sup>538</sup> *Girdle-stead*.—The composition *stead* is used to mark the place or position of anything, thus *homestead*, *noonsted* ; *Girdle-stead*, the place of the girdle.

Steers, oxen, and destroy men's stalls, so long that they come short,  
 And by the owner's steel are slain; in such unhappy sort 555  
 Fell these beneath Æneas' power. When Menelaus view'd  
 Like two tall fir-trees these two fall, their timeless falls he rued,  
 And to the first fight, where they lay, a vengeful force he took;  
 His arms beat back the sun in flames, a dreadful lance he shook;  
 Mars put the fury in his mind, that by Æneas' hands, 560  
 Who was to make the slaughter good, he might have strew'd the  
 sands.

Antilochus, old Nestor's son, observing he was bent  
 To urge a combat of such odds, and knowing, the event  
 Being ill on his part, all their pains (alone sustain'd for him)  
 Err'd from their end, made after hard, and took them in the trim 565  
 Of an encounter. Both their hands and darts advanc'd, and shook,  
 And both pitch'd in full stand of charge; when suddenly the look  
 Of Anchisiades took note of Nestor's valiant son,  
 In full charge too; which, two to one, made Venus' issue shun  
 The hot adventure, though he were a soldier well approv'd. 570  
 Then drew they off their slaughter'd friends; who given to their belov'd,  
 They turn'd where fight show'd deadliest hate, and there mix'd with  
 the dead

Pylæmen, that the targeteers of Paphlagonia led,  
 A man like Mars; and with him fell good Mydon that did guide  
 His chariot, Atymnus' son. The prince Pylæmen died 575  
 By Menelaus; Nestor's joy slew Mydon; one before  
 The other in the chariot. Atrides' lance did gore  
 Pylæmen's shoulder, in the blade. Antilochus did force  
 A mighty stone up from the earth, and, as he turn'd his horse,  
 Struck Mydon's elbow in the midst; the reins of ivory 580  
 Fell from his hands into the dust; Antilochus let fly

<sup>565</sup> “*Trim*—‘order, or disposition.’ Beaumont and Fletcher speak of ‘the horrid *trims* of war.’”—DR. TAYLOR.

His sword withal, and, rushing in, a blow so deadly laid  
 Upon his temples, that he groan'd, tumbled to earth, and stay'd  
 A mighty while preposterously (because the dust was deep)  
 Upon his neck and shoulders there, even till his foe took keep 585  
 Of his pris'd horse, and made them stir, and then he prostrate fell.  
 His horse Antilochus took home. When Hector had heard tell,  
 Amongst the uproar, of their deaths, he laid out all his voice,  
 And ran upon the Greeks. Behind came many men of choice,  
 Before him march'd great Mars himself, match'd with his female mate,  
 The dread Bellona. She brought on, to fight for mutual fate, 591  
 A tumult that was wild and mad. He shook a horrid lance,  
 And now led Hector, and anon behind would make the chance.

This sight when great Tydides saw, his hair stood up on end;  
 And him, whom all the skill and power of arms did late attend, 595  
 Now like a man in counsel poor, that, travelling, goes amiss,  
 And having pass'd a boundless plain, not knowing where he is,  
 Comes on the sudden where he sees a river rough, and raves  
 With his own billows ravished into the king of waves,  
 Murmurs with foam, and frights him back; so he, amaz'd, retir'd, 600  
 And thus would make good his amaze: "O friends, we all admir'd  
 Great Hector, as one of himself, well-darting, bold in war,  
 When some God guards him still from death, and makes him dare so far.  
 Now Mars himself, form'd like a man, is present in his rage,  
 And therefore, whatsoever cause importunes you to wage 605  
 War with these Trojans, never strive, but gently take your rod,  
 Lest in your bosoms for a man ye ever find a God."

As Greece retir'd, the power of Troy did much more forward prease,  
 And Hector two brave men of war sent to the fields of peace;  
 Menesthes, and Anchialus; one chariot bare them both. 610  
 Their falls made Ajax Telamon ruthless of heart, and wroth,

<sup>584</sup> *Preposterously*.—Chapman uses this word in a somewhat unusual way; pre-posterous, hind part foremost. Here, *on his head*.

<sup>606</sup> *Take your rod*—submit.



Who light'ned out a lance that smote Amphius Selages,  
 That dwelt in Pæsos, rich in lands; and did huge goods possess,  
 But Fate, to Priam and his sons, conducted his supply.  
 The javelin on his girdle struck, and pierced mortally 615  
 His belly's lower part; he fell; his arms had looks so trim,  
 That Ajax needs would prove their spoil; the Trojans pour'd on him  
 Whole storms of lances, large, and sharp, of which a number stuck  
 In his rough shield, yet from the slain he did his javelin pluck,  
 But could not from his shoulders force the arms he did affect, 620  
 The Trojans with such drifts of darts the body did protect,  
 And wisely Telamonius fear'd their valorous defence,  
 So many, and so strong of hand, stood in with such expense  
 Of deadly prowess, who repell'd, though big, strong, bold, he were,  
 The famous Ajax, and their friend did from his rapture bear. 625  
 Thus this place fill'd with strength of fight; in th' army's other  
 prease,  
 Tlepolemus, a tall big man, the son of Hercules,  
 A cruel destiny inspir'd with strong desire to prove  
 Encounter with Sarpedon's strength, the son of cloudy Jove;  
 Who, coming on to that stern end, had chosen him his foe. 630  
 Thus Jove's great nephew, and his son, 'gainst one another go.  
 Tlepolemus, to make his end more worth the will of fate,  
 Began as if he had her pow'r, and show'd the mortal state  
 Of too much confidence in man, with this superfluous brave:  
 " Sarpedon, what necessity or needless humour drave 635  
 Thy form to these wars, which in heart I know thou dost abhor,  
 A man not seen in deeds of arms, a Lycian counsellor?  
 They lie that call thee son to Jove, since Jove bred none so late;  
 The men of elder times were they that his high power begat,  
 Such men as had Herculean force. My father Hercules 640  
 Was Jove's true issue; he was bold; his deeds did well express

<sup>614</sup> *Conducted his supply*—led him to assist.

<sup>623</sup> *Expense*—profusion, giving forth.

They sprung out of a lion's heart. He whilome came to Troy  
 (For horse that Jupiter gave Tros for Ganimed, his boy)  
 With six ships only, and few men, and tore the city down,  
 Left all her broad ways desolate, and made the horse his own. 645  
 For thee, thy mind is ill dispos'd, thy body's pow'rs are poor,  
 And therefore are thy troops so weak; the soldier evermore  
 Follows the temper of his chief; and thou pull'st down a side.  
 But say thou art the son of Jove, and hast thy means supplied  
 With forces fitting his descent, the powers that I compel 650  
 Shall throw thee hence, and make thy head run ope the gates of hell."

Jove's Lycian issue answer'd him: "Tlepolemus, 'tis true  
 Thy father holy Ilion in that sort overthrew;  
 Th' injustice of the king was cause, that, where thy father had  
 Us'd good deservings to his state, he quitted him with bad. 655  
 Hesione, the joy and grace of King Laomedon,  
 Thy father rescu'd from a whale, and gave to Telamon  
 In honour'd nuptials (Telamon, from whom your strongest Greek  
 Boasts to have issu'd) and this grace might well expect the like,  
 Yet he gave taunts for thanks, and kept, against his oath, his horse,  
 And therefore both thy father's strength, and justice, might enforce 661  
 The wreak he took on Troy; but this and thy cause differ far.  
 Sons seldom heir their fathers' worths. Thou canst not make his war.  
 What thou assum'st for him, is mine, to be on thee impos'd."

With this, he threw an ashen dart; and then Tlepolemus los'd 665  
 Another from his glorious hand. Both at one instant flew,  
 Both struck, both wounded. From his neck Sarpedon's javelin drew  
 The life blood of Tlepolemus; full in the midst it fell;  
 And what he threaten'd, th' other gave, that darkness, and that hell.  
 Sarpedon's left thigh took the lance; it pierc'd the solid bone, 670  
 And with his raging head ran through; but Jove preserv'd his son.  
 The dart yet vex'd him bitterly, which should have been pull'd out,  
 But none consider'd then so much, so thick came on the rout,

648 *Side*—your party.650 *Compel*—collect together, possess in myself.

And fill'd each hand so full of cause to ply his own defence ;  
 'Twas held enough, both fall'n, that both were nobly carried thence. 675

Ulysses knew th' events of both, and took it much to heart  
 That his friend's enemy should 'scape ; and in a twofold part  
 His thoughts contended, if he should pursue Sarpedon's life,  
 Or take his friend's wreak on his men. Fate did conclude this strife,  
 By whom 'twas otherwise decreed than that Ulysses' steel 680  
 Should end Sarpedon. In this doubt Minerva took the wheel  
 From fickle Chance, and made his mind resolve to right his friend  
 With that blood he could surest draw. Then did Revenge extend  
 Her full power on the multitude ; then did he never miss ;  
 Alastor, Halius, Chromius, Noemon, Prytanis, 685  
 Alcander, and a number more, he slew, and more had slain,  
 If Hector had not understood, whose pow'r made in amain,  
 And struck fear through the Grecian troops, but to Sarpedon gave  
 Hope of full rescue, who thus cried : " O Hector ! Help and save  
 My body from the spoil of Greece, that to your loved town 690  
 My friends may see me borne, and then let earth possess her own  
 In this soil, for whose sake I left my country's ; for no day  
 Shall ever show me that again, nor to my wife display,  
 And young hope of my name, the joy of my much thirsted sight ;  
 All which I left for Troy, for them let Troy then do this right." 695

To all this Hector gives no word, but greedily he strives  
 With all speed to repel the Greeks, and shed in floods their lives,  
 And left Sarpedon ; but what face soever he put on  
 Of following the common cause, he left this prince alone  
 For his particular grudge, because, so late, he was so plain 700  
 In his reproof before the host, and that did he retain ;  
 However, for example sake, he would not show it then,  
 And for his shame too, since 'twas just. But good Sarpedon's men  
 Ventur'd themselves, and forc'd him off, and set him underneath  
 The goodly beech of Jupiter, where now they did unsheath 705

The ashen lance ; strong Pelagon, his friend, most lov'd, most true,  
 Enforc'd it from his maimed thigh ; with which his spirit flew,  
 And darkness over-flew his eyes ; yet with a gentle gale,  
 That round about the dying prince cool Boreas did exhale,  
 He was revived, recomforted, that else had griev'd and died. 710

All this time flight drave to the fleet the Argives, who applied  
 No weapon 'gainst the proud pursuit, nor ever turn'd a head,  
 They knew so well that Mars pursu'd, and dreadful Hector led.  
 Then who was first, who last, whose lives the iron Mars did seize,  
 And Priam's Hector ? Helenus, surnamed Cœnopides ; 715  
 Good Teuthras ; and Orestes, skill'd in managing of horse ;  
 Bold Cœnomaus ; and a man renown'd for martial force,  
 Trechus, the great Ætolian chief ; Oresbius, that did wear  
 The gaudy mitre, studied wealth extremely, and dwelt near  
 Th' Atlantic lake Cephisides, in Hyla by whose seat 720  
 The good men of Bœotia dwelt. This slaughter grew so great,  
 It flew to heaven ; Saturnia discern'd it, and cried out  
 To Pallas : “ O unworthy sight ! To see a field so fought,  
 And break our words to Sparta's king, that Ilion should be rac'd,  
 And he return reveng'd, when thus we see his Greeks disgrac'd, 725  
 And bear the harmful rage of Mars ! Come, let us use our care,  
 That we dishonour not our powers.” Minerva was as yare  
 As she at the despite of Troy. Her golden-bridled steeds  
 Then Saturn's daughter brought abroad ; and Hebe, she proceeds  
 T' address her chariot ; instantly she gives it either wheel, 730  
 Beam'd with eight spokes of sounding brass ; the axle-tree was steel ;  
 The fell'ffs incorruptible gold, their upper bands of brass,  
 Their matter most unvalued, their work of wondrous grace ;  
 The naves, in which the spokes were driven, were all with silver bound ;  
 The chariot's seat two hoops of gold and silver strength'ned round, 735

<sup>727</sup> *Yare*—quick, ready. Frequently used by Shakespeare ; generally applied to sailors, sometimes not. “ If you have occasion to use me for your own turn, you shall find me *yare*.”—*Meas. for Meas.* IV. 2.

<sup>730</sup> i. e. she puts on both wheels.



Edg'd with a gold and silver fringe ; the beam, that look'd before,  
 Was massy silver ; on whose top, gears all of gold it wore,  
 And golden poitrils. Juno mounts, and her hot horses rein'd,  
 That thirsted for contention, and still of peace complain'd.

Minerva wrapt her in the robe that curiously she wove, 740  
 With glorious colours, as she sate on th' azure floor of Jove,  
 And wore the arms that he puts on, bent to the tearful field.  
 About her broad-spread shoulders hung his huge and horrid shield,  
 Fring'd round with ever-fighting snakes, through it was drawn to life  
 The miseries and deaths of fight, in it frown'd bloody Strife, 745  
 In it shin'd sacred Fortitude, in it fell Púrsuit flew,  
 In it the monster Gorgon's head, in which held out to view  
 Were all the dire ostents of Jove ; on her big head she plac'd  
 His four-plum'd glittering casque of gold, so admirably vast  
 It would an hundred garrisons of soldiers comprehend ; 750  
 Then to her shining chariot her vigorous feet ascend ;  
 And in her violent hand she takes his grave, huge, solid lance,  
 With which the conquests of her wrath she useth to advance,  
 And overturns whole fields of men, to show she was the Seed 754  
 Of him that thunders. Then heaven's Queen, to urge her horses' speed,  
 Takes up the scourge, and forth they fly. The ample gates of heaven  
 Rung, and flew open of themselves ; the charge whereof is given,  
 With all Olympus, and the sky, to the distinguish'd Hours,  
 That clear or hide it all in clouds, or pour it down in showers.  
 This way their scourge-obeying horse made haste, and soon they won  
 The top of all the topful heavens, where aged Saturn's son 761  
 Sat sever'd from the other Gods ; then stay'd the white-arm'd Queen  
 Her steeds, and ask'd of Jove, if Mars did not incense his spleen  
 With his foul deeds, in ruining so many and so great  
 In the command and grace of Greece, and in so rude a heat ? 765

<sup>736</sup> *The beam, &c.*—the pole.

<sup>737</sup> *Gears*—here for collars.

<sup>738</sup> *Poitrils*—breast-pieces, pectorals.

<sup>758</sup> *Distinguished*—varied, marked with distinctions.

At which, she said, Apollo laugh'd, and Venus, who still sue  
 To that mad God, for violence that never justice knew ;  
 For whose impiety, she ask'd, if, with his wished love,  
 Herself might free the field of him ? He bade her rather move  
 Athenia to the charge she sought, who us'd of old to be 770  
 The bane of Mars, and had as well the gift of spoil as he.

This grace she slack'd not, but her horse scourg'd, that in nature flew  
 Betwixt the cope of stars and earth ; and how far at a view  
 A man into the purple sea may from a hill descry,  
 So far a high-neighing horse of heaven at every jump would fly. 775

Arriv'd at Troy, where, broke in curls, the two floods mix their  
 force,  
 Scamander and bright Simois, Saturnia stay'd her horse,  
 Took them from chariot, and a cloud of mighty depth diffus'd  
 About them ; and the verdant banks of Simois produc'd  
 In nature what they eat in heaven. Then both the Goddesses 780  
 March'd, like a pair of timorous doves, in hasting their access  
 To th' Argive succour. Being arriv'd, where both the most and best  
 Were heap'd together (showing all, like lions at a feast  
 Of new-slain carcasses, or boars, beyond encounter strong)  
 There found they Diomed ; and there, 'midst all th' admiring throng,  
 Saturnia put on Stentor's shape, that had a brazen voice, 786  
 And spake as loud as fifty men, like whom she made a noise,  
 And chid the Argives : " O ye Greeks, in name and outward rite  
 But princes only, not in act, what scandal, what despite,

<sup>775</sup> " How far a heavenly horse took at one reach or stroke in galloping or running ; wherein Homer's mind is far from being expressed in his interpreters, all taking it for how far Deities were borne from the earth, when instantly they came down to earth : *τόσσον ἐπιθρόσκουσι*, &c.—*tantum uno saltu conficiunt, vel, tantum subsultim progrediuntur, deorum altizoni equi, &c. uno*—being understood, and the horse's swiftness highly expressed. The sense, otherwise, is senseless and contradictory."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>780</sup> " *Ἀμῆροσίην* is the original word, which Scaliger taxeth very learnedly, asking how the horse came by it on those banks, when the text tells him Simois produced it ; being willing to express by hyperbole the delicacy of that soil. If not, I hope the Deities could ever command it."—CHAPMAN.

Use ye to honour ! All the time the great Æacides 790  
 Was conversant in arms, your foes durst not a foot address  
 Without their ports, so much they fear'd his lance that all controll'd,  
 And now they out-ray to your fleet." This did with shame make bold  
 The general spirit and power of Greece ; when, with particular note  
 Of their disgrace, Athenia made Tydeus' issue hot. 795  
 She found him at his chariot, refreshing of his wound  
 Inflicted by slain Pandarus ; his sweat did so abound,  
 It much annoy'd him underneath the broad belt of his shield ;  
 With which, and tired with his toil, his soul could hardly yield  
 His body motion. With his hand he lifted up the belt, 800  
 And wip'd away that clotted blood the fervent wound did melt.  
 Minerva lean'd against his horse, and near their withers laid  
 Her sacred hand, then spake to him : " Believe me, Diomed,  
 Tydeus exampled not himself in thee his son ; not great,  
 But yet he was a soldier ; a man of so much heat, 805  
 That in his embassy for Thebes, when I forbad his mind  
 To be too vent'rous, and when feasts his heart might have declin'd,  
 With which they welcom'd him, he made a challenge to the best,  
 And foil'd the best ; I gave him aid, because the rust of rest,  
 That would have seiz'd another mind, he suffer'd not, but us'd 810  
 The trial I made like a man, and their soft feasts refus'd.  
 Yet, when I set thee on, thou faint'st ; I guard thee, charge, exhort  
 That, I abetting thee, thou shouldst be to the Greeks a fort,  
 And a dismay to Ilion, yet thou obey'st in nought,  
 Afraid, or slothful, or else both ; henceforth renounce all thought 815  
 That ever thou wert Tydeus' son." He answer'd her : " I know  
 Thou art Jove's daughter, and, for that, in all just duty owe  
 Thy speeches reverence, yet affirm ingenuously that fear  
 Doth neither hold me spiritless, nor sloth. I only bear

<sup>793</sup> *Out-ray*—spread out in array ; abbreviated from *array*. Dr. Taylor says "rush out," from the Anglo-Sax. "*rean*," to flow ; but there seems no necessity for such an etymology.

<sup>807</sup> *Declin'd*—turned aside.

Thy charge in zealous memory, that I should never war 820  
 With any blessed Deity, unless, exceeding far  
 The limits of her rule, the Queen, that governs chamber sport,  
 Should press to field; and her thy will enjoin'd my lance to hurt.  
 But, He whose power hath right in arms, I knew in person here,  
 Besides the Cyprian Deity, and therefore did forbear, 825  
 And here have gather'd in retreat these other Greeks you see,  
 With note and reverence of your charge." "My dearest mind," said she,  
 "What then was fit is chang'd. 'Tis true, Mars hath just rule in war,  
 But just war; otherwise he raves, not fights. He's alter'd far.  
 He vow'd to Juno, and myself, that his aid should be us'd 830  
 Against the Trojans, whom it guards; and therein he abus'd  
 His rule in arms, infring'd his word, and made his war unjust.  
 He is inconstant, impious, mad. Resolve then; firmly trust  
 My aid of thee against his worst, or any Deity; 834  
 Add scourge to thy free horse, charge home; he fights perfidiously."

This said; as that brave king, her knight, with his horse-guiding friend,  
 Were set before the chariot, for sign he should descend  
 That she might serve for waggoneess, she pluck'd the wagg'ner back,  
 And up into his seat she mounts; the beechen tree did crack  
 Beneath the burthen, and good cause, it bore so huge a thing, 840  
 A Goddess so replete with power, and such a puissant king.

She snatch'd the scourge up and the reins, and shut her heavenly look  
 In Hell's vast helm from Mars's eyes; and full career she took  
 At him, who then had newly slain the mighty Periphas,  
 Renown'd son to Ochesius, and far the strongest was 845  
 Of all th' Ætolians; to whose spoil the bloody God was run.  
 But when this man-plague saw th' approach of god-like Tydeus' son,  
 He let his mighty Periphas lie, and in full charge he ran  
 At Diomed; and he at him. Both near, the God began,  
 And, thirsty of his blood, he throws a brazen lance that bears 850  
 Full on the breast of Diomed, above the reins and gears;

839 *Beechen tree*—axle.840 The second folio reads "*large*" for "*huge*."



But Pallas took it on her hand, and struck the eager lance  
 Beneath the chariot. Then the knight of Pallas doth advance,  
 And cast a javelin off at Mars, Minerva sent it on,  
 That, where his arming girdle girt, his belly graz'd upon, 855  
 Just at the rim, and ranch'd the flesh; the lance again he got,  
 But left the wound, that stung him so, he laid out such a throat  
 As if nine or ten thousand men had bray'd out all their breaths  
 In one confusion, having felt as many sudden deaths.  
 The roar made both the hosts amaz'd. Up flew the God to heaven;  
 And with him was through all the air as black a tincture driven 861  
 To Diomed's eyes, as when the earth half chok'd with smoking heat  
 Of gloomy clouds, that stifle men and pitchy tempests threat,  
 Usher'd with horrid gusts of wind; with such black vapours plum'd,  
 Mars flew t' Olympus, and broad heaven, and there his place resum'd.  
 Sadly he went and sat by Jove, show'd his immortal blood, 866  
 That from a mortal-man-made wound pour'd such an impious flood,  
 And weeping pour'd out these complaints: "O Father, storm'st thou not  
 To see us take these wrongs from men? Extreme griefs we have got  
 Even by our own deep counsels, held for gratifying them; 870  
 And thou, our council's president, conclud'st in this extreme  
 Of fighting ever; being rul'd by one that thou hast bred;  
 One never well, but doing ill; a girl so full of head  
 That, though all other Gods obey, her mad moods must command,  
 By thy indulgence, nor by word, nor any touch of hand, 875  
 Correcting her; thy reason is, she is a spark of thee,  
 And therefore she may kindle rage in men 'gainst Gods, and she  
 May make men hurt Gods, and those Gods that are besides thy seed.  
 First in the palm 's hit Cyprides; then runs the impious deed  
 On my hurt person; and, could life give way to death in me, 880  
 Or had my feet not fetch'd me off, heaps of mortality

<sup>856</sup> *Ranch'd*—wrenched, tore. *He*—Diomede.

<sup>875</sup> *Nor by word*.—The second folio has incorrectly "*sword*."

<sup>879</sup> *First in the palm 's hit*.—Both the folios have "*First in the palms height Cyprides;*" and Dr. Taylor has thus printed, but the true meaning and reading must be obvious.

Had kept me consort." Jupiter, with a contracted brow,  
 Thus answer'd Mars: "Thou many minds, inconstant changeling thou,  
 Sit not complaining thus by me, whom most of all the Gods  
 Inhabiting the starry hill I hate; no periods 885  
 Being set to thy contentions, brawls, fights, and pitching fields;  
 Just of thy mother Juno's moods, stiff-neck'd, and never yields,  
 Though I correct her still, and chide, nor can forbear offence,  
 Though to her son; this wound I know tastes of her insolence;  
 But I will prove more natural; thou shalt be cur'd because 890  
 Thou com'st of me, but hadst thou been so cross to sacred laws,  
 Being born to any other God, thou hadst been thrown from heaven  
 Long since, as low as Tartarus, beneath the giants driven."

This said, he gave his wound in charge to Pæon, who applied  
 Such sovereign medicines, that as soon the pain was qualified, 895  
 And he recur'd; as nourishing milk, when runnet is put in,  
 Runs all in heaps of tough thick curd, though in his nature thin,  
 Even so soon his wound's parted sides ran close in his recure;  
 For he, all deathless, could not long the parts of death endure.  
 Then Hebe bath'd, and put on him fresh garments, and he sate 900  
 Exulting by his sire again, in top of all his state.  
 So, having, from the spoils of men, made his desir'd remove,  
 Juno and Pallas re-ascend the starry court of Jove.



## THE SIXTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

THE Gods now leaving an indifferent\* field,  
The Greeks prevail, the slaughter'd Trojans yield.  
Hector, by Helenus' advice, retires  
In haste to Troy, and Hecuba desires  
To pray Minerva to remove from fight  
The son of Tydeus, her affected knight,  
And vow to her, for favour of such price,  
Twelve oxen should be slain in sacrifice.  
In mean space Glaucus and Tydides meet;  
And either other with remembrance greet  
Of old love 'twixt their fathers, which inclines  
Their hearts to friendship; who change arms for signs  
Of a continued love for either's life.  
Hector, in his return, meets with his wife,  
And, taking in his armed hands his son,  
He prophesies the fall of Ilion.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

In Zeta, Hector prophesies;  
Prays for his son; wills sacrifice.



HE stern fight freed of all the Gods, conquest with doubtful wings  
Flew on their lances; every way the restless field she flings  
Betwixt the floods of Simois and Xanthus that confin'd  
All their affairs at Ilion, and round about them shin'd.

\* *Indifferent*—impartial.

The first that weigh'd down all the field of one particular side 5  
 Was Ajax, son of Telamon ; who, like a bulwark, plied  
 The Greeks' protection, and of Troy the knotty orders brake,  
 Held out a light to all the rest, and show'd them how to make  
 Way to their conquest. He did wound the strongest man of Thrace,  
 The tallest and the biggest set, Eussorian Acamas ; 10  
 His lance fell on his casque's plum'd top in stooping ; the fell head  
 Drave through his forehead to his jaws ; his eyes night shadowed.

Tydides slew Teuthranides Axylus, that did dwell  
 In fair Arisba's well-built tow'rs. He had of wealth a well,  
 And yet was kind and bountiful, he would a traveller pray 15  
 To be his guest, his friendly house stood in the broad highway,  
 In which he all sorts nobly us'd, yet none of them would stand  
 'Twixt him and death, but both himself, and he that had command  
 Of his fair horse, Calesius, fell lifeless on the ground.  
 Euryalus, Opheltius and Dresus, dead did wound ; 20  
 Nor ended there his fiery course, which he again begins,  
 And ran to it successfully, upon a pair of twins,  
 Æsepus, and bold Pedasus, whom good Bucolion,  
 (That first call'd father, though base born, renown'd Laomedon)  
 On Nais Abarbaræa got, a nymph that, as she fed 25  
 Her curled flocks, Bucolion woo'd, and mix'd in love and bed.  
 Both these were spoil'd of arms and life by Mecistiades.

Then Polypœtes, for stern death, Astyalus did seize ;  
 Ulysses slew Percosius ; Teucer Aretaön ;  
 Antilochus (old Nestor's joy) Ablerus ; the great son 30  
 Of Atreus, and king of men, Elatus, whose abode  
 He held at upper Pedasus, where Satnius' river flow'd ;  
 The great heroë Leitus stay'd Phylacus in flight  
 From further life ; Eurypylos Melanthius reft of light.

The brother to the king of men Adrestus took alive ; 35  
 Whose horse, affrighted with the flight, their driver now did drive

<sup>35</sup> *The brother—Menelaus.*



Amongst the low-grown tamarisk trees, and at an arm of one  
 The chariot in the draught-tree brake, the horse brake loose, and ron  
 The same way other flyers fled, contending all to town ;  
 Himself close at the chariot wheel upon his face was thrown, 40  
 And there lay flat, roll'd up in dust. Atrides inwards drave ;  
 And, holding at his breast his lance, Adrestus sought to save  
 His head by losing of his feet, and trusting to his knees ;  
 On which the same parts of the king he hugs, and offers fees  
 Of worthy value for his life, and thus pleads their receipt : 45  
 " Take me alive, O Atreus' son, and take a worthy weight  
 Of brass, elaborate iron, and gold. A heap of precious things  
 Are in my father's riches hid, which, when your servant brings  
 News of my safety to his ears, he largely will divide  
 With your rare bounties." Atreus' son thought this the better side, 50  
 And meant to take it, being about to send him safe to fleet ;  
 Which when, far off, his brother saw, he wing'd his royal feet,  
 And came in threatening, crying out : " O soft heart ! What's the cause  
 Thou spar'st these men thus ? Have not they observ'd these gentle laws  
 Of mild humanity to thee with mighty argument 55  
 Why thou shouldst deal thus, in thy house, and with all precedent  
 Of honour'd guest rites, entertain'd ? Not one of them shall fly  
 A bitter end for it from heaven, and much less, dotingly,  
 'Scape our revengeful fingers ; all, even th' infant in the womb,  
 Shall taste of what they merited, and have no other tomb 60  
 Than razed Ilion ; nor their race have more fruit than the dust."

This just cause turn'd his brother's mind, who violently thrust  
 The prisoner from him ; in whose guts the king of men impress'd  
 His ashen lance, which (pitching down his foot upon the breast  
 Of him that upwards fell) he drew ; then Nestor spake to all : 65  
 " O friends, and household men of Mars, let not your púrsuit fall,

<sup>39</sup> The second folio reads,—

“ The same way *others* fled, contending all to town ;”  
 omitting “ *flyers*.”

<sup>55</sup> *Argument*—example.

With those ye fell, for present spoil ; nor, like the king of men,  
 Let any 'scape unfell'd ; but on, dispatch them all, and then  
 Ye shall have time enough to spoil." This made so strong their chace  
 That all the Trojans had been hous'd, and never turn'd a face, 70  
 Had not the Priamist Helenus, an augur most of name,  
 Will'd Hector and Æneas thus : " Hector ! Anchises' fame !  
 Since on your shoulders, with good cause, the weighty burden lies  
 Of Troy and Lycia (being both of noblest faculties  
 For counsel, strength of hand, and apt to take chance at her best 75  
 In every turn she makes) stand fast, and suffer not the rest,  
 By any way search'd out for 'scape, to come within the ports,  
 Lest, fled into their wives' kind arms, they there be made the sports  
 Of the pursuing enemy. Exhort, and force your bands  
 To turn their faces ; and, while we employ our ventur'd hands, 80  
 Though in a hard condition, to make the other stay,  
 Hector, go thou to Ilion, and our queen-mother pray  
 To take the richest robe she hath ; the same that's chiefly dear  
 To her court fancy ; with which gem, assembling more to her  
 Of Troy's chief matrons, let all go, for fear of all our fates, 85  
 To Pallas' temple, take the key, unlock the leavy gates,  
 Enter, and reach the highest tow'r, where her Palladium stands,  
 And on it put the precious veil with pure and reverend hands,  
 And vow to her, besides the gift, a sacrificing stroke  
 Of twelve fat heifers-of-a-year, that never felt the yoke, 90  
 (Most answering to her maiden state) if she will pity us,  
 Our town, our wives, our youngest joys, and him that plagues them  
 thus  
 Take from the conflict, Diomed, that fury in a fight,  
 That true son of great Tydeus, that cunning lord of flight,  
 Whom I esteem the strongest Greek ; for we have never fled 95  
 Achilles, that is prince of men, and whom a Goddess bred,

<sup>86</sup> *Leavy*—leafy, folding doors.

Like him ; his fury flies so high, and all men's wraths commands."

Hector intends his brother's will, but first through all his bands  
He made quick way, encouraging ; and all, to fear afraid,  
All turn'd their heads and made Greece turn. Slaughter stood still  
dismay'd 100

On their parts, for they thought some God, fallen from the vault of stars,  
Was rush'd into the Ilions' aid, they made such dreadful wars.

Thus Hector, toiling in the waves, and thrusting back the flood,  
Of his ebb'd forces, thus takes leave : " So, so, now runs your blood  
In his right current ; forwards now, Trojans, and far-call'd friends, 105  
Awhile hold out, till, for success to this your brave amends,  
I haste to Ilion, and procure our counsellors and wives  
To pray, and offer hecatombs, for their states in our lives."

Then fair-helm'd Hector turn'd to Troy, and, as he trode the field,  
The black bull's hide, that at his back he wore about his shield, 110  
In the extreme circumference, was with his gait so rock'd,  
That, being large, it both at once his neck and ankles knock'd.

And now betwixt the hosts were met Hippolochus' brave son,  
Glaucus, who in his very look hope of some wonder won,  
And little Tydeus' mighty heir ; who seeing such a man 115  
Offer the field, for usual blows, with wondrous words began :

" What art thou, strong'st of mortal men, that putt'st so far before,  
Whom these fights never show'd mine eyes ? They have been evermore  
Sons of unhappy parents born that came within the length  
Of this Minerva-guided lance, and durst close with the strength 120  
That she inspires in me. If heaven be thy divine abode,  
And thou a Deity thus inform'd, no more with any God  
Will I change lances. The strong son of Dryus did not live  
Long after such a conflict dar'd, who godlessly did drive

<sup>98</sup> *Intends*—attends to ; a common use of the word in old writers.

<sup>102</sup> *Ilions' aid*.—Chapman not infrequently uses Ilions for people of Ilion, or Troy.

<sup>108</sup> *Their states in our lives*.—This is a somewhat complicated expression. The meaning is probably, as Dr. Taylor says, " for their lives and properties which depend on our lives."

Nysæus' nurses through the hill made sacred to his name, 125  
 And called Nysseius; with a goad he punch'd each furious dame,  
 And made them every one cast down their green and leavy spears.  
 This th' homicide Lycurgus did; and those ungodly fears,  
 He put the froes in, seized their God. Even Bacchus he did drive  
 From his Nysseius, who was fain, with huge exclaims, to dive 130  
 Into the ocean. Thetis there in her bright bosom took  
 The flying Deity, who so fear'd Lycurgus' threats, he shook.  
 For which the freely-living Gods so highly were incens'd,  
 That Saturn's great Son struck him blind, and with his life dispens'd  
 But small time after; all because th' Immortals lov'd him not, 135  
 Nor lov'd him since he striv'd with them; and his end hath begot  
 Fear in my powers to fight with heaven. But, if the fruits of earth  
 Nourish thy body, and thy life be of our human birth,  
 Come near, that thou mayst soon arrive on that life-bounding shore,  
 To which I see thee hoise such sail." "Why dost thou so explore,"  
 Said Glaucus, "of what race I am, when like the race of leaves 141  
 The race of man is, that deserves no question; nor receives  
 My being any other breath? The wind in autumn strows  
 The earth with old leaves, then the spring the woods with new endows;  
 And so death scatters men on earth, so life puts out again 145  
 Man's leavy issue. But my race, if, like the course of men,  
 Thou seek'st in more particular terms, 'tis this, to many known:  
 In midst of Argos, nurse of horse, there stands a walled town,  
 Ephyré, where the mansion-house of Sisyphus did stand,  
 Of Sisyphus-Æölides, most wise of all the land. 150  
 Glaucus was son to him, and he begat Bellerophon,  
 Whose body heaven indued with strength, and put a beauty on,

<sup>125</sup> *Nysæus*—Bacchus.

<sup>127</sup> *Leavy spears*—the thyrsi, or wands, of the Bacchanals.

<sup>129</sup> "Froes—for frows, Dutch for women.

'Buxom as Bacchus' froes, revelling and dancing.'

BEAUM. AND FLETCHER."—NARES.

<sup>134</sup> *Him*—Lycurgus.

<sup>146</sup> *Leavy*—leafy.

<sup>149</sup> *Ephyré*—Corinth.



Exceeding lovely. Prætus yet his cause of love did hate,  
 And banish'd him the town; he might; he rul'd the Argive state.  
 The virtue of the one Jove plac'd beneath the other's pow'r. 155  
 His exile grew since he denied to be the paramour  
 Of fair Anteia, Prætus' wife, who felt a raging fire  
 Of secret love to him; but he, whom wisdom did inspire  
 As well as prudence, (one of them advising him to shun  
 The danger of a princess' love, the other not to run 160  
 Within the danger of the Gods, the act being simply ill,)  
 Still entertaining thoughts divine, subdu'd the earthly still.  
 She, rul'd by neither of his wits, preferr'd her lust to both,  
 And, false to Prætus, would seem true, with this abhorr'd untroth:  
 "Prætus, or die thyself," said she, "or let Bellerophon die. 165  
 He urg'd dishonour to thy bed; which since I did deny,  
 He thought his violence should grant, and sought thy shame by  
 force."

The king, incens'd with her report, resolv'd upon her course,  
 But doubted how it should be run; he shunn'd his death direct,  
 (Holding a way so near not safe) and plotted the effect 170  
 By sending him with letters seal'd (that, opened, touch his life)  
 To Rheuns king of Lycia, and father to his wife.  
 He went; and happily he went, the Gods walk'd all his way;  
 And being arriv'd in Lycia, where Xanthus doth display

<sup>153</sup> "His cause of love—his personal beauty."—TAYLOR.

<sup>156</sup> His exile grew—the origin of his exile was, &c.

<sup>171</sup> "Bellerophontis literæ. Ad. Eras. This long speech many critics tax as untimely, being, as they take it, in the heat of fight; Hier. Vidas, a late observer, being eagerest against Homer. Whose ignorance in this I cannot but note, and prove to you; for, besides the authority and office of a poet, to vary and quicken his poem with these episodes, sometimes beyond the leisure of their actions, the critic notes not how far his forerunner prevents his worst as far; and sets down his speech at the sudden and strange turning of the Trojan field, set on a little before by Hector; and that so fiercely, it made an admiring stand among the Grecians, and therein gave fit time for these great captains to utter their admirations, the whole field in that part being to stand like their commanders. And then how full of decorum this gallant show and speech was to sound understandings, I leave only to such, and let our critics go cavil."—CHAPMAN.

The silver ensigns of his waves, the king of that broad land 175  
 Receiv'd him with a wondrous free and honourable hand.  
 Nine days he feasted him, and kill'd an ox in every day,  
 In thankful sacrifice to heaven, for his fair guest ; whose stay,  
 With rosy fingers, brought the world the tenth well-welcom'd morn,  
 And then the king did move to see the letters he had borne 180  
 From his lov'd son-in-law ; which seen, he wrought thus their contents :  
 Chimæra, the invincible, he sent him to convince,  
 Sprung from no man, but mere divine ; a lion's shape before,  
 Behind a dragon's, in the midst a goat's shagg'd form, she bore,  
 And flames of deadly fervency flew from her breath and eyes ; 185  
 Yet her he slew ; his confidence in sacred prodigies  
 Render'd him victor. Then he gave his second conquest way  
 Against the famous Solymi, when (he himself would say,  
 Reporting it) he enter'd on a passing vigorous fight.  
 His third huge labour he approv'd against a woman's spite, 190  
 That fill'd a field of Amazons ; he overcame them all.  
 Then set they on him sly Deceit, when Force had such a fall ;  
 An ambush of the strongest men, that spacious Lycia bred,  
 Was lodg'd for him ; whom he lodg'd sure, they never rais'd a head.  
 His deeds thus showing him deriv'd from some celestial race, 195  
 The king detain'd, and made amends, with doing him the grace  
 Of his fair daughter's princely gift ; and with her, for a dow'r,  
 Gave half his kingdom ; and to this, the Lycians on did pour  
 More than was given to any king, a goodly planted field,  
 In some parts thick of groves and woods, the rest rich crops did yield.  
 This field the Lycians futurely (of future wand'rings there 201  
 And other errors of their prince, in the unhappy rear

<sup>182</sup> *Convince*—overcome.

<sup>185</sup> The second folio reads,—

“ And flames of fervency flew from her breath and eyes ;”

omitting (obviously erroneously) *deadly*.

<sup>201</sup> “ *This field the Lycians futurely, &c.*—Chapman has transposed the clauses of the history to accommodate the theory of some commentators who assert that ‘ the field of wandering’ was the original demesne assigned to Bellerophon.”

COOKE TAYLOR.

Of his sad life) the Errant call'd. The princess brought him forth  
 Three children (whose ends griev'd him more, the more they were of  
 worth)

Isander ; and Hippolochus ; and fair Laodomy, 205

With whom, even Jupiter himself left heaven itself, to lie,

And had by her the man at arms, Sarpedon, call'd divine.

The Gods then left him, lest a man should in their glories shine,

And set against him ; for his son, Isandrus, in a strife

Against the valiant Solymi, Mars reft of light and life ; 210

Laödamia, being envied of all the Goddesses,

The golden-bridle-handling Queen, the maiden Patroness,

Slew with an arrow ; and for this he wand'red evermore

Alone through this his Aleian field, and fed upon the core

Of his sad bosom, flying all the loth'd consorts of men. 215

Yet had he one surviv'd to him of those three childeren,

Hippolochus, the root of me ; who sent me here with charge

That I should always bear me well, and my deserts enlarge

Beyond the vulgar, lest I sham'd my race, that far excell'd

All that Ephyra's famous towers, or ample Lycia, held. 220

This is my stock, and this am I." This cheer'd Tydides' heart,

Who pitch'd his spear down, lean'd, and talk'd in this affectionate part :

“ Certes, in thy great ancestor, and in mine own, thou art

A guest of mine, right ancient. King Oeneus twenty days

Detain'd, with feasts, Bellerophon, whom all the world did praise. 225

Betwixt whom mutual gifts were given. My grandsire gave to thine

A girdle of Phœnician work, impurpled wondrous fine.

Thine gave a two-neck'd jug of gold, which, though I use not here,

Yet still it is my gem at home. But, if our fathers were

Familiar, or each other knew, I know not, since my sire 230

Left me a child, at siege of Thebes, where he left his life's fire.

But let us prove our grandsires' sons, and be each other's guests.

To Lycia when I come, do thou receive thy friend with feasts ;

Peloponnesus, with the like, shall thy wish'd presence greet.  
 Mean space, shun we each other here, though in the press we meet.  
 There are enow of Troy beside, and men enough renown'd, 236  
 To right my pow'rs, whomever heaven shall let my lance confound.  
 So are there of the Greeks for thee ; kill who thou canst. And now  
 For sign of amity 'twixt us, and that all these may know  
 We glory in th' hospitious rites our grandsires did commend, 240  
 Change we our arms before them all." From horse then both de-  
 scend,

Join hands, give faith, and take ; and then did Jupiter elate  
 The mind of Glaucus, who, to show his reverence to the state  
 Of virtue in his grandsire's heart, and gratulate beside  
 The offer of so great a friend, exchanged, in that good pride, 245  
 Curets of gold for those of brass that did on Diomed shine,  
 One of a hundred oxen's price, the other but of nine.

By this, had Hector reach'd the ports of Scæa, and the tow'rs.  
 About him flock'd the wives of Troy, the children, paramours,  
 Inquiring how their husbands did, their fathers, brothers, loves. 250

He stood not then to answer them, but said : " It now behoves  
 Ye should all go t' implore the aid of heaven in a distress  
 Of great effect, and imminent." Then hasted he access  
 To Priam's goodly builded court, which round about was run  
 With walking porches, galleries, to keep off rain and sun. 255  
 Within, of one side, on a rew, of sundry colour'd stones,  
 Fifty fair lodgings were built out, for Priam's fifty sons,  
 And for as fair sort of their wives ; and, in the opposite view,  
 Twelve lodgings of like stone, like height, were likewise built arew,

<sup>242</sup> " *Φρένας ἐξέλετο Ζεὺς.* *Mentem ademit Jup.*, the text hath it ; which only I alter of all Homer's original, since Plutarch against the Stoics excuses this supposed folly in Glaucus. Spondanus likewise encouraging my alterations, which I use for the loved and simple nobility of the free exchange in Glaucus, contrary to others that, for the supposed folly in Glaucus, turned his change into a proverb, *χρύσεια χαλχείων*, golden for brazen."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>256</sup> *Rew*—row.



Where, with their fair and virtuous wives, twelve princes, sons in law  
 To honourable Priam, lay. And here met Hecuba, 261  
 The loving mother, her great son, and with her needs must be  
 The fairest of her female race, the bright Laodice.  
 The queen grip't hard her Hector's hand, and said: "O worthiest son,  
 Why leav'st thou field? Is't not because the cursed nation 265  
 Afflict our countrymen and friends? They are their moans that move  
 Thy mind to come and lift thy hands, in his high tow'r, to Jove.  
 But stay a little, that myself may fetch our sweetest wine  
 To offer first to Jupiter, then that these joints of thine  
 May be refresh'd, for, woe is me, how thou art toil'd and spent! 270  
 Thou for our city's general state, thou for our friends far sent,  
 Must now the press of fight endure, now solitude to call  
 Upon the name of Jupiter, thou only for us all.  
 But wine will something comfort thee; for to a man dismay'd  
 With careful spirits, or too much with labour overlaid, 275  
 Wine brings much rescue, strengthening much the body and the  
 mind."

The great helm-mover thus receiv'd the auth'ress of his kind:  
 "My royal mother, bring no wine, lest rather it impair  
 Than help my strength, and make my mind forgetful of th' affair  
 Committed to it; and, to pour it out in sacrifice, 280  
 I fear with unwash'd hands to serve the pure-liv'd Deities.  
 Nor is it lawful, thus imbrued with blood and dust, to prove  
 The will of heaven, or offer vows to cloud-compelling Jove.  
 I only come to use your pains (assembling other dames,  
 Matrons, and women honour'd most, with high and virtuous names) 285  
 With wine and odours, and a robe most ample, most of price,  
 And which is dearest in your love, to offer sacrifice  
 In Pallas' temple; and to put the precious robe ye bear  
 On her Palladium; vowing all, twelve oxen-of-a-year,  
 Whose necks were never rung with yoke, shall pay her grace their lives,  
 If she will pity our sieg'd town; pity ourselves, our wives; 291

Pity our children ; and remove from sacred Ilion  
 The dreadful soldier Diomed. And, when yourselves are gone  
 About this work, myself will go to call into the field,  
 If he will hear me, Helen's love, whom would the earth would yield, 295  
 And headlong take into her gulf, even quick before mine eyes  
 (For then my heart, I hope, would cast her load of miseries)  
 Borne for the plague he hath been born, and bred to the deface,  
 By great Olympius, of Troy, our sire, and all our race."

This said, grave Hecuba went home, and sent her maids about 300  
 To bid the matrons. She herself descended, and search'd out,  
 Within a place that breath'd perfumes, the richest robe she had ;  
 Which lay with many rich ones more, most curiously made  
 By women of Sidonia, which Paris brought from thence,  
 Sailing the broad sea, when he made that voyage of offence 305  
 In which he brought home Helena. That robe transferr'd so far  
 (That was the undermost) she took ; it glitter'd like a star ;  
 And with it went she to the fane, with many ladies more,  
 Amongst whom fair-cheek'd Theano unlock'd the folded door ;  
 Chaste Theano, Antenor's wife, and of Cisseüs' race, 310  
 Sister to Hecuba, both born to that great king of Thrace.  
 Her th' Ilions made Minerva's priest ; and her they follow'd all  
 Up to the temple's highest tow'r, where on their knees they fall,  
 Lift up their hands, and fill the fane with ladies' piteous cries.  
 Then lovely Theano took the veil, and with it she implies 315  
 The great Palladium, praying thus : " Goddess of most renown  
 In all the heaven of Goddesses, great Guardian of our town,  
 Reverend Minerva, break the lance of Diomed, cease his grace,  
 Give him to fall in shameful flight, headlong, and on his face,  
 Before our ports of Ilion, that instantly we may 320  
 Twelve unyok'd oxen-of-a-year in this thy temple slay  
 To thy sole honour ; take their bloods, and banish our offence ;  
 Accept Troy's zeal, her wives and save, our infants' innocence."

She pray'd, but Pallas would not grant. Mean space was Hector come  
 Where Alexander's lodgings were, that many a goodly room 325  
 Had built in them by architects of Troy's most curious sort,  
 And were no lodgings, but a house; nor no house, but a court;  
 Or had all these contain'd in them; and all within a tow'r,  
 Next Hector's lodgings and the king's. The lov'd of heaven's chief  
     Pow'r,  
 Hector, here ent'red. In his hand a goodly lance he bore, 330  
 Ten cubits long; the brazen head went shining in before,  
 Help'd with a burnish'd ring of gold. He found his brother then  
 Amongst the women, yet prepar'd to go amongst the men,  
 For in their chamber he was set, trimming his arms, his shield,  
 His cures, and was trying how his crooked bow would yield 335  
 To his straight arms. Amongst her maids was set the Argive Queen,  
 Commanding them in choicest works. When Hector's eye had seen  
 His brother thus accompanied, and that he could not bear  
 The very touching of his arms but where the women were,  
 And when the time so needed men, right cunningly he chid. 340  
 That he might do it bitterly, his cowardice he hid,  
 That simply made him so retir'd, beneath an anger, feign'd  
 In him by Hector, for the hate the citizens sustain'd  
 Against him, for the foil he took in their cause; and again,  
 For all their general foils in his. So Hector seems to plain 345  
 Of his wrath to them, for their hate, and not his cowardice;  
 As that were it that shelt'ed him in his effeminacies,  
 And kept him, in that dangerous time, from their fit aid in fight;  
 For which he chid thus: "Wretched man! So timeless is thy spite

<sup>336</sup> *Argive Queen*—Helen, formerly Argive queen.

<sup>345</sup> *Plain*—complain.

<sup>346</sup> "Hector dissembles the cowardice he finds in Paris; turning it, as if he chid him for his anger at the Trojans for hating him, being conquered by Menelaus, when it is for his effeminacy. Which is all paraphractical in my translation."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>349</sup> *Timeless*—untimely.

"Poison I see has been his *timeless* end."—*Romeo and Jul.* v. 5.

That 'tis not honest ; and their hate is just 'gainst which it bends. 350  
 War burns about the town for thee ; for thee our slaughter'd friends  
 Besiege Troy with their carcasses, on whose heaps our high walls  
 Are overlook'd by enemies ; the sad sounds of their falls  
 Without are echo'd with the cries of wives and babes within ;  
 And all for thee ; and yet for them thy honour cannot win 355  
 Head of thine anger. Thou shouldst need no spirit to stir up thine,  
 But thine should set the rest on fire, and with a rage divine  
 Chastise impartially the best that impiously forbears.  
 Come forth, lest thy fair tow'rs and Troy be burn'd about thine ears."

Paris acknowledg'd, as before, all just that Hector spake, 360  
 Allowing justice, though it were for his injustice' sake ;  
 And where his brother put a wrath upon him by his art,  
 He takes it, for his honour's sake, as sprung out of his heart,  
 And rather would have anger seem his fault than cowardice ;  
 And thus he answer'd : " Since, with right, you join'd check with advice,  
 And I hear you, give equal ear : It is not any spleen 366  
 Against the town, as you conceive, that makes me so unseen,  
 But sorrow for it ; which to ease, and by discourse digest  
 Within myself, I live so close ; and yet, since men might wrest  
 My sad retreat, like you, my wife with her advice inclin'd 370  
 This my addression to the field, which was mine own free mind,  
 As well as th' instance of her words ; for though the foil were mine,  
 Conquest brings forth her wreaths by turns. Stay then this haste of thine  
 But till I arm, and I am made a cónsort for thee straight ;—  
 Or go, I'll overtake thy haste." Helen stood at receipt, 375

<sup>365</sup> Dr. Taylor has printed "*care*," but probably through an oversight.

<sup>372</sup> *Foil*—defeat ; alluding to the fight with Menelaus.

<sup>375</sup> *Stood at receipt*.—Dr. Taylor has strangely misunderstood this passage, when he says "*stood as to cover her husband's confusion*," which was the very thing she did not wish to do. The meaning is simply "*stood at hand*," "*stood by*, or *ready*." The next line would seem to be, "and took up Hector's powerful arguments to enforce her own words, which left Paris no escape;" but it *might* mean, as Dr. Taylor says, "occupied Hector's attention" by her speech. The whole passage is an interpolation by Chapman.



And took up all great Hector's powers t' attend her heavy words,  
By which had Paris no reply. This vent her grief affords :

“ Brother (if I may call you so, that had been better born  
A dog, than such a horrid dame as all men curse and scorn,  
A mischief-maker, a man-plague) O would to God, the day, 380  
That first gave light to me, had been a whirlwind in my way,  
And borne me to some desert hill, or hid me in the rage  
Of earth's most far-resounding seas, ere I should thus engage  
The dear lives of so many friends ! Yet since the Gods have been  
Helpless foreseers of my plagues, they might have likewise seen 385  
That he they put in yoke with me, to bear out their award,  
Had been a man of much more spirit, and, or had noblier dar'd  
To shield mine honour with this deed, or with his mind had known  
Much better the upbraids of men, that so he might have shown  
(More like a man) some sense of grief for both my shame and his. 390  
But he is senseless, nor conceives what any manhood is,  
Nor now, nor ever after will, and therefore hangs, I fear,  
A plague above him. But come near, good brother ; rest you here,  
Who, of the world of men, stands charg'd with most unrest for me,  
Vile wretch, and for my lover's wrong, on whom a destiny 395  
So bitter is impos'd by Jove, that all succeeding times  
Will put, to our unended shames, in all men's mouths our crimes.”

He answer'd : “ Helen, do not seek to make me sit with thee ;  
I must not stay, though well I know thy honour'd love of me.  
My mind calls forth to aid our friends, in whom my absence breeds 400  
Longings to see me ; for whose sakes, importune thou to deeds  
This man by all means, that your care may make his own make hast  
And meet me in the open town, that all may see at last  
He minds his lover. I myself will now go home, and see  
My household, my dear wife, and son, that little hope of me ; 405  
For, sister, 'tis without my skill, if I shall evermore  
Return, and see them, or to earth, her right in me, restore.

<sup>385</sup> *Helpless*—unaiding.

<sup>406</sup> *Without my skill*—beyond my knowledge, more than I know.

The Gods may stoop me by the Greeks." This said, he went to see  
 The virtuous princess, his true wife, white-arm'd Andromache.  
 She, with her infant son and maid, was climb'd the tow'r, about 410  
 The sight of him that sought for her, weeping and crying out.  
 Hector, not finding her at home, was going forth, retir'd,  
 Stood in the gate, her woman call'd, and curiously inquir'd  
 Where she was gone ; bad tell him true, if she were gone to see  
 His sisters, or his brothers' wives ; or whether she should be 415  
 At temple with the other dames, t' implore Minerva's ruth.

Her woman answer'd : Since he ask'd, and urg'd so much the truth,  
 The truth was she was neither gone to see his brothers' wives,  
 His sisters, nor t' implore the ruth of Pallas on their lives ;  
 But she (advertis'd of the bane Troy suffer'd, and how vast 420  
 Conquest had made herself for Greece) like one distraught, made hast  
 To ample Ilium with her son, and nurse, and all the way  
 Mourn'd, and dissolv'd in tears for him. Then Hector made no stay,  
 But trod her path, and through the streets, magnificently built,  
 All the great city pass'd, and came where, seeing how blood was spilt,  
 Andromache might see him come ; who made as he would pass 426  
 The ports without saluting her, not knowing where she was.  
 She, with his sight, made breathless haste to meet him ; she, whose grace  
 Brought him withal so great a dow'r ; she that of all the race  
 Of king Aetion only liv'd, Aetion, whose house stood 430  
 Beneath the mountain Placius, environ'd with the wood  
 Of Theban Hypoplac, being court to the Cilician land.  
 She ran to Hector, and with her, tender of heart and hand,  
 Her son, borne in his nurse's arms ; when, like a heavenly sign,  
 Compact of many golden stars, the princely child did shine, 435  
 Whom Hector call'd Scamandrius, but whom the town did name  
 Astyanax, because his sire did only prop the same.  
 Hector, though grief bereft his speech, yet smil'd upon his joy.  
 Andromache cried out, mix'd hands, and to the strength of Troy

Thus wept forth her affection : “ O noblest in desire ! 440  
 Thy mind, inflam’d with others’ good, will set thyself on fire.  
 Nor pitiest thou thy son, nor wife, who must thy widow be  
 If now thou issue ; all the field will only run on thee.  
 Better my shoulders underwent the earth, than thy decease ;  
 For then would earth bear joys no more ; then comes the black increase  
 Of griefs, like Greeks, on Ilium. Alas ! What one survives 446  
 To be my refuge ? One black day bereft seven brothers’ lives,  
 By stern Achilles ; by his hand my father breath’d his last,  
 His high-wall’d rich Cilician Thebes sack’d by him, and laid wast ;  
 The royal body yet he left unspoil’d ; religion charm’d 450  
 That act of spoil ; and all in fire he burn’d him complete arm’d ;  
 Built over him a royal tomb ; and to the monument  
 He left of him th’ Oreades (that are the high descent  
 Of Ægis-bearing Jupiter) another of their own  
 Did add to it, and set it round with elms ; by which is shown, 455  
 In theirs, the barrenness of death ; yet might it serve beside  
 To shelter the sad monument from all the ruffinous pride  
 Of storms and tempests, us’d to hurt things of that noble kind.  
 The short life yet my mother liv’d he sav’d, and serv’d his mind  
 With all the riches of the realm ; which not enough esteem’d, 460  
 He kept her prisoner, whom small time, but much more wealth, re-  
 deem’d,  
 And she, in sylvan Hypoplace, Cilicia rul’d again,  
 But soon was over-rul’d by death ; Diana’s chaste disdain  
 Gave her a lance, and took her life. Yet, all these gone from me,  
 Thou amply render’st all ; thy life makes still my father be, 465  
 My mother, brothers ; and besides thou art my husband too,  
 Most lov’d, most worthy. Pity then, dear love, and do not go,  
 For thou gone, all these go again ; pity our common joy,  
 Lest, of a father’s patronage, the bulwark of all Troy,

<sup>457</sup> The second folio (which Dr. Taylor follows) reads “ *said* monument ;” an evident typographical error.

Thou leav'st him a poor widow's charge. Stay, stay then, in this tow'r,  
 And call up to the wild fig-tree all thy retired pow'r ; 471  
 For there the wall is easiest scal'd, and fittest for surprise,  
 And there, th' Ajaces, Idomen, th' Atrides, Diomed, thrice  
 Have both survey'd and made attempt, I know not if induc'd  
 By some wise augury, or the fact was naturally infus'd 475  
 Into their wits, or courages." To this, great Hector said :  
 " Be well assured, wife, all these things in my kind cares are weighed.  
 But what a shame, and fear, it is to think how Troy would scorn  
 (Both in her husbands and her wives, whom long-train'd gowns adorn)  
 That I should cowardly fly off ! The spirit I first did breath 480  
 Did never teach me that ; much less, since the contempt of death  
 Was settled in me, and my mind knew what a worthy was  
 Whose office is to lead in fight, and give no danger pass  
 Without improvement. In this fire must Hector's trial shine ;  
 Here must his country, father, friends, be, in him, made divine. 485  
 And such a stormy day shall come (in mind and soul I know)  
 When sacred Troy shall shed her tow'rs for tears of overthrow,  
 When Priam, all his birth and pow'r, shall in those tears be drown'd.  
 But neither Troy's posterity so much my soul doth wound,  
 Priam, nor Hecuba herself, nor all my brothers' woes, 490  
 (Who though so many, and so good, must all be food for foes)  
 As thy sad state, when some rude Greek shall lead thee weeping hence,  
 These free days clouded, and a night of captive violence  
 Loading thy temples, out of which thine eyes must never see,  
 But spin the Greek wives' webs of task, and their fetch-water be 495  
 To Argos, from Messeides, or clear Hyperia's spring ;  
 Which howsoever thou abhorr'st, Fate's such a shrewish thing  
 She will be mistress ; whose curs'd hands, when they shall crush out cries  
 From thy oppressions (being beheld by other enemies)

<sup>493</sup> *Free days*.—The second folio has " *three days* ;" a misprint.

<sup>497</sup> *Shrewish*—cursed, malicious.



Thus they will nourish thy extremes: ' This dame was Hector's wife,  
 A man that, at the wars of Troy, did breathe the worthiest life 501  
 Of all their army.' This again will rub thy fruitful wounds,  
 To miss the man that to thy bands could give such narrow bounds.  
 But that day shall not wound mine eyes; the solid heap of night  
 Shall interpose, and stop mine ears against thy plaints, and plight."

This said, he reach'd to take his son, who, of his arms afraid, 506  
 And then the horse-hair plume, with which he was so overlaid,  
 Nodded so horribly, he cling'd back to his nurse, and cried.  
 Laughter affected his great sire, who doff'd, and laid aside,  
 His fearful helm, that on the earth cast round about it light, 510  
 Then took and kiss'd his loving son, and (balancing his weight  
 In dancing him) these loving vows to living Jove he us'd,  
 And all the other bench of Gods: " O you that have infus'd  
 Soul to this infant, now set down this blessing on his star;—  
 Let his renown be clear as mine; equal his strength in war; 515  
 And make his reign so strong in Troy, that years to come may yield  
 His facts this fame, when, rich in spoils, he leaves the conquer'd field  
 Sown with his slaughters: ' These high deeds exceed his father's  
 worth.'

And let this echo'd praise supply the comforts to come forth  
 Of his kind mother with my life." This said, th' heroic sire 520  
 Gave him his mother, whose fair eyes fresh streams of love's salt fire  
 Billow'd on her soft cheeks, to hear the last of Hector's speech,  
 In which his vows compris'd the sum of all he did beseech  
 In her wish'd comfort. So she took into her odorous breast  
 Her husband's gift; who, mov'd to see her heart so much oppress'd,  
 He dried her tears, and thus desir'd: " Afflict me not, dear wife, 526  
 With these vain griefs. He doth not live that can disjoin my life  
 And this firm bosom, but my fate; and fate, whose wings can fly?  
 Noble, ignoble, fate controls. Once born, the best must die.

<sup>503</sup> *To miss the man, &c.*—To miss him who could soon put an end or stop to your slavery.

Go home, and set thy housewifery on these extremes of thought ; 530  
 And drive war from them with thy maids ; keep them from doing nought ;  
 These will be nothing ; leave the cares of war to men, and me  
 In whom of all the Ilion race they take their high'st degree."

On went his helm ; his princess home, half cold with kindly fears,  
 When every fear turn'd back her looks, and every look shed tears. 535  
 Foe-slaughtering Hector's house soon reach'd, her many women there  
 Wept all to see her ; in his life great Hector's funerals were ;  
 Never look'd any eye of theirs to see their lord safe home,  
 'Scap'd from the gripes and powers of Greece. And now was Paris come  
 From his high tow'rs ; who made no stay, when once he had put on 540  
 His richest armour, but flew forth ; the flints he trod upon  
 Sparkled with lustre of his arms ; his long-ebb'd spirits now flow'd  
 The higher for their lower ebb. And as a fair steed proud  
 With full-given mangers, long tied up, and now, his head-stall broke,  
 He breaks from stable, runs the field, and with an ample stroke 545  
 Measures the centre, neighs, and lifts aloft his wanton head,  
 About his shoulders shakes his crest, and where he hath been fed,  
 Or in some calm flood wash'd, or, stung with his high plight, he flies  
 Amongst his females, strength put forth, his beauty beautifies,  
 And, like life's mirror, bears his gait ; so Paris from the tow'r 550  
 Of lofty Pergamus came forth ; he show'd a sun-like pow'r  
 In carriage of his goodly parts, address'd now to the strife ;  
 And found his noble brother near the place he left his wife.  
 Him thus respected he salutes : " Right worthy, I have fear  
 That your so serious haste to field my stay hath made forbear, 555  
 And that I come not as you wish." He answer'd : " Honour'd man,  
 Be confident, for not myself, nor any others, can  
 Reprove in thee the work of fight, at least, not any such  
 As is an equal judge of things ; for thou hast strength as much  
 As serves to execute a mind very important, but 560  
 Thy strength too readily flies off, enough will is not put

<sup>560</sup> *Important*—full of anxiety, restless.

To thy ability. My heart is in my mind's strife sad,  
When Troy (out of her much distress she and her friends have had  
By thy procurement) doth deprave thy noblesse in mine ears.  
But come, hereafter we shall calm these hard conceits of theirs, 565  
When, from their ports the foe expuls'd, high Jove to them hath given  
Wish'd peace, and us free sacrifice to all the Powers of heaven."

<sup>564</sup> *Noblesse*.—The second folio has "*noblenesse*," which Dr. Taylor adopts; but the earlier reading is manifestly the true one.

THE END OF THE SIXTH BOOK.



## THE SEVENTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.\*

### THE ARGUMENT.

HECTOR, by Helenus' advice, doth seek  
Adventurous combat on the boldest Greek.  
Nine Greeks stand up, acceptants every one,  
But lot selects strong Ajax Telamon.  
Both, with high honour, stand th' important fight,  
Till heralds part them by approached night.  
Lastly, they grave the dead. The Greeks erect  
A mighty wall, their navy to protect;  
Which angers Neptune. Jove, by hapless signs,  
In depth of night, succeeding woes divines.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

In Eta, Priam's strongest son  
Combats with Ajax Telamon.



HIS said, brave Hector through the ports, with Troy's  
bane-bringing knight,  
Made issue to th' insatiate field, resolv'd to fervent fight.  
And as the Weather-wielder sends to seamen prosperous  
gales,  
When with their sallow polish'd oars, long lifted from their falls,

\* "These next four books have not my last hand; and because the rest (for a time) will be sufficient to employ your censures, suspend them of these. Spare not the other."—CHAPMAN.



Their wearied arms, dissolv'd with toil, can scarce strike one stroke more;  
 Like those sweet winds appear'd these lords to Trojans tir'd before. 6  
 Then fell they to the works of death. By Paris' valour fell  
 King Areithous' hapless son, that did in Arna dwell,  
 Menesthus, whose renowned sire a club did ever bear,  
 And of Phylomedusa gat, that had her eyes so clear, 10  
 This slaughter'd issue. Hector's dart struck Eioneus dead;  
 Beneath his good steel casque it pierc'd above his gorget-stead.  
 Glaucus, Hippolochus's son, that led the Lycian crew,  
 Iphinous-Dexiades with sudden javelin slew,  
 As he was mounting to his horse; his shoulders took the spear, 15  
 And ere he sate, in tumbling down, his powers dissolved were.

When grey-ey'd Pallas had perceiv'd the Greeks so fall in fight,  
 From high Olympus' top she stoop'd, and did on Ilion light.  
 Apollo to encounter her to Pergamus did fly,  
 From whence he, looking to the field, wish'd Trojans' victory. 20  
 At Jove's broad beech these Godheads met; and first Jove's son objects:  
 "Why, burning in contention thus, do thy extreme affects  
 Conduct thee from our peaceful hill? Is it to oversway  
 The doubtful victory of fight, and give the Greeks the day?  
 Thou never pitiest perishing Troy. Yet now let me persuade, 25  
 That this day no more mortal wounds may either side invade.  
 Hereafter, till the end of Troy, they shall apply the fight,  
 Since your immortal wills resolve to overturn it quite."

Pallas replied: "It likes me well; for this came I from heaven;  
 But to make either army cease, what order shall be given?" 30  
 He said: "We will direct the spirit that burns in Hector's breast  
 To challenge any Greek to wounds, with single powers impress'd;  
 Which Greeks, admiring, will accept, and make some one stand out  
 So stout a challenge to receive with a defence as stout."  
 It is confirm'd; and Helenus (king Priam's loved seed) 35  
 By augury discern'd th' event that these two powers decreed,

<sup>12</sup> *Gorget-stead*.—See Bk. v. 538.

<sup>22</sup> *Affects*.—See Bk. i. 209.

And greeting Hector ask'd him this: " Wilt thou be once advis'd?  
 I am thy brother, and thy life with mine is evenly prized.  
 Command the rest of Troy and Greece to cease this public fight,  
 And, what Greek bears the greatest mind, to single strokes excite. 40  
 I promise thee that yet thy soul shall not descend to fates;  
 So heard I thy survival cast by the celestial States."  
 Hector with glad allowance gave his brother's counsel ear,  
 And, fronting both the hosts, advanc'd just in the midst his spear.  
 The Trojans instantly surcease; the Greeks Atrides stay'd. 45  
 The God that bears the silver bow, and war's triumphant Maid,  
 On Jove's beech like two vultures sat, pleas'd to behold both parts  
 Flow in to hear, so sternly arm'd with huge shields, helms, and darts.  
 And such fresh horror as you see driven through the wrinkled waves  
 By rising Zephyr, under whom the sea grows black, and raves; 50  
 Such did the hasty gathering troops of both hosts make to hear;  
 Whose tumult settled, 'twixt them both, thus spake the challenger:  
 " Hear, Trojans, and ye well arm'd Greeks, what my strong mind,  
     diffus'd  
 Through all my spirits, commands me speak: Saturnius hath not us'd  
 His promis'd favour for our truce, but, studying both our ills, 55  
 Will never cease, till Mars, by you, his ravenous stomach fills  
 With ruin'd Troy, or we consume your mighty sea-borne fleet.  
 Since then the general peers of Greece in reach of one voice meet,  
 Amongst you all, whose breast includes the most impulsive mind,  
 Let him stand forth as combatant, by all the rest design'd. 60  
 Before whom thus I call high Jove to witness of our strife:—  
 If he with home-thrust iron can reach th' exposure of my life,  
 Spoiling my arms, let him at will convey them to his tent,  
 But let my body be return'd, that Troy's two-sex'd descent  
 May waste it in the funeral pile. If I can slaughter him, 65  
 Apollo honouring me so much, I'll spoil his conquer'd limb,

<sup>49</sup> *Horror*—in the classical sense of any thing that bristles up.

And bear his arms to Ilion, where in Apollo's shrine  
 I'll hang them, as my trophies due ; his body I'll resign  
 To be disposed by his friends in flamy funerals,  
 And honour'd with erected tomb, where Hellespontus falls 70  
 Into Ægæum, and doth reach even to your naval road,  
 That, when our beings in the earth shall hide their period,  
 Survivors, sailing the black sea, may thus his name renew :  
 ' This is his monument, whose blood long since did fates imbrue,  
 Whom passing far in fortitude illustrate Hector slew.' 75  
 This shall posterity report, and my fame never die."

This said, dumb silence seiz'd them all ; they shamed to deny,  
 And fear'd to undertake. At last did Menelaus speak,  
 Check'd their remissness, and so sigh'd as if his heart would break :  
 " Ah me ! But only threat'ning Greeks, not worthy Grecian names ! 80  
 This more and more, not to be borne, makes grow our huge defames,  
 If Hector's honourable proof be entertain'd by none.  
 But you are earth and water all, which, symboliz'd in one,  
 Have fram'd your faint unfiery spirits ; ye sit without your hearts,  
 Grossly inglorious ; but myself will use acceptive darts, 85  
 And arm against him, though you think I arm 'gainst too much odds ;  
 But conquest's garlands hang aloft, amongst th' immortal Gods."

He arm'd, and gladly would have fought ; but, Menelaus, then  
 By Hector's far more strength thy soul had fled th' abodes of men,  
 Had not the kings of Greece stood up, and thy attempt restrain'd ; 90  
 And even the king of men himself, that in such compass reign'd,  
 Who took him by the bold right hand, and sternly pluck'd him back :  
 " Mad brother, 'tis no work for thee, thou seek'st thy wilful wrack !  
 Contain, though it despite thee much, nor for this strife engage  
 Thy person with a man more strong, and whom all fear t' enrage ; 95

<sup>75</sup> *Illustrate*.—The second folio (followed by Dr. Taylor) has "*illustrious*."  
 See Bk. VIII. 252.

<sup>80</sup> "*O verè Phrygiæ, neque enim Phryges : saith his imitator.*"—CHAPMAN.

Yea whom Æacides himself, in men-renowning war,  
 Makes doubt t' encounter, whose huge strength surpasseth thine by far.  
 Sit thou then by thy regiment; some other Greek will rise  
 (Though he be dreadless, and no war will his desires suffice,  
 That makes this challenge to our strength) our valours to avow; 100  
 To whom, if he can 'scape with life, he will be glad to bow."

This drew his brother from his will, who yielded, knowing it true,  
 And his glad soldiers took his arms; when Nestor did pursue  
 The same reproof he set on foot, and thus supplied his turn:  
 "What huge indignity is this! How will our country mourn! 105  
 Old Peleus that good king will weep, that worthy counsellor,  
 That trumpet of the Myrmidons, who much did ask me for  
 All men of name that went to Troy, with joy he did inquire  
 Their valour and their towardness, and I made him admire;  
 But, that ye all fear Hector now, if his grave ears shall hear, 110  
 How will he lift his hands to heaven, and pray that death may bear  
 His grieved soul into the deep! O would to heaven's great King,  
 Minerva, and the God of light, that now my youthful spring  
 Did flourish in my willing veins, as when at Phæa's tow'rs,  
 About the streams of Jardanus, my gather'd Pylean pow'rs, 115  
 And dart-employ'd Arcadians, fought near raging Celadon!  
 Amongst whom, first of all stood forth great Ereuthalion,  
 Who th' arms of Areithous wore, brave Areithous,  
 And, since he still fought with a club, surnam'd Clavigerus,  
 All men, and fair-girt ladies both, for honour call'd him so. 120  
 He fought not with a keep-off spear, or with a far-shot bow,  
 But with a massy club of iron he broke through armed bands.  
 And yet Lycurgus was his death, but not with force of hands,  
 With sleight (encount'ring in a lane, where his club wanted sway)  
 He thrust him through his spacious waist, who fell, and upwards lay,

<sup>112</sup> "O si præteritos referat mihi Jupiter annos,  
 Qualis eram, &c."—CHAPMAN.



In death not bowing his face to earth ; his arms he did despoil, 126  
 Which iron Mars bestow'd on him ; and those, in Mars's toil  
 Lycurgus ever after wore, but, when he aged grew,  
 Enforc'd to keep his peaceful house, their use he did renew  
 On mighty Ereuthalion's limbs, his soldier, loved well ; 130  
 And with these arms he challeng'd all that did in arms excel ;  
 All shook, and stood dismay'd, none durst his adverse champion make.  
 Yet this same forward mind of mine, of choice, would undertake  
 To fight with all his confidence ; though youngest enemy  
 Of all the army we conduct, yet I fought with him, I, 135  
 Minerva made me so renown'd, and that most tall strong peer  
 I slew ; his big bulk lay on earth, extended here and there,  
 As it were covetous to spread the centre everywhere.  
 O that my youth were now as fresh, and all my powers as sound,  
 Soon should bold Hector be impugn'd ! Yet you that most are crown'd  
 With fortitude of all our host, even you methinks are slow, 141  
 Not free, and set on fire with lust, t' encounter such a foe."

With this, nine royal princes rose. Atrides for the first ;  
 Then Diomed ; th' Ajaces then, that did th' encounter thirst ;  
 King Idomen and his consórts ; Mars-like Meriones ; 145  
 Evemon's son, Eurypylus ; and Andræmonides,  
 Whom all the Grecians Thoas call'd, sprung of Andræmon's blood ;  
 And wise Ulysses ; every one, propos'd for combat, stood.

Again Gerenius Nestor spake ; " Let lots be drawn by all ;  
 His hand shall help the well-arm'd Greeks on whom the lot doth fall,  
 And to his wish shall he be help'd, if he escape with life 151  
 The harmful danger-breathing fit of his adventurous strife."

Each mark'd his lot, and cast it in to Agamemnon's casque.  
 The soldiers pray'd, held up their hands, and this of Jove did ask,  
 With eyes advanc'd to heaven : " O Jove, so lead the herald's hand,  
 That Ajax, or great Tydeus' son, may our wish'd champion stand, 156  
 Or else the king himself that rules the rich Mycenian land."

This said, old Nestor mix'd the lots. The foremost lot survey'd  
 With Ajax Telamon was sign'd, as all the soldiers pray'd ;  
 One of the heralds drew it forth, who brought and show'd it round, 160  
 Beginning at the right hand first, to all the most renown'd.  
 None knowing it, every man denied ; but when he forth did pass  
 To him which mark'd and cast it in, which famous Ajax was,  
 He stretch'd his hand, and into it the herald put the lot,  
 Who, viewing it, th' inscription knew ; the duke denied not, 165  
 But joyfully acknowledg'd it, and threw it at his feet,  
 And said : " O friends, the lot is mine, which to my soul is sweet ;  
 For now I hope my fame shall rise in noble Hector's fall.  
 But, whilst I arm myself, do you on great Saturnius call,  
 But silently, or to yourselves, that not a Trojan hear, 170  
 Or openly, if you think good, since none alive we fear.  
 None with a will, if I will not, can my bold powers affright,  
 At least for plain fierce swing of strength, or want of skill in fight ;  
 For I will well prove that my birth, and breed, in Salamine  
 Was not all consecrate to meat, or mere effects of wine." 175

This said, the well-given soldiers pray'd, up went to heaven their eyne :  
 " O Jove, that Ida dost protect, most happy, most divine,  
 Send victory to Ajax' side ; fame ; grace his goodly limb ;  
 Or, if thy love bless Hector's life, that thou hast care of him,  
 Bestow on both like power, like fame." This said, in bright arms shone  
 The good strong Ajax ; who, when all his war attire was on, 181  
 March'd like the hugely-figur'd Mars, when angry Jupiter,  
 With strength on people proud of strength, sends him forth to infer  
 Wreakful contention, and comes on with presence full of fear ;  
 So th' Achive rampire, Telamon, did 'twixt the hosts appear ; 185  
 Smil'd ; yet of terrible aspect ; on earth, with ample pace,  
 He boldly stalk'd, and shook aloft his dart with deadly grace.  
 It did the Grecians good to see ; but heartquakes shook the joints  
 Of all the Trojans. Hector's self felt thoughts, with horrid points,

Tempt his bold bosom ; but he now must make no counterflight, 190  
 Nor, with his honour, now refuse, that had provok'd the fight.  
 Ajax came near ; and like a tow'r his shield his bosom barr'd,  
 The right side brass, and seven ox-hides within it quilted hard ;  
 Old Tychius, the best currier that did in Hyla dwell,  
 Did frame it for exceeding proof, and wrought it wondrous well. 195  
 With this stood he to Hector close, and with this brave began :  
 " Now, Hector, thou shalt clearly know, thus meeting man to man,  
 What other leaders arm our host besides great Thetis' son,  
 Who with his hardy lion's heart hath armies overrun ;  
 But he lies at our crook'd-stern'd fleet, a rival with our king 200  
 In height of spirit ; yet to Troy he many knights did bring,  
 Coequal with Æacides, all able to sustain  
 All thy bold challenge can import. Begin then, words are vain."

The helm-grac'd Hector answer'd him : " Renowned Telamon,  
 Prince of the soldiers came from Greece, assay not me, like one 205  
 Young and immortal, with great words, as to an Amazon dame ;  
 I have the habit of all fights, and know the bloody frame  
 Of every slaughter ; I well know the ready right hand charge,  
 I know the left, and every sway of my secureful targe ;  
 I triumph in the cruelty of fixed combat fight, 210  
 And manage horse to all designs ; I think then with good right  
 I may be confident as far as this my challenge goes,  
 Without being taxed with a vaunt, borne out with empty shows.  
 But, being a soldier so renown'd, I will not work on thee  
 With least advantage of that skill I know doth strengthen me, 215  
 And so with privity of sleight win that for which I strive,  
 But at thy best, even open strength, if my endeavours thrive."

Thus sent he his long javelin forth. It struck his foe's huge shield  
 Near to the upper skirt of brass, which was the eighth it held. 219  
 Six folds the untamed dart struck through, and in the seventh tough hide  
 The point was check'd. Then Ajax threw ; his angry lance did glide

<sup>201</sup> *He*—viz. Agamemnon.

Quite through his bright orbicular targe, his curace, shirt of mail,  
 And did his manly stomach's mouth with dangerous taint assail ;  
 But, in the bowing of himself, black death too short did strike.  
 Then both to pluck their javelins forth encount' red, lion-like 225  
 Whose bloody violence is increas'd by that raw food they eat,  
 Or boars whose strength wild nourishment doth make so wondrous great.  
 Again Priamides did wound in midst his shield of brass,  
 Yet pierc'd not through the upper plate, the head reflected was.  
 But Ajax, following his lance, smote through his target quite, 230  
 And stay'd bold Hector rushing in ; the lance held way outright,  
 And hurt his neck ; out gush'd the blood. Yet Hector ceas'd not so,  
 But in his strong hand took a flint, as he did backwards go,  
 Black, sharp, and big, laid in the field ; the sevenfold targe it smit  
 Full on the boss, and round about the brass did ring with it. 235  
 But Ajax a far greater stone lift up, and, wreathing round,  
 With all his body laid to it, he sent it forth to wound,  
 And gave unmeasur'd force to it ; the round stone broke within  
 His rundled target ; his lov'd knees to languish did begin ;  
 And he lean'd, stretch'd out on his shield ; but Phœbus rais'd him  
 straight.  
 Then had they laid on wounds with swords, in use of closer fight, 241  
 Unless the heralds, messengers of Gods and godlike men,  
 The one of Troy, the other Greece, had held betwixt them then  
 Imperial sceptres ; when the one, Idæus, grave and wise,  
 Said to them : " Now no more, my sons ; the Sovereign of the skies  
 Doth love you both ; both soldiers are, all witness with good right ; 246  
 But now night lays her mace on earth ; 'tis good t' obey the night."  
 " Idæus," Telamon replied, " to Hector speak, not me ;  
 He that call'd all our Achive peers to station-fight, 'twas he ;  
 If he first cease I gladly yield." Great Hector then began : 250  
 " Ajax, since Jove to thy big form made thee so strong a man,

<sup>223</sup> *Stomach's mouth*—pit of the stomach.

<sup>244</sup> *When the one*.—The second folio reads " *then the one*," &c. and so Dr. Taylor.



And gave thee skill to use thy strength, so much, that for thy spear  
 Thou art most excellent of Greece, now let us fight forbear.  
 Hereafter we shall war again, till Jove our herald be, 254  
 And grace with conquest which he will. Heaven yields to night, and we.  
 Go thou and comfort all thy fleet, all friends and men of thine,  
 As I in Troy my favourers, who in the fane divine  
 Have offer'd orisons for me ; and come, let us impart  
 Some ensigns of our strife, to show each other's suppled heart, 259  
 That men of Troy and Greece may say, Thus their high quarrel ends.  
 Those that, encount'ring, were such foes, are now, being separate, friends."  
 He gave a sword, whose handle was with silver studs through driven,  
 Scabbard and all, with hangers rich. By Telamon was given  
 A fair well-glossed purple waist. Thus Hector went to Troy,  
 And after him a multitude, fill'd with his safety's joy, 265  
 Despairing he could ever 'scape the puissant fortitude  
 And unimpeached Ajax' hands. The Greeks like joy renew'd  
 For their reputed victory, and brought him to the king  
 Who to the great Saturnides preferr'd an offering,  
 An ox that fed on five fair springs ; they flay'd and quart'ed him, 270  
 And then, in pieces cut, on spits they roasted every limb ;  
 Which neatly dress'd they drew it off. Work done, they fell to feast ;  
 All had enough ; but Telamon the king fed past the rest  
 With good large pieces of the chine. Thus thirst and hunger stay'd,  
 Nestor, whose counsels late were best, vows new, and first he said : 275  
 " Atrides, and my other lords, a sort of Greeks are dead,  
 Whose black blood near Scamander's stream inhuman Mars hath shed ;  
 Their souls to hell descended are. It fits thee then, our king,  
 To make our soldiers cease from war ; and, by the day's first spring,  
 Let us ourselves, assembled all, the bodies bear to fire, 280  
 With mules and oxen near our fleet, that, when we home retire,

<sup>262</sup> " Hector gives Ajax a sword ; Ajax, Hector a girdle. Both which gifts were afterward cause of both their deaths."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>270</sup> *Springs*—spring-seasons, years ; i. e. was five years old.

<sup>276</sup> *Sort*.—See Bk. IV. 460.

Each man may carry to the sons of fathers slaughter'd here  
 Their honour'd bones. One tomb for all, for ever, let us rear,  
 Circling the pile without the field ; at which we will erect  
 Walls, and a ravelin, that may safe our fleet and us protect. 285  
 And in them let us fashion gates, solid, and barr'd about,  
 Through which our horse and chariots may well get in and out.  
 Without all, let us dig a dike, so deep it may avail  
 Our forces 'gainst the charge of horse, and foot, that come t' assail.  
 And thus th' attempts that I see swell in Troy's proud heart shall fail."

The kings do his advice approve. So Troy doth court convent 291  
 At Priam's gate, in th' Ilion tow'r, fearful and turbulent.  
 Amongst all, wise Antenor spake : " Trojans, and Dardan friends,  
 And peers assistants, give good ear to what my care commends  
 To your consents, for all our good. Resolve, let us restore 295  
 The Argive Helen, with her wealth, to him she had before.  
 We now defend but broken faiths. If, therefore, ye refuse,  
 No good event can I expect of all the wars we use."

He ceas'd ; and Alexander spake, husband to th' Argive queen :  
 " Antenor, to mine ears thy words harsh and ungracious been. 300  
 Thou canst use better if thou wilt ; but, if these truly fit  
 Thy serious thoughts, the Gods with age have reft thy graver wit.  
 To warlike Trojans I will speak : I clearly do deny  
 To yield my wife, but all her wealth I'll render willingly,  
 Whatever I from Argos brought, and vow to make it more, 305  
 Which I have ready in my house, if peace I may restore."

Priam, surnam'd Dardanides, godlike, in counsels grave,  
 In his son's favour well advis'd, this resolution gave :  
 " My royal friends of every state, there is sufficient done,  
 For this late council we have call'd, in th' offer of my son. 310  
 Now then let all take needful food, then let the watch be set,  
 And every court of guard held strong ; so, when the morn doth wet  
 The high rais'd battlements of Troy, Idæus shall be sent  
 To th' Argive fleet, and Atreus' sons, t' unfold my son's intent,

From whose fact our contention springs ; and, if they will, obtain 315  
 Respite from heat of fight, till fire consume our soldiers slain ;  
 And after, our most fatal war let us importune still,  
 Till Jove the conquest have dispos'd to his unconquer'd will."

All heard, and did obey the king ; and, in their quarters, all,  
 That were to set the watch that night, did to their suppers fall. 320  
 Idæus in the morning went, and th' Achive peers did find  
 In counsel at Atrides' ship ; his audience was assign'd ;  
 And in the midst of all the kings the vocal herald said :

Atrides ! My renowned king, and other kings, his aid,  
 Propose by me, in their commands, the offers Paris makes, 325  
 From whose joy all our woes proceed. He princely undertakes  
 That all the wealth he brought from Greece (would he had died before !)  
 He will, with other added wealth, for your amends restore ;  
 But famous Menelaus' wife he still means to enjoy,  
 Though he be urg'd the contrary by all the peers of Troy. 330  
 And this besides I have in charge, that, if it please you all,  
 They wish both sides may cease from war, that rites of funeral  
 May on their bodies be perform'd that in the fields lie slain ;  
 And after, to the will of Fate, renew the fight again."

All silence held at first ; at last Tydides made reply : 335  
 " Let no man take the wealth, or dame ; for now a child's weak eye  
 May see the imminent black end of Priam's empery."

This sentence, quick and briefly given, the Greeks did all admire.  
 Then said the king : " Herald, thou hear'st in him the voice entire  
 Of all our peers, to answer thee, for that of Priam's son. 340  
 But, for our burning of the dead, by all means I am won  
 To satisfy thy king therein, without the slend'rest gain  
 Made of their spoiled carcasses ; but freely, being slain,  
 They shall be all consum'd with fire. To witness which I cite  
 High thund'ring Jove, that is the king of Juno's bed's delight." 345  
 With this, he held his sceptre up to all the sky-thron'd Powers ;  
 And grave Idæus did return to sacred Ilion's tow'rs,

Where Ilians, and Dardanians, did still their counsels ply,  
 Expecting his return. He came, and told his legacy.  
 All, whirlwind-like, assembled then, some bodies to transport, 350  
 Some to hew trees. On th' other part, th' Argives did exhort  
 Their soldiers to the same affairs. Then did the new fir'd sun  
 Smite the broad fields, ascending heaven, and th' ocean smooth did run ;  
 When Greece and Troy mix'd in such peace, you scarce could either know.  
 Then wash'd they off their blood and dust, and did warm tears bestow  
 Upon the slaughter'd, and in cars convey'd them from the field. 356  
 Priam commanded none should mourn, but in still silence yield  
 Their honour'd carcasses to fire, and only grieve in heart.  
 All burn'd, to Troy Troy's friends retire, to fleet the Grecian part.  
 Yet doubtful night obscur'd the earth, the day did not appear, 360  
 When round about the funeral pile the Grecians gather'd were.  
 The pile they circled with a tomb, and by it rais'd a wall,  
 High tow'rs, to guard the fleet and them ; and in the midst of all  
 They built strong gates, through which the horse and chariots passage had ;  
 Without the rampire a broad dike long and profound they made, 365  
 On which they pallisadoes pitch'd ; and thus the Grecians wrought.  
 Their huge works in so little time were to perfection brought,  
 That all Gods, by the Lightner set, the frame thereof admir'd ;  
 'Mongst whom the Earthquake-making God this of their king inquir'd :  
 " Father of Gods, will any man, of all earth's grassy sphere, 370  
 Ask any of the Gods' consents to any actions there,  
 If thou wilt see the shag-hair'd Greeks with headstrong labours frame  
 So huge a work, and not to us due off'rings first enflame ?  
 As far as white Aurora's dewes are sprinkled through the air,  
 Fame will renown the hands of Greece for this divine affair, 375  
 Men will forget the sacred work the Sun and I did raise  
 For king Laomedon, bright Troy, and this will bear the praise."

Jove was extremely mov'd with him, and said: " What words are these,  
 Thou mighty Shaker of the earth, thou Lord of all the seas ?

<sup>349</sup> *Legacy*—embassy ; from legate. See Bk. ix. 220.

<sup>369</sup> Neptune.



Some other God, of far less power, might hold conceits, dismay'd 380  
 With this rare Grecian stratagem, and thou rest well apaid ;  
 For it will glorify thy name as far as light extends ;  
 Since, when these Greeks shall see again their native soil and friends,  
 The bulwark batter'd, thou mayst quite devour it with thy waves,  
 And cover with thy fruitless sands this fatal shore of graves ; 385  
 That, what their fiery industries have so divinely wrought  
 In raising it, in razing it thy power will prove it nought."

Thus spake the Gods among themselves. Set was the fervent sun ;  
 And now the great work of the Greeks was absolutely done.  
 Then slew they oxen in their tents, and strength with food reviv'd, 390  
 When out of Lemnos a great fleet of od'rous wine arriv'd,  
 Sent by Euneus, Jason's son, born of Hypsipyle.  
 The fleet contain'd a thousand tun, which must transported be  
 To Atreus' sons, as he gave charge, whose merchandise it was.  
 The Greeks bought wine for shining steel, and some for sounding brass,  
 Some for ox-hides, for oxen some, and some for prisoners. 396  
 A sumptuous banquet was prepar'd ; and all that night the peers  
 And fair-hair'd Greeks consum'd in feast. So Trojans, and their aid.  
 And all the night Jove thunder'd loud ; pale fear all thoughts dismay'd.  
 While they were gluttonous in earth, Jove wrought their banes in heaven.  
 They pour'd full cups upon the ground, and were to offerings driven  
 Instead of quaffings ; and to drink none durst attempt, before  
 In solemn sacrifice they did almighty Jove adore.  
 Then to their rests they all repair'd ; bold zeal their fear bereav'd ;  
 And sudden sleep's refreshing gift securely they receiv'd. 405

<sup>381</sup> " The fortification that in the twelfth book is razed."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>398</sup> *So Trojans*—in like manner.



## THE EIGHTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

WHEN Jove to all the Gods had given command,  
That none to either host should helpful stand,  
To Ida he descends; and sees from thence  
Juno and Pallas haste the Greeks' defence;  
Whose purpose, his command, by Iris given,  
Doth intervent. Then came the silent even,  
When Hector charg'd fires should consume the night,  
Lest Greeks in darkness took suspected flight.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

In Theta, Gods a Council have.  
Troy's conquest. Glorious Hector's brave.



HE cheerful Lady of the light, deck'd in her saffron robe,  
Dispers'd her beams through every part of this enflow'd  
globe,  
When thund'ring Jove a Court of Gods assembled by his will,  
In top of all the topful heights that crown th' Olympian hill.

He spake, and all the Gods gave ear: "Hear how I stand inclin'd,  
That God nor Goddess may attempt t' infringe my sovereign mind,  
But all give suffrage that with speed I may these discords end.  
What God soever I shall find endeavour to defend  
Or Troy or Greece, with wounds to heaven he, sham'd, shall reascend;

Or, taking him with his offence, I'll cast him down as deep 10  
 As Tartarus, the brood of night, where Barathrum doth steep  
 Torment in his profoundest sinks, where is the floor of brass,  
 And gates of iron ; the place, for depth, as far doth hell surpass,  
 As heaven, for height, exceeds the earth ; then shall he know from thence  
 How much my power, past all the Gods, hath sovereign eminence. 15  
 Endanger it the whiles and see. Let down our golden chain,  
 And at it let all Deities their utmost strengths constrain,  
 To draw me to the earth from heaven ; you never shall prevail,  
 Though, with your most contention, ye dare my state assail.  
 But when my will shall be dispos'd to draw you all to me, 20  
 Even with the earth itself, and seas, ye shall enforced be ;  
 Then will I to Olympus' top our virtuous engine bind,  
 And by it everything shall hang, by my command inclin'd.  
 So much I am supreme to Gods, to men supreme as much."

The Gods sat silent, and admir'd, his dreadful speech was such. 25

At last his blue-ey'd daughter spake : " O great Saturnides !  
 O father, O heaven's highest king, well know we the excess  
 Of thy great power, compar'd with all ; yet the bold Greeks' estate  
 We needs must mourn, since they must fall beneath so hard a fate ;  
 For, if thy grave command enjoin, we will abstain from fight. 30  
 But to afford them such advice as may relieve their plight  
 We will, with thy consent, be bold ; that all may not sustain  
 The fearful burthen of thy wrath, and with their shames be slain."  
 He smil'd, and said : " Be confident, thou art belov'd of me ;  
 I speak not this with serious thoughts, but will be kind to thee." 35

This said, his brass-hoof'd winged horse he did to chariot bind,  
 Whose crests were fringed with manes of gold ; and golden garments  
 shin'd

On his rich shoulders ; in his hand he took a golden scourge,  
 Divinely fashion'd, and with blows their willing speed did urge

<sup>11</sup> " Virgil maketh this likewise his place, adding,  
*Bis patet in præceptis tantum, tendi que sub umbras, &c.*"—CHAPMAN.

Mid way betwixt the earth and heaven. To Ida then he came, 40  
 Abounding in delicious springs, and nurse of beasts untame,  
 Where, on the mountain Gargarus, men did a fane erect  
 To his high name, and altars sweet ; and there his horse he check'd  
 Dissolv'd them from his chariot, and in a cloud of jet  
 He cover'd them, and on the top took his triumphant seat, 45  
 Beholding Priam's famous town, and all the fleet of Greece.  
 The Greeks took breakfast speedily, and arm'd at every piece.  
 So Trojans ; who though fewer far, yet all to fight took arms,  
 Dire need enforc'd them to avert their wives' and children's harms.  
 All gates flew open ; all the host did issue, foot and horse, 50  
 In mighty tumult ; straight one place adjoin'd each adverse force.  
 Then shields with shields met, darts with darts, strength against strength  
     oppos'd ;  
 The boss-pik'd targets were thrust on, and thunder'd as they clos'd  
 In mighty tumult ; groan for groan, and breath for breath did breath,  
 Of men then slain, and to be slain ; earth flow'd with fruits of death.  
 While the fair morning's beauty held, and day increas'd in height, 56  
 Their javelins mutually made death transport an equal freight,  
 But when the hot meridian point bright Phœbus did ascend,  
 Then Jove his golden balances did equally extend,  
 And of long-rest-conferring death put in two bitter fates 60  
 For Troy and Greece ; he held the midst ; the day of final dates  
 Fell on the Greeks ; the Greeks' hard lots sunk to the flow'ry ground,  
 The Trojans' leapt as high as heaven. Then did the claps resound  
 Of his fierce thunder ; lightning leapt amongst each Grecian troop ;  
 The sight amaz'd them ; pallid fear made boldest stomachs stoop. 65  
 Then Idomen durst not abide, Atrides went his way,  
 And both th' Ajaces ; Nestor yet against his will did stay,  
 That grave protector of the Greeks, for Paris with a dart  
 Enrag'd one of his chariot horse ; he smote the upper part  
 Of all his skull, even where the hair, that made his foretop, sprung. 70  
 The hurt was deadly, and the pain so sore the courser stung,



Pierc'd to the brain, he stamp'd and plung'd. One on another bears,  
 Entangled round about the beam ; then Nestor cut the gears  
 With his new-drawn authentic sword. Meanwhile the fiery horse  
 Of Hector brake into the press, with their bold ruler's force ; 75  
 Then good old Nestor had been slain, had Diomed not espy'd,  
 Who to Ulysses, as he fled, importunately cried :

“ Thou that in counsels dost abound, O Laertiades,  
 Why flyest thou? Why thus, coward-like, shunn'st thou the honour'd prease?  
 Take heed thy back take not a dart. Stay, let us both intend 80  
 To drive this cruel enemy from our dear aged friend.”

He spake, but wary Ithacus would find no patient ear,  
 But fled forthright, even to the fleet. Yet, though he single were,  
 Brave Diomed mix'd amongst the fight, and stood before the steeds  
 Of old Neleides, whose estate thus kingly he areeds : 85

“ O father, with these youths in fight thou art unequal plac'd,  
 Thy willing sinews are unknit, grave age pursues thee fast,  
 And thy unruly horse are slow ; my chariot therefore use,  
 And try how ready Trojan horse can fly him that pursues,  
 Pursue the flier, and every way perform the varied fight ; 90  
 I forc'd them from Anchises' son, well skill'd in cause of flight.  
 Then let my squire lead hence thy horse; mine thou shalt guard, whilst I,  
 By thee advanc'd, assay the fight, that Hector's self may try  
 If my lance dote with the defects that fail best minds in age,  
 Or find the palsy in my hands, that doth thy life engage.” 95

This noble Nestor did accept, and Diomed's two friends,  
 Eurymedon that valour loves, and Sthenelus, ascends  
 Old Nestor's coach. Of Diomed's horse Nestor the charge sustains,  
 And Tydeus' son took place of fight. Neleides held the reins,  
 And scourg'd the horse, who swiftly ran direct in Hector's face, 100  
 Whom fierce Tydides bravely charg'd, but, he turn'd from the chace,

<sup>74</sup> *Authentic*—i. e. his own.

<sup>85</sup> *Areeds*—counsels, advises.

<sup>95</sup> *Thy life*.—The second folio has “ *my*.”

<sup>80</sup> *Intend*—apply ourselves.

<sup>89</sup> See Bk. v. 308.

His javelin Eniopeus smit, mighty Thebæus' son,  
 And, was great Hector's charioteer ; it through his breast did run,  
 Near to his pap ; he fell to earth, back flew his frightened horse,  
 His strength and soul were both dissolv'd. Hector had deep remorse  
 Of his mishap, yet left he him, and for another sought ; 106  
 Nor long his steeds did want a guide, for straight good fortune brought  
 Bold Archeptolemus, whose life did from Iphitis spring ;  
 He made him take the reins and mount. Then souls were set on wing ;  
 Then high exploits were undergone ; then Trojans in their walls 110  
 Had been infolded like meek lambs, had Jove wink'd at their falls,  
 Who hurl'd his horrid thunder forth, and made pale lightnings fly  
 Into the earth, before the horse that Nestor did apply.

A dreadful flash burnt through the air, that savour'd sulphur-like,  
 Which down before the chariot the dazzled horse did strike. 115

The fair reins fell from Nestor's hand, who did in fear entreat  
 Renown'd Tydides into flight to turn his fury's heat :  
 " For know'st thou not," said he, " our aid is not supplied from Jove ?  
 This day he will give fame to Troy, which when it fits his love  
 We shall enjoy. Let no man tempt his unresisted will, 120  
 Though he exceed in gifts of strength, for he exceeds him still."

" Father," replied the king, "'tis true ; but both my heart and soul  
 Are most extremely griev'd to think how Hector will control  
 My valour with his vaunts in Troy, that I was terror-sick 124  
 With his approach ; which when he boasts, let earth devour me quick."

" Ah ! warlike Tydeus' son," said he, " what needless words are  
 these ?

Though Hector should report thee faint, and amorous of thy ease,  
 The Trojans, nor the Trojan wives, would never give him trust,  
 Whose youthful husbands thy free hand hath smother'd so in dust."  
 This said, he turn'd his one-hoof'd horse to flight, and troop did take,  
 When Hector and his men, with shouts, did greedy púrsuit make, 131

<sup>130</sup> *Troop did take*—to take troop is a frequent expression for taking shelter amidst the troops, running back.

And pour'd on darts that made air sigh. Then Hector did exclaim :  
 " O Tydeus' son, the kings of Greece do most renown thy name  
 With highest place, feasts, and full cups ; who now will do thee shame ;  
 Thou shalt be like a woman us'd, and they will say : ' Depart, 135  
 Immartial minion, since to stand Hector thou hast no heart.'  
 Nor canst thou scale our turrets' tops, nor lead the wives to fleet  
 Of valiant men, that wife-like fear'st my adverse charge to meet."

This two ways mov'd him,—still to fly, or turn his horse and fight.  
 Thrice thrust he forward to assault, and every time the fright 140  
 Of Jove's fell thunder drave him back, which he propos'd for sign  
 (To show the change of victory) Trojans should victors shine.  
 Then Hector comforted his men : " All my adventurous friends,  
 Be men, and of your famous strength think of the honour'd ends.  
 I know benevolent Jupiter did by his beck profess 145  
 Conquest and high renown to me, and to the Greeks distress.  
 O fools, to raise such silly forts, not worth the least account,  
 Nor able to resist our force ! With ease our horse may mount  
 Quite over all their hollow dike. But, when their fleet I reach,  
 Let Memory to all the world a famous bonfire teach, 150  
 For I will all their ships inflame, with whose infestive smoke,  
 Fear-shrunk, and hidden near their keels, the conquer'd Greeks shall  
 choke."

Then cherish'd he his famous horse : " O Xanthus, now," said he,  
 " And thou Podargus, Æthon too, and Lampus, dear to me,  
 Make me some worthy recompense for so much choice of meat, 155  
 Given you by fair Andromache ; bread of the purest wheat,  
 And with it, for your drink, mix'd wine, to make ye wished cheer,  
 Still serving you before myself, her husband young and dear.  
 Pursue, and use your swiftest speed, that we may take for prize  
 The shield of old Neleides, which Fame lifts to the skies, 160  
 Even to the handles telling it to be of massy gold.  
 And from the shoulders let us take, of Diomed the bold,

<sup>136</sup> The second folio has a strange misprint in "immortal" for "immartial."

The royal curace Vulcan wrought with art so exquisite.  
 These if we make our sacred spoil, I doubt not, but this night,  
 Even to their navy to enforce the Greeks' unturned flight." 165  
 This Juno took in high disdain, and made Olympus shake  
 As she but stirr'd within her throne, and thus to Neptune spake :

“ O Neptune, what a spite is this ! Thou God so huge in power,  
 Afflicts it not thy honour'd heart to see rude spoil devour  
 These Greeks that have in Helice, and Aege, off'red thee 170  
 So many and such wealthy gifts ? Let them the victors be.  
 If we, that are the aids of Greece, would beat home these of Troy,  
 And hinder broad-ey'd Jove's proud will, it would abate his joy.”

He, angry, told her she was rash, and he would not be one, 174  
 Of all the rest, should strive with Jove, whose power was match'd by none.  
 Whiles they conferr'd thus, all the space the trench contain'd before  
 (From that part of the fort that flank'd the navy-anchoring shore)  
 Was fill'd with horse and targeteers, who there for refuge came,  
 By Mars-swift Hector's power engaged ; Jove gave his strength the fame ;  
 And he with spoilful fire had burn'd the fleet, if Juno's grace 180  
 Had not inspir'd the king himself to run from place to place,  
 And stir up every soldier's power to some illustrious deed.  
 First visiting their leaders' tents, his ample purple weed  
 He wore, to show all who he was, and did his station take  
 At wise Ulysses' sable barks that did the battle make 185  
 Of all the fleet ; from whence his speech might with more ease be driven  
 To Ajax' and Achilles' ships, to whose chief charge were given  
 The vanguard and the rearguard both, both for their force of hand,  
 And trusty bosoms. There arriv'd, thus urg'd he to withstand  
 Th' insulting Trojans : “ O what shame, ye empty-hearted lords, 190  
 Is this to your admired forms ! Where are your glorious words  
 In Lemnos vaunting you the best of all the Grecian host ?  
 ‘ We are the strongest men,’ ye said, ‘ we will command the most,

<sup>171</sup> The second folio and Dr. Taylor read, “ *So many and so wealthy gifts.*”



Eating most flesh of high-horn'd beeves, and drinking cups full crown'd,  
 And every man a hundred foes, two hundred, will confound ; 195  
 Now all our strength, dar'd to our worst, one Hector cannot tame,'  
 Who presently with horrid fire will all our fleet inflame.  
 O Father Jove, hath ever yet thy most unsuffer'd hand  
 Afflicted with such spoil of souls the king of any land,  
 And taken so much fame from him, when I did never fail, 200  
 Since under most unhappy stars this fleet was under sail,  
 Thy glorious altars, I protest, but, above all the Gods,  
 Have burnt fat thighs of beeves to thee, and pray'd to raze th' abodes  
 Of rape-defending Ilium? Yet grant, almighty Jove,  
 One favour ;—that we may at least with life from hence remove, 205  
 Not under such inglorious hands the hands of death employ,  
 And, where Troy should be stoop'd by Greece, let Greece fall under Troy."

To this even weeping king did Jove remorseful audience give,  
 And shook great heaven to him, for sign his men and he should live.  
 Then quickly cast he off his hawk, the eagle prince of air, 210  
 That perfects his unspotted vows ; who seiz'd in her repair  
 A sucking hind calf, which she truss'd in her enforcive seres,  
 And by Jove's altar let it fall, amongst th' amazed peers,  
 Where the religious Achive kings with sacrifice did please  
 The author of all oracles, divine Saturnides. 215

Now, when they knew the bird of Jove, they turn'd courageous head.  
 When none, though many kings put on, could make his vaunt, he led  
 Tydides to renew'd assault, or issued first the dike,  
 Or first did fight ; but, far the first, stone dead his lance did strike

<sup>208</sup> *Remorseful*—compassionate,—

O Eglamour, thou art a gentleman,  
 (Think not I flatter, for I swear I do not)  
 Valiant, wise, *remorseful*."

SHAKESPEARE. *Two Gent. Ver. IV. 3.*

See *infra*, line 409.

<sup>212</sup> *Seres*—talons.

<sup>217</sup> *Put on*—attempted, came forward. *Make his vaunt*—make good his boast.  
 Dr. Taylor says, "gain the vantage, come first to fight."

<sup>218</sup> *Tydides*.—He led Tydides, i. e. Tydides he led. An unusual construction.

Arm'd Agelaus, by descent surnamed Phradmonides ; 220  
 He turn'd his ready horse to flight, and Diomed's lance did seize  
 His back betwixt his shoulder-blades, and look'd out at his breast ;  
 He fell, and his arms rang his fall. Th' Atrides next address'd  
 Themselves to fight ; th' Ajaces next, with vehement strength endued ;  
 Idomeneus, and his friend stout Merion, next pursued ; 225  
 And after these Eurypylus, Evemon's honour'd race ;  
 The ninth, with backward-wreathed bow, had little Teucer place,  
 He still fought under Ajax' shield, who sometimes held it by,  
 And then he look'd his object out, and let his arrow fly,  
 And, whomsoever in the press he wounded, him he slew, 230  
 Then under Ajax' seven-fold shield he presently withdrew.  
 He far'd like an unhappy child, that doth to mother run  
 For succour, when he knows full well he some shrewd turn hath done.  
 What Trojans then were to their deaths by Teucer's shafts impress'd ?  
 Hapless Orsilochus was first, Ormenus, Ophelist, 235  
 Dætor, and hardy Cronius, and Lycophon divine,  
 And Amopaon that did spring from Polyæmon's line,  
 And Menalippus ; all, on heaps, he tumbled to the ground.  
 The king rejoic'd to see his shafts the Phrygian ranks confound,  
 Who straight came near, and spake to him : " O Teucer, lovely man,  
 Strike still so sure, and be a grace to every Grecian, 241  
 And to thy father Telamon, who took thee kindly home  
 (Although not by his wife his son) and gave thee foster room,  
 Even from thy childhood ; then to him, though far from hence remov'd,  
 Make good fame reach ; and to thyself I vow what shall be prov'd : 245  
 If he that dreadful Ægis bears, and Pallas, grant to me  
 Th' expugnance of well-builded Troy, I first will honour thee  
 Next to myself with some rich gift, and put it in thy hand :  
 A three-foot vessel, that, for grace, in sacred fanes doth stand ;  
 Or two horse and a chariot ; or else a lovely dame 250  
 That may ascend on bed with thee, and amplify thy name."

Teucer right nobly answer'd him : " Why, most illustrate king,  
 I being thus forward of myself, dost thou adjoin a sting ?  
 Without which all the power I have I cease not to employ,  
 For, from the place where we repuls'd the Trojans towards Troy, 255  
 I all the purple field have strew'd with one or other slain.  
 Eight shafts I shot, with long steel heads, of which not one in vain,  
 All were in youthful bodies fix'd, well skill'd in war's constraint ;  
 Yet this wild dog, with all my aim, I have no power to taint."  
 This said, another arrow forth from his stiff string he sent 260  
 At Hector, whom he long'd to wound, but still amiss it went.  
 His shaft smit fair Gorgythion, of Priam's princely race,  
 Who in Æpina was brought forth, a famous town in Thrace,  
 By Castianira, that for form was like celestial breed ;  
 And, as a crimson poppy flower, surcharged with his seed, 265  
 And vernal humours falling thick, declines his heavy brow,  
 So, of one side, his helmet's weight his fainting head did bow.  
 Yet Teucer would another shaft at Hector's life dispose,  
 So fain he such a mark would hit, but still beside it goes ;  
 Apollo did avert the shaft ; but Hector's charioteer, 270  
 Bold Archeptolemus, he smit, as he was rushing near  
 To make the fight ; to earth he fell, his swift horse back did fly,  
 And there were both his strength and soul exil'd eternally.  
 Huge grief for Hector's slaughter'd friend pinch'd in his mighty mind,  
 Yet was he forc'd to leave him there, and his void place resign'd 275  
 To his sad brother, that was by, Cebriones ; whose ear  
 Receiving Hector's charge, he straight the weighty reins did bear ;  
 And Hector from his shining coach, with horrid voice, leap'd on,  
 To wreak his friend on Teucer's hand, and up he took a stone,  
 With which he at the archer ran, who from his quiver drew 280  
 A sharp-pil'd shaft, and nock'd it sure, but in great Hector flew

<sup>252</sup> *Illustrate*.—The second folio, which Dr. Taylor follows, has "*illustrious*."

<sup>253</sup> *Adjoin a sting*—add an impulse.

<sup>259</sup> *Taint*.—See Bk. III. 374.

With such fell speed, that, in his draught, he his right shoulder strook  
 Where, 'twixt his neck and breast, the joint his native closure took.  
 The wound was wondrous full of death, his string in sunder flees,  
 His numbed hand fell strengthless down, and he upon his knees. 285  
 Ajax neglected not to aid his brother thus depress'd,  
 But came and saft him with his shield ; and two more friends, address'd  
 To be his aid, took him to fleet, Mecisteus, Echius' son,  
 And gay Alastor. Teucer sigh'd, for all his service done.

Then did Olympius, with fresh strength, the Trojan powers revive,  
 Who to their trenches once again the troubled Greeks did drive. 291  
 Hector brought terror with his strength, and ever fought before.  
 As when some highly-stomach'd hound, that hunts a sylvan boar,  
 Or kingly lion, loves the haunch, and pincheth oft behind,  
 Bold of his feet, and still observes the game to turn inclin'd, 295  
 Not utterly dissolv'd in flight ; so Hector did pursue,  
 And whosoever was the last he ever did subdue.

They fled, but, when they had their dike and palisadoes pass'd,  
 (A number of them put to sword) at ships they stay'd at last.  
 Then mutual exhortations flew, then, all with hands and eyes 300  
 Advanc'd to all the Gods, their plagues wrung from them open cries.  
 Hector, with his four rich-man'd horse, assaulting always rode,  
 The eyes of Gorgon burnt in him, and war's vermilion God.  
 The Goddess that all Goddesses, for snowy arms, out-shin'd,  
 Thus spake to Pallas, to the Greeks with gracious ruth inclin'd : 305

“ O Pallas, what a grief is this ! Is all our succour past  
 To these our perishing Grecian friends ? At least withheld at last,  
 Even now, when one man's violence must make them perish all  
 In satisfaction of a fate so full of funeral ?

Hector Priamides now raves, no more to be endur'd, 310  
 That hath already on the Greeks so many harms inur'd.

The azure Goddess answer'd her : “ This man had surely found  
 His fortitude and life dissolv'd, even on his father's ground,

<sup>282</sup> *In his draught*—as he (Teucer) was drawing his bow.

<sup>304</sup> Juno.



By Grecian valour, if my sire, infested with ill moods,  
 Did not so dote on these of Troy, too jealous of their bloods, 315  
 And ever an unjust repulse stands to my willing powers,  
 Little rememb'ring what I did in all the desperate hours  
 Of his affected Hercules; I ever rescued him,  
 In labours of Eurystheus, untouch'd in life or limb,  
 When he, heaven knows, with drowned eyes look'd up for help to heaven,  
 Which ever, at command of Jove, was by my suppliance given. 321  
 But had my wisdom reach'd so far, to know of this event,  
 When to the solid-ported depths of hell his son was sent  
 To hale out hateful Pluto's dog from darksome Erebus,  
 He had not 'scap'd the streams of Styx, so deep and dangerous. 325  
 Yet Jove hates me, and shows his love in doing Thetis' will,  
 That kiss'd his knees, and strok'd his chin, pray'd, and importun'd  
 still,  
 That he would honour with his aid her city-razing son,  
 Displeas'd Achilles; and for him our friends are thus undone.  
 But time shall come again, when he, to do his friends some aid, 330  
 Will call me his Glaucopides, his sweet and blue-eyed Maid.  
 Then harness thou thy horse for me, that his bright palace gates  
 I soon may enter, arming me, to order these debates;  
 And I will try if Priam's son will still maintain his cheer,  
 When in the crimson paths of war I dreadfully appear; 335  
 For some proud Trojans shall be sure to nourish dogs and fowls,  
 And pave the shore with fat and flesh, depriv'd of lives and souls."  
 Juno prepar'd her horse, whose manes ribands of gold enlac'd.  
 Pallas her party-colour'd robe on her bright shoulders cast,  
 Divinely wrought with her own hands in th' entry of her sire. 340  
 Then put she on her ample breast her under-arming tire,  
 And on it her celestial arms. The chariot straight she takes,  
 With her huge heavy violent lance, with which she slaughter makes

<sup>318</sup> *Affected*—beloved.

<sup>321</sup> *Suppliance*—supply, assistance.

Of armies fatal to her wrath. Saturnia whipp'd her horse,  
 And heaven-gates, guarded by the Hours, op'd by their proper force.  
 Through which they flew. Whom when Jove saw (set near th' Idalian  
 springs) 346

Highly displeas'd, he Iris call'd, that hath the golden wings,  
 And said: "Fly, Iris, turn them back, let them not come at me,  
 Our meetings, severally dispos'd, will nothing gracious be.  
 Beneath their o'erthrown chariot I'll shiver their proud steeds, 350  
 Hurl down themselves, their waggon break, and, for their stubborn deeds,  
 In ten whole years they shall not heal the wounds I will impress  
 With horrid thunder; that my maid may know when to address  
 Arms 'gainst her father. For my wife, she doth not so offend,  
 'Tis but her use to interrupt whatever I intend." 355

Iris, with this, left Ida's hills, and up t' Olympus flew,  
 Met near heaven-gates the Goddesses, and thus their haste withdrew:  
 "What course intend you? Why are you wrapp'd with your fancies'  
 storm?"

Jove likes not ye should aid the Greeks, but threats, and will perform,  
 To crush in pieces your swift horse beneath their glorious yokes, 360  
 Hurl down yourselves, your chariot break, and, those empoison'd strokes  
 His wounding thunder shall imprint in your celestial parts,  
 In ten full springs ye shall not cure; that She that tames proud hearts  
 (Thyself, Minerva) may be taught to know for what, and when,  
 Thou dost against thy father fight; for sometimes children 365  
 May with discretion plant themselves against their fathers' wills,  
 But not, where humours only rule, in works beyond their skills.  
 For Juno, she offends him not, nor vexeth him so much,  
 For 'tis her use to cross his will, her impudence is such,  
 The habit of offence in this she only doth contract, 370  
 And so grieves or incenseth less, though ne'er the less her fact.

<sup>344</sup> *Fatal*—decreed by fate. See Bk. IX. 241.

<sup>349</sup> *Severally*—separately, oppositely.

<sup>360</sup> "Facilè facit quod semper facit."—CHAPMAN.

But thou most griev'st him, dogged dame, whom he rebukes in time,  
 Lest silence should pervert thy will, and pride too highly climb  
 In thy bold bosom, desperate girl, if seriously thou dare  
 Lift thy unwieldy lance 'gainst Jove, as thy pretences are." 375

She left them, and Saturnia said: " Ah me! Thou seed of Jove,  
 By my advice we will no more unfit contention move  
 With Jupiter, for mortal men; of whom, let this man die,  
 And that man live, whoever he pursues with destiny;  
 And let him, plotting all events, dispose of either host, 380  
 As he thinks fittest for them both, and may become us most."

Thus turn'd she back, and to the Hours her rich-man'd horse  
 resign'd,  
 Who them t' immortal mangers bound; the chariot they inclin'd  
 Beneath the crystal walls of heaven; and they in golden thrones  
 Consorted other Deities, replete with passions. 385  
 Jove, in his bright-wheel'd chariot, his fiery horse now beats  
 Up to Olympus, and aspir'd the Gods' eternal seats.  
 Great Neptune loos'd his horse, his car upon the altar plac'd,  
 And heavenly-linen coverings did round about it cast.  
 The Far-seer us'd his throne of gold. The vast Olympus shook 390  
 Beneath his feet. His wife, and maid, apart their places took,  
 Nor any word afforded him. He knew their thoughts, and said:  
 " Why do you thus torment yourselves? You need not sit dismay'd  
 With the long labours you have us'd in your victorious fight,  
 Destroying Trojans, 'gainst whose lives you heap such high despite. 395  
 Ye should have held your glorious course; for, be assur'd, as far  
 As all my pow'rs, by all means urg'd, could have sustain'd the war,  
 Not all the host of Deities should have retir'd my hand  
 From vow'd inflictions on the Greeks, much less you two withstand.  
 But you, before you saw the fight, much less the slaughter there, 400  
 Had all your goodly lineaments possess'd with shaking fear,  
 And never had your chariot borne their charge to heaven again,  
 But thunder should have smit you both, had you one Trojan slain."

Both Goddesses let fall their chins upon their ivory breasts,  
Set next to Jove, contriving still afflicted Troy's unrests. 405

Pallas for anger could not speak ; Saturnia, contrary,  
Could not for anger hold her peace, but made this bold reply :

“ Not-to-be-suff' red Jupiter, what need'st thou still enforce  
Thy matchless power ? We know it well ; but we must yield remorse  
To them that yield us sacrifice. Nor need'st thou thus deride 410  
Our kind obedience, nor our griefs, but bear our powers applied  
To just protection of the Greeks, that anger tomb not all  
In Troy's foul gulf of perjury, and let them stand should fall.”

“ Grieve not,” said Jove, “ at all done yet ; for, if thy fair eyes please,  
This next red morning they shall see the great Saturnides 415  
Bring more destruction to the Greeks ; and Hector shall not cease,  
Till he have roused from the fleet swift-foot Æacides,  
In that day, when before their ships, for his Patroclus slain,  
The Greeks in great distress shall fight ; for so the Fates ordain.  
I weigh not thy displeas'd spleen, though to th' extremest bounds 420  
Of earth and seas it carry thee, where endless night confounds  
Japet, and my dejected Sire, who sit so far beneath,  
They never see the flying sun, nor hear the winds that breath,  
Near to profoundest Tartarus. Nor, thither if thou went,  
Would I take pity of thy moods, since none more impudent.” 425

To this she nothing did reply. And now Sol's glorious light  
Fell to the sea, and to the land drew up the drowsy night.  
The Trojans griev'd at Phœbus' fall, which all the Greeks desir'd,  
And sable night, so often wish'd, to earth's firm throne aspir'd.

Hector, intending to consult, near to the gulfy flood, 430  
Far from the fleet, led to a place, pure and exempt from blood,  
The Trojans' forces. From their horse all lighted, and did hear  
Th' oration Jove-lov'd Hector made ; who held a goodly spear,  
Eleven full cubits long, the head was brass, and did reflect  
A wanton light before him still, it round about was deck'd 435

<sup>409</sup> *Remorse*.—See *suprà*, line 208.

<sup>422</sup> *Iapetus*, and *Chronos*. *Dejected*—cast down from heaven.



With strong hoops of new burnish'd gold. On this he lean'd, and said :

“ Hear me, my worthy friends of Troy, and you our honour'd aid.  
 A little since, I had conceit we should have made retreat,  
 By light of the inflamed fleet, with all the Greeks' escheat,  
 But darkness hath prevented us, and saft, with special grace, 440  
 These Achives and their shore-hal'd fleet. Let us then render place  
 To sacred Night, our suppers dress, and from our chariot free  
 Our fair-man'd horse, and meat them well. Then let there convoy'd be,  
 From forth the city presently, oxen and well-fed sheep,  
 Sweet wine, and bread ; and fell much wood, that all night we may  
 keep

Plenty of fires, even till the light bring forth the lovely morn, 446  
 And let their brightness glaze the skies, that night may not suborn  
 The Greeks' escape, if they for flight the sea's broad back would take ;  
 At least they may not part with ease, but, as retreat they make,  
 Each man may bear a wound with him, to cure when he comes home,  
 Made with a shaft or sharp'ned spear, and others fear to come, 451  
 With charge of lamentable war, 'gainst soldiers bred in Troy.  
 Then let our heralds through the town their offices employ  
 To warn the youth, yet short of war, and time-white fathers, past,  
 That in our god-built tow'rs they see strong courts of guard be plac'd  
 About the walls ; and let our dames, yet flourishing in years, 456  
 That, having beauties to keep pure, are most inclin'd to fears  
 (Since darkness in distressful times more dreadful is than light)  
 Make lofty fires in every house ; and thus, the dangerous night,  
 Held with strong watch, if th' enemy have ambuscadoes laid 460  
 Near to our walls (and therefore seem in flight the more dismay'd,  
 Intending a surprise, while we are all without the town)  
 They every way shall be impugn'd to every man's renown.  
 Perform all this, brave Trojan friends. What now I have to say  
 Is all express'd ; the cheerful morn shall other things display. 465  
 It is my glory (putting trust in Jove, and other Gods)  
 That I shall now expulse these dogs Fates sent to our abodes,

Who bring ostents of destiny, and black their threat'ning fleet.  
 But this night let us hold strong guards ; to-morrow we will meet  
 (With fierce-made war) before their ships, and I'll make known to all  
 If strong Tydides from their ships can drive me to their wall, 471  
 Or I can pierce him with my sword, and force his bloody spoil.  
 The wished morn shall show his power, if he can shun his foil  
 I running on him with my lance. I think, when day ascends,  
 He shall lie wounded with the first, and by him many friends. 475  
 O that I were as sure to live immortal, and sustain  
 No frailties with increasing years, but evermore remain  
 Ador'd like Pallas, or the Sun, as all doubts lie in me  
 That heaven's next light shall be the last the Greeks shall ever see !”

This speech all Trojans did applaud ; who from their traces los'd 480  
 Their sweating horse, which severally with headstalls they repos'd,  
 And fast'ned by their chariots, when others brought from town  
 Fat sheep and oxen, instantly, bread, wine, and hewed down  
 Huge store of wood. The winds transferr'd into the friendly sky  
 Their supper's savour ; to the which they sat delightfully, 485  
 And spent all night in open field. Fires round about them shin'd.  
 As when about the silver moon, when air is free from wind,  
 And stars shine clear, to whose sweet beams, high prospects, and the brows  
 Of all steep hills and pinnacles, thrust up themselves for shows,  
 And even the lowly valleys joy to glitter in their sight, 490  
 When the unmeasur'd firmament bursts to disclose her light,  
 And all the signs in heaven are seen that glad the shepherd's heart ;  
 So many fires disclos'd their beams, made by the Trojan part,  
 Before the face of Ilion, and her bright turrets show'd.  
 A thousand courts of guard kept fires, and every guard allow'd 495  
 Fifty stout men, by whom their horse ate oats and hard white corn,  
 And all did wilfully expect the silver-throned morn.

<sup>468</sup> i. e. their fleet is black. The original is simply “ *who bring (carry) fates (or destinies) upon their black ships.*”

<sup>497</sup> *Wilfully*—willingly, anxiously.



## THE NINTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

To Agamemnon, urging hopeless flight,  
Stand Diomed, and Nestor, opposite.  
By Nestor's counsel, legates are dismiss'd  
To Thetis' son ; who still denies t' assist.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Iota sings the Embassy,  
And great Achilles' stern reply.



O held the Trojans sleepless guard ; the Greeks to Flight  
were given,  
The feeble consort of cold Fear, strangely infus'd from  
heaven ;

Grief, not to be endur'd, did wound all Greeks of greatest worth.  
And as two lateral-sited winds, the west wind and the north,  
Meet at the Thracian sea's black breast, join in a sudden blore, 5  
Tumble together the dark waves, and pour upon the shore  
A mighty deal of froth and weed, with which men manure ground ;  
So Jove and Troy did drive the Greeks, and all their minds confound.

<sup>7</sup> *With which men manure ground.*—This piece of agricultural information is an addition of Chapman's.

But Agamemnon most of all was tortur'd at his heart,  
 Who to the voiceful heralds went, and bad them cite, apart, 10  
 Each Grecian leader severally, not openly proclaim.  
 In which he labour'd with the first; and all together came.  
 They sadly sate. The king arose, and pour'd out tears as fast  
 As from a lofty rock a spring doth his black waters cast,  
 And, deeply sighing, thus bespake the Achives: "O my friends, 15  
 Princes, and leaders of the Greeks, heaven's adverse King extends  
 His wrath, with too much detriment, to my so just design,  
 Since he hath often promis'd me, and bound it with the sign  
 Of his bent forehead, that this Troy our vengeful hands should race,  
 And safe return; yet, now engag'd, he plagues us with disgrace, 20  
 When all our trust to him hath drawn so much blood from our friends.  
 My glory, nor my brother's wreak, were the proposed ends,  
 For which he drew you to these toils, but your whole countries' shame,  
 Which had been huge to bear the rape of so divine a dame  
 Made in despite of our revenge. And yet not that had mov'd 25  
 Our pow'rs to these designs, if Jove had not our drifts approv'd;  
 Which since we see he did for blood, 'tis desperate fight in us  
 To strive with him; then let us fly; 'tis flight he urgeth thus."

Long time still silence held them all; at last did Diomed rise:  
 "Atrides, I am first must cross thy indiscreet advice, 30  
 As may become me, being a king, in this our martial court.  
 Be not displeas'd then; for thyself didst broadly misreport  
 In open field my fortitude, and call'd me faint and weak,  
 Yet I was silent, knowing the time, loth any rites to break  
 That appertain'd thy public rule, yet all the Greeks knew well, 35  
 Of every age, thou didst me wrong. As thou then didst refel  
 My valour first of all the host, as of a man dismay'd;  
 So now, with fit occasion given, I first blame thee afraid.

<sup>30</sup> "Diomed takes fit time to answer his wrong done by Agamemnon in the fourth book."—CHAPMAN.



Inconstant Saturn's son hath given inconstant spirits to thee,  
 And, with a sceptre over all, an eminent degree, 40  
 But with a sceptre's sovereign grace, the chief pow'r, Fortitude,  
 To bridle thee, he thought not best thy breast should be endu'd.  
 Unhappy king, think'st thou the Greeks are such a silly sort,  
 And so excessive impotent, as thy weak words import?  
 If thy mind move thee to be gone, the way is open, go; 45  
 Mycenian ships enow ride near, that brought thee to this woe.  
 The rest of Greece will stay, nor stir till Troy be overcome  
 With full eversion; or if not, but doters of their home,  
 Will put on wings to fly with thee. Myself and Sthenelus  
 Will fight till (trusting favouring Jove) we bring home Troy with us."  
 This all applauded, and admir'd the spirit of Diomed; 51  
 When Nestor, rising from the rest, his speech thus seconded:  
 "Tydides, thou art questionless our strongest Greek in war,  
 And gravest in thy counsels too, of all that equal are  
 In place with thee, and stand on strength; nor is there any one 55  
 Can blame, or contradict thy speech; and yet thou hast not gone  
 So far, but we must further go. Thou'rt young, and well mightst be  
 My youngest son, though still I yield thy words had high degree  
 Of wisdom in them to our king, since well they did become  
 Their right in question, and refute inglorious going home. 60  
 But I, well known thy senior far, will speak, and handle all  
 Yet to propose, which none shall check; no, not our general.  
 A hater of society, unjust, and wild, is he  
 That loves intestine war, being stuff'd with manless cruelty.  
 And therefore in persuading peace, and home-flight, we the less 65  
 May blame our gen'ral, as one loth to wrap in more distress

<sup>58</sup> *Yield*—acknowledge. *Had*—thus the first folio; the second reads "*hath*," and Dr. Taylor "*have*."

<sup>62</sup> *Propose*—so the first folio; the second reads "*purpose*," which Dr. Taylor has adopted, and explained in a note as meaning "*propose*."

<sup>64</sup> *Manless*—opposite to *manful*, cowardly, inhuman. Bk. III. 39.

His loved soldiers. But because they bravely are resolv'd  
 To cast lives after toils, before they part in shame involv'd,  
 Provide we for our honour'd stay ; obey black night, and fall  
 Now to our suppers ; then appoint our guards without the wall, 70  
 And in the bottom of the dike ; which guards I wish may stand  
 Of our brave youth. And, Atreus' son, since thou art in command  
 Before our other kings, be first in thy command's effect.  
 It well becomes thee ; since 'tis both what all thy peers expect,  
 And in the royal right of things is no impair to thee. 75  
 Nor shall it stand with less than right, that they invited be  
 To supper by thee ; all thy tents are amply stor'd with wine,  
 Brought daily in Greek ships from Thrace ; and to this grace of thine  
 All necessaries thou hast fit, and store of men to wait ;  
 And, many meeting there, thou may'st hear every man's conceit, 80  
 And take the best. It much concerns all Greeks to use advice  
 Of gravest nature, since so near our ships our enemies  
 Have lighted such a sort of fires, with which what man is joy'd ?  
 Look, how all bear themselves this night ; so live, or be destroy'd."

All heard, and follow'd his advice. There was appointed then 85  
 Seven captains of the watch, who forth did march with all their men.  
 The first was famous Thrasymed, adviceful Nestor's son ;  
 Ascalaphus ; and Ialmen ; and mighty Merion ;  
 Alphareus ; and Deipyros ; and lovely Lycomed,  
 Old Creon's joy. These seven bold lords an hundred soldiers led, 90  
 In every sever'd company, and every man his pike,  
 Some placed on the rampire's top, and some amidst the dike.  
 All fires made, and their suppers took. Atrides to his tent  
 Invited all the peers of Greece, and food sufficient  
 Appos'd before them, and the peers appos'd their hands to it. 95  
 Hunger and thirst being quickly quench'd, to counsel still they sit.  
 And first spake Nestor, who they thought of late advis'd so well,  
 A father grave, and rightly wise, who thus his tale did tell :

“ Most high Atrides, since in thee I have intent to end,  
 From thee will I begin my speech, to whom Jove doth commend 100  
 The empire of so many men, and puts into thy hand  
 A sceptre, and establish’d laws, that thou mayst well command,  
 And counsel all men under thee. It therefore doth behove  
 Thyself to speak most, since of all thy speeches most will move ;  
 And yet to hear, as well as speak ; and then perform as well 105  
 A free just counsel ; in thee still must stick what others tell.  
 For me, what in my judgment stands the most convenient  
 I will advise, and am assur’d advice more competent  
 Shall not be given, the general proof, that hath before been made  
 Of what I speak, confirms me still, and now may well persuade, 110  
 Because I could not then, yet ought, when thou, most royal king,  
 Even from the tent, Achilles’ love didst violently bring,  
 Against my counsel, urging thee by all means to relent ;  
 But you, obeying your high mind, would venture the event,  
 Dishonouring our ablest Greek, a man th’ Immortals grace. 115  
 Again yet let’s deliberate, to make him now embrace  
 Affection to our general good, and bring his force to field ;  
 Both which kind words and pleasing gifts must make his virtues yield.”

“ O father,” answered the king, “ my wrongs thou tell’st me right.  
 Mine own offence mine own tongue grants. One man must stand in  
 fight 120

For our whole army ; him I wrong’d ; him Jove loves from his heart,  
 He shows it in thus honouring him ; who, living thus apart,  
 Proves us but number, for his want makes all our weakness seen.  
 Yet after my confess’d offence, soothing my hum’rous spleen,  
 I’ll sweeten his affects again with presents infinite, 125  
 Which, to approve my firm intent, I’ll openly recite :  
 Seven sacred tripods free from fire ; ten talents of fine gold ;  
 Twenty bright cauldrons ; twelve young horse, well shap’d, and well  
 controll’d,

<sup>123</sup> *Proves us but number*—numerous only, not powerful or valiant.

And victors too, for they have won the prize at many a race,  
 That man should not be poor that had but what their winged pace 130  
 Hath added to my treasury, nor feel sweet gold's defect.  
 Seven Lesbian ladies he shall have, that were the most select,  
 And in their needles rarely skill'd, whom, when he took the town  
 Of famous Lesbos, I did choose, who won the chief renown  
 For beauty from their whole fair sex, amongst whom I'll resign 135  
 Fair Brisis, and I deeply swear (for any fact of mine  
 That may discourage her receipt) she is untouch'd, and rests  
 As he resign'd her. To these gifts, if Jove to our requests  
 Vouchsafe performance, and afford the work, for which we wait,  
 Of winning Troy, with brass and gold he shall his navy freight; 140  
 And, ent'ring when we be at spoil, that princely hand of his  
 Shall choose him twenty Trojan dames, excepting Tyndaris,  
 The fairest Pergamus enfolds; and, if we make retreat  
 To Argos, call'd of all the world the Navel, or chief seat,  
 He shall become my son-in-law, and I will honour him 145  
 Even as Orestes, my sole son, that doth in honours swim.  
 Three daughters in my well-built court unmarried are, and fair;  
 Laodice, Chrysothemis that hath the golden hair,  
 And Iphianassa; of all three the worthiest let him take  
 All jointureless to Peleus' court, I will her jointure make, 150  
 And that so great as never yet did any maid prefer.  
 Seven cities right magnificent I will bestow on her;  
 Enope, and Cardamyle, Hira for herbs renown'd,  
 The fair Æpea, Pedasus that doth with grapes abound,  
 Anthæa girded with green meads, Phera surnam'd Divine; 155  
 All whose bright turrets on the seas, in sandy Pylos, shine.  
 Th' inhabitants in flocks and herds are wondrous confluent,  
 Who like a God will honour him, and him with gifts present,

<sup>142</sup> *Tyndaris*—Helen.

<sup>150</sup> *Jointureless*—i. e. without the portion it was usual to pay the father on marrying his daughter.

<sup>157</sup> *Confluent*—affluent.



And to his throne will contribute what tribute he will rate.

All this I gladly will perform, to pacify his hate. 160

Let him be mild and tractable; 'tis for the God of ghosts

To be unrul'd, implacable, and seek the blood of hosts,

Whom therefore men do much abhor; then let him yield to me,

I am his greater, being a king, and more in years than he."

" Brave king," said Nestor, " these rich gifts must make him needs  
relent, 165

Choose then fit legates instantly to greet him at his tent.

But stay; admit my choice of them, and let them straight be gone.

Jove-loved Phœnix shall be chief, then Ajax Telamon,

And prince Ulysses; and on them let these two heralds wait,

Grave Odius and Eurybates. Come, lords, take water straight, 170

Make pure your hands, and with sweet words appease Achilles' mind,

Which we will pray the king of Gods may gently make inclin'd."

All lik'd his speech; and on their hands the heralds water shed,  
The youths crown'd cups of sacred wine to all distributed.

But having sacrific'd, and drunk to every man's content, 175

With many notes by Nestor given, the legates forward went.

With courtship in fit gestures us'd he did prepare them well,

But most Ulysses, for his grace did not so much excel.

Such rites beseem ambassadors; and Nestor urged these,

That their most honours might reflect enrag'd Æacides. 180

They went along the shore, and pray'd the God, that earth doth bind

In brackish chains, they might not fail, but bow his mighty mind.

The quarter of the Myrmidons they reach'd, and found him set

Delighted with his solemn harp, which curiously was fret

With works conceited through the verge; the bawdrick that embrac'd

His lofty neck was silver twist; this, when his hand laid waste 185

<sup>177</sup> *With courtship in fit gestures us'd*—Chapman has well preserved the meaning of the original *δενδιλλων*.

<sup>178</sup> *For his grace did not so much excel*.—This is quite contrary to Homer's meaning. He simply says Nestor addressed each chief, but principally Ulysses. The reason doubtless being because he had most confidence in him.

<sup>180</sup> *Reflect*—turn back.

Aëtion's city, he did choose as his especial prise,  
 And, loving sacred music well, made it his exercise.  
 To it he sung the glorious deeds of great heroës dead,  
 And his true mind, that practice fail'd, sweet contemplation fed. 190  
 With him alone, and opposite, all silent sat his friend,  
 Attentive, and beholding him, who now his song did end.  
 Th' ambassadors did forwards press, renown'd Ulysses led,  
 And stood in view. Their sudden sight his admiration bred,  
 Who with his harp and all arose ; so did Menetius' son 195  
 When he beheld them. Their receipt Achilles thus begun :  
 " Health to my lords ! Right welcome men assure yourselves you be,  
 Though some necessity I know doth make you visit me  
 Incens'd with just cause 'gainst the Greeks." This said, a several seat  
 With purple cushions he set forth, and did their ease intreat, 200  
 And said : " Now, friend, our greatest bowl, with wine unmix'd and  
     neat,  
 Appose these lords, and of the depth let every man make proof,  
 These are my best-esteemed friends, and underneath my roof."  
 Patroclus did his dear friend's will ; and he that did desire  
 To cheer the lords, come faint from fight, set on a blazing fire 205  
 A great brass pot, and into it a chine of mutton put,  
 And fat goat's flesh. Automedon held, while he pieces cut,  
 To roast and boil, right cunningly ; then of a well-fed swine  
 A huge fat shoulder he cuts out, and spits it wondrous fine.  
 His good friend made a goodly fire ; of which the force once past, 201  
 He laid the spit low, near the coals, to make it brown at last,  
 Then sprinkled it with sacred salt, and took it from the racks.  
 This roasted and on dresser set, his friend Patroclus takes  
 Bread in fair baskets ; which set on, Achilles brought the meat,  
 And to divinest Ithacus took his opposed seat 215  
 Upon the bench. Then did he will his friend to sacrifice,  
 Who cast sweet incense in the fire to all the Deities.

<sup>204</sup> *He*—Achilles.

Thus fell they to their ready food. Hunger and thirst allay'd,  
 Ajax to Phœnix made a sign, as if too long they stay'd  
 Before they told their legacy. Ulysses saw him wink, 220  
 And filling the great bowl with wine did to Achilles drink :  
     “ Health to Achilles ! But our plights stand not in need of meat,  
 Who late supp'd at Atrides' tent, though for thy love we eat  
 Of many things, whereof a part would make a cômplete feast.  
 Nor can we joy in these kind rites, that have our hearts oppress'd, 225  
 O prince, with fear of utter spoil. 'Tis made a question now  
 If we can save our fleet or not, unless thyself endow  
 Thy powers with wonted fortitude. Now Troy and her consorts,  
 Bold of thy want, have pitch'd their tents close to our fleet and forts,  
 And made a firmament of fires ; and now no more they say 230  
 Will they be prison'd in their walls, but force their violent way  
 Even to our ships ; and Jove himself hath with his lightnings show'd  
 Their bold adventures happy signs ; and Hector grows so proud  
 Of his huge strength, borne out by Jove, that fearfully he raves,  
 Presuming neither men nor Gods can interrupt his braves, 235  
 Wild rage invades him, and he prays that soon the sacred Morn  
 Would light his fury, boasting then our streamers shall be torn,  
 And all our naval ornaments fall by his conquering stroke,  
 Our ships shall burn, and we ourselves lie stifled in the smoke.  
 And I am seriously afraid Heaven will perform his threats, 240  
 And that 'tis fatal to us all, far from our native seats,  
 To perish in victorious Troy. But rise, though it be late,  
 Deliver the afflicted Greeks from Troy's tumultuous hate,  
 It will hereafter be thy grief, when no strength can suffice  
 To remedy th' affected threats of our calamities. 245  
 Consider these affairs in time, while thou mayst use thy pow'r,  
 And have the grace to turn from Greece fate's unrecover'd hour.

<sup>220</sup> *Legacy*—embassy. Bk. VII. 348.

<sup>241</sup> *Fatal*—fated. Bk. VIII. 344.

<sup>247</sup> *Unrecover'd*—irrecoverable.

O friend, thou know'st thy royal sire forewarn'd what should be done,  
 That day he sent thee from his court to honour Atreus' son :  
 ' My son,' said he, ' the victory let Jove and Pallas use 250  
 At their high pleasures, but do thou no honour'd means refuse  
 That may advance her. In fit bounds contain thy mighty mind,  
 Nor let the knowledge of thy strength be factiously inclin'd,  
 Contriving mischiefs. Be to fame and general good profess'd.  
 The more will all sorts honour thee. Benignity is best.' 255  
 Thus charg'd thy sire, which thou forgett'st. Yet now those thoughts appease  
 That torture thy great spirit with wrath, which if thou wilt surcease,  
 The king will merit it with gifts ; and, if thou wilt give ear,  
 I'll tell how much he offers thee yet thou sitt'st angry here :  
 Seven tripods that no fire must touch ; twice ten pans fit for flame ; 260  
 Ten talents of fine gold ; twelve horse that ever overcame,  
 And brought huge prizes from the field with swiftness of their feet,  
 That man should bear no poor account, nor want gold's quick'ning sweet,  
 That had but what he won with them ; seven worthiest Lesbian dames,  
 Renown'd for skill in housewifery, and bear the sovereign fames 265  
 For beauty from their general sex, which, at thy overthrow  
 Of well-built Lesbos, he did choose ; and these he will bestow,  
 And with these her he took from thee, whom, by his state, since then,  
 He swears he touch'd not, as fair dames use to be touch'd by men.  
 All these are ready for thee now. And, if at length we take, 270  
 By helps of Gods, this wealthy town, thy ships shall burthen make  
 Of gold and brass at thy desires, when we the spoil divide ;  
 And twenty beauteous Trojan dames thou shall select beside,  
 Next Helen, the most beautiful ; and, when return'd we be  
 To Argos, be his son-in-law, for he will honour thee 275  
 Like his Orestes, his sole son, maintain'd in height of bliss.  
 Three daughters beautify his court, the fair Chrysothemis,  
 Laodice, and Iphianesse ; of all the fairest take  
 To Peleus' thy grave father's court, and never jointure make,

<sup>258</sup> *Merit*—reward. An unusual application of the word.

<sup>259</sup> *Yet*—while.



He will the jointure make himself, so great, as never sire 280  
 Gave to his daughter's nuptials. Seven cities left entire ;  
 Cardamyle, and Enope, and Hira full of flowers,  
 Anthæa for sweet meadows prais'd, and Phera deck'd with towers,  
 The bright Epea, Pedasus that doth God Bacchus please ;  
 All, on the sandy Pylos' soil, are seated near the seas. 285  
 Th' inhabitants in droves and flocks exceeding wealthy be,  
 Who, like a God, with worthy gifts will gladly honour thee,  
 And tribute of especial rate to thy high sceptre pay.  
 All this he freely will perform thy anger to allay.  
 But if thy hate to him be more than his gifts may repress, 290  
 Yet pity all the other Greeks, in such extreme distress,  
 Who with religion honour thee ; and to their desperate ill,  
 Thou shalt triumphant glory bring, and Hector thou mayst kill,  
 When pride makes him encounter thee, fill'd with a baneful sprite,  
 Who vaunts our whole fleet brought not one equal to him in fight." 295  
     Swift-foot Æacides replied : " Divine Laertes' son,  
 'Tis requisite I should be short, and show what place hath won  
 Thy serious speech, affirming nought but what you shall approve  
 Establish'd in my settled heart, that in the rest I move  
 No murmur nor exception ; for like hell mouth I loath 300  
 Who holds not in his words and thoughts one indistinguish'd troth.  
 What fits the freeness of my mind my speech shall make display'd.  
 Nor Atreus' son, nor all the Greeks, shall win me to their aid,  
 Their suit is wretchedly enforced to free their own despairs,  
 And my life never shall be hir'd with thankless desperate prayers ; 305  
 For never had I benefit, that ever foil'd the foe.  
 Even share hath he that keeps his tent and he to field doth go,  
 With equal honour cowards die, and men most valiant,  
 The much performer, and the man that can of nothing vaunt.  
 No overplus I ever found, when, with my mind's most strife 310  
 To do them good, to dangerous fight I have expos'd my life.

But even as to unfeather'd birds the careful dam brings meat,  
 Which when she hath bestow'd, herself hath nothing left to eat ;  
 So, when my broken sleeps have drawn the nights t' extremest length,  
 And ended many bloody days with still-employed strength, 315  
 To guard their weakness, and preserve their wives' contents infract,  
 I have been robb'd before their eyes. Twelve cities I have sack'd  
 Assail'd by sea, eleven by land, while this siege held at Troy ;  
 And of all these, what was most dear, and most might crown the joy  
 Of Agamemnon, he enjoy'd, who here behind remain'd ; 320  
 Which when he took, a few he gave, and many things retain'd,  
 Other to optimates and kings he gave, who hold them fast,  
 Yet mine he forceth ; only I sit with my loss disgrac'd.  
 But so he gain a lovely dame, to be his bed's delight,  
 It is enough ; for what cause else do Greeks and Trojans fight ? 325  
 Why brought he hither such an host ? Was it not for a dame ?  
 For fair-hair'd Helen ? And doth love alone the hearts inflame  
 Of the Atrides to their wives of all the men that move ?  
 Every discreet and honest mind cares for his private love  
 As much as they ; as I myself lov'd Brisis as my life, 330  
 Although my captive, and had will to take her for my wife.  
 Whom since he forc'd, preventing me, in vain he shall prolong  
 Hopes to appease me that know well the deepness of my wrong.  
 But, good Ulysses, with thyself, and all you other kings,  
 Let him take stomach to repel Troy's fiery threatenings. 335  
 Much hath he done without my help, built him a goodly fort,  
 Cut a dike by it, pitch'd with pales, broad and of deep import,  
 And cannot all these helps repress this kill-man Hector's fright ?  
 When I was arm'd among the Greeks, he would not offer fight  
 Without the shadow of his walls, but to the Scæan ports, 340  
 Or to the holy beech of Jove, come back'd with his consorts ;  
 Where once he stood my charge alone, and hardly made retreat,  
 And to make new proof of our powers, the doubt is not so great.

To-morrow then, with sacrifice perform'd t' imperial Jove  
 And all the Gods, I'll launch my fleet, and all my men remove ; 345  
 Which (if thou wilt use so thy sight, or think'st it worth respect)  
 In forehead of the morn, thine eyes shall see, with sails erect  
 Amidst the fishy Hellespont, help'd with laborious oars.  
 And, if the Sea-god send free sail, the fruitful Phthian shores  
 Within three days we shall attain, where I have store of prise, 350  
 Left when with prejudice I came to these indignities.  
 There have I gold as well as here, and store of ruddy brass,  
 Dames slender, elegantly girt, and steel as bright as glass.  
 These will I take as I retire, as shares I firmly save,  
 Though Agamemnon be so base to take the gifts he gave. 355  
 Tell him all this, and openly, I on your honours charge,  
 That others may take shame to hear his lusts command so large,  
 And, if there yet remain a man he hopeth to deceive  
 (Being dyed in endless impudence) that man may learn to leave  
 His trust and empire. But alas, though, like a wolf he be, 360  
 Shameless and rude, he durst not take my prise, and look on me.  
 I never will partake his works, nor counsels, as before,  
 He once deceiv'd and injur'd me, and he shall never more  
 Tye my affections with his words. Enough is the increase  
 Of one success in his deceits, which let him joy in peace, 365  
 And bear it to a wretched end. Wise Jove hath reft his brain  
 To bring him plagues, and these his gifts I, as my foes, disdain.  
 Even in the numbness of calm death I will revengeful be,  
 Though ten or twenty times so much he would bestow on me,  
 All he hath here, or any where, or Orchomen contains, 370  
 To which men bring their wealth for strength, or all the store remains  
 In circuit of Egyptian Thebes, where much hid treasure lies,  
 Whose walls contain an hundred ports, of so admir'd a size  
 Two hundred soldiers may a-front with horse and chariots pass.  
 Nor, would he amplify all this like sand, or dust, or grass, 375

<sup>351</sup> *Prejudice*—loss to myself.

Should he reclaim me, till this wreak pay'd me for all the pains  
 That with his contumely burn'd like poison in my veins.  
 Nor shall his daughter be my wife, although she might contend  
 With golden Venus for her form, or if she did transcend  
 Blue-ey'd Minerva for her works; let him a Greek select 380  
 Fit for her, and a greater king. For if the Gods protect  
 My safety to my father's court, he shall choose me a wife.  
 Many fair Achive princesses of unimpeached life  
 In Helle and in Phthia live, whose sires do cities hold,  
 Of whom I can have whom I will. And, more an hundred fold 385  
 My true mind in my country likes to take a lawful wife  
 Than in another nation, and there delight my life  
 With those goods that my father got, much rather than die here.  
 Not all the wealth of well-built Troy, possess'd when peace was there,  
 All that Apollo's marble fane in stony Pythos holds, 390  
 I value equal with the life that my free breast enfolds.  
 Sheep, oxen, tripods, crest-deck'd horse, though lost, may come again,  
 But when the white guard of our teeth no longer can contain  
 Our human soul, away it flies, and, once gone, never more  
 To her frail mansion any man can her lost pow'rs restore. 395  
 And therefore since my mother-queen, fam'd for her silver feet,  
 Told me two fates about my death in my direction meet:  
 The one, that, if I here remain t' assist our victory,  
 My safe return shall never live, my fame shall never die;  
 If my return obtain success, much of my fame decays, 400  
 But death shall linger his approach, and I live many days.  
 This being reveal'd, 'twere foolish pride t' abridge my life for praise.  
 Then with myself I will advise others to hoise their sail,  
 For, 'gainst the height of Ilion, you never shall prevail,  
 Jove with his hand protecteth it, and makes the soldiers bold. 405  
 This tell the kings in every part, for so grave legates should,

<sup>394</sup> *Once gone*—the second folio erroneously reads “*once again*.”

<sup>406</sup> Both folios have “*king*,” but it is evident from the context, and a reference to the original, that the plural is the true reading.



That they may better counsels use, to save their fleet and friends  
 By their own valours ; since this course, drown'd in my anger, ends.  
 Phœnix may in my tent repose, and in the morn steer course  
 For Phthia, if he think it good ; if not, I'll use no force." 410

All wond' red at his stern reply ; and Phœnix, full of fears  
 His words would be more weak than just, supplied their wants with tears.

“ If thy return incline thee thus, Peleus' renowned joy,  
 And thou wilt let our ships be burn'd with harmful fire of Troy,  
 Since thou art angry, O my son, how shall I after be 415  
 Alone in these extremes of death, relinquished by thee ?

I, whom thy royal father sent as orderer of thy force,  
 When to Atrides from his court he left thee for this course,  
 Yet young, and when in skill of arms thou didst not so abound,  
 Nor hadst the habit of discourse that makes men so renown'd. 420

In all which I was set by him t' instruct thee as my son,  
 That thou might'st speak, when speech was fit, and do, when deeds were  
 Not sit as dumb, for want of words, idle, for skill to move. [done,

I would not then be left by thee, dear son, begot in love,  
 No, not if God would promise me to raze the prints of time 425

Carv'd in my bosom and my brows, and grace me with the prime  
 Of manly youth, as when at first I left sweet Helle's shore  
 Deck'd with fair dames, and fled the grudge my angry father bore ;

Who was the fair Amyntor call'd, surnam'd Ormenides,  
 And for a fair-hair'd harlot's sake, that his affects could please, 430

Contemn'd my mother, his true wife, who ceaseless urged me  
 To use his harlot Clytia, and still would clasp my knee  
 To do her will, that so my sire might turn his love to hate  
 Of that lewd dame, converting it to comfort her estate.

At last I was content to prove to do my mother good, 435  
 And reconcile my father's love ; who straight suspicious stood,  
 Pursuing me with many a curse, and to the Furies pray'd  
 No dame might love, nor bring me seed. The Deities obey'd

<sup>408</sup> The second folio reads, “ *since this course drowned in my eager ends.* ”

That govern hell, infernal Jove, and stern Persephone.  
 Then durst I in no longer date with my stern father be. 440  
 Yet did my friends, and near allies, inclose me with desires  
 Not to depart; kill'd sheep, boars, beeves; roast them at solemn fires;  
 And from my father's tuns we drunk exceeding store of wine.  
 Nine nights they guarded me by turns, their fires did ceaseless shine,  
 One in the porch of his strong hall, and in the portal one, 445  
 Before my chamber; but when day beneath the tenth night shone,  
 I brake my chamber's thick-fram'd doors, and through the hall's guard  
     pass'd,  
 Unseen of any man or maid. Through Greece then, rich and vast,  
 I fled to Phthia, nurse of sheep, and came to Peleus' court,  
 Who entertain'd me heartily, and in as gracious sort 450  
 As any sire his only son, born when his strength is spent,  
 And bless'd with great possessions to leave to his descent.  
 He made me rich, and to my charge did much command commend.  
 I dwelt in th' utmost region rich Phthia doth extend,  
 And govern'd the Dolopians, and made thee what thou art. 455  
 O thou that like the Gods art fram'd, since, dearest to my heart,  
 I us'd thee so, thou lov'dst none else; nor anywhere wouldst eat,  
 Till I had crown'd my knee with thee, and carv'd thee tend'rest meat,  
 And given thee wine so much, for love, that, in thy infancy  
 (Which still discretion must protect, and a continual eye) 460  
 My bosom lovingly sustain'd the wine thine could not bear.  
 Then, now my strength needs thine as much, be mine to thee as dear,  
 Much have I suffer'd for thy love, much labour'd, wished much,  
 Thinking, since I must have no heir (the Gods' decrees are such)  
 I would adopt thyself my heir. To thee my heart did give 465  
 What any sire could give his son. In thee I hop'd to live.  
 O mitigate thy mighty spirits. It fits not one that moves  
 The hearts of all to live unmov'd, and succour hates for loves.

<sup>439</sup> *Persephone*—the Greek form; thus the first folio. The second has “*Proserpine*.”

<sup>465</sup> *Thyself*—the second folio has “*myself*.”

The Gods themselves are flexible, whose virtues, honours, powers,  
 Are more than thine, yet they will bend their breasts as we bend ours.  
 Perfumes, benign devotions, savours of off'rings burn'd, 471  
 And holy rites, the engines are with which their hearts are turn'd  
 By men that pray to them, whose faith their sins have falsified.  
 For Prayers are daughters of great Jove, lame, wrinkled, ruddy ey'd,  
 And ever following Injury, who, strong and sound of feet, 475  
 Flies through the world, afflicting men. Believing Prayers yet,  
 To all that love that Seed of Jove, the certain blessing get  
 To have Jove hear, and help them too ; but if he shall refuse,  
 And stand inflexible to them, they fly to Jove, and use  
 Their powers against him, that the wrongs he doth to them may fall  
 On his own head, and pay those pains whose cure he fails to call. 481  
 Then, great Achilles, honour thou this sacred Seed of Jove,  
 And yield to them, since other men of greatest minds they move.  
 If Agamemnon would not give the selfsame gifts he vows,  
 But offer other afterwards, and in his still-bent brows 485  
 Entomb his honour and his word, I would not thus exhort,  
 With wrath appeas'd, thy aid to Greece, though plagued in heaviest sort ;  
 But much he presently will give, and after yield the rest.  
 T' assure which he hath sent to thee the men thou lovest best,  
 And most renown'd of all the host, that they might soften thee. 490  
 Then let not both their pains and prayers lost and despised be,  
 Before which none could reprehend the tumult of thy heart,  
 But now to rest inexpiate were much too rude a part.  
 Of ancient worthies we have heard, when they were more displeas'd,  
 To their high fames, with gifts and prayers they have been still appeas'd.  
 For instance, I remember well a fact perform'd of old, 496  
 Which to you all, my friends, I'll tell : The Curets wars did hold  
 With the well-fought Ætolians, where mutual lives had end  
 About the city Calydon. Th' Ætolians did defend  
 Their flourishing country, which to spoil the Curets did contend. 500

<sup>493</sup> *Rest inexpiate*—remain implacable.

Diana with-the-golden-throne, with Oeneus much incens'd  
 Since with his plenteous land's first fruits she was not reverenc'd  
 (Yet other Gods, with hecatombs, had feasts, and she alone,  
 Great Jove's bright daughter, left unserv'd, or by oblivion,  
 Or undue knowledge of her dues) much hurt in heart she swore ; 505  
 And she, enrag'd, excited much, she sent a sylvan boar.  
 From their green groves, with wounding tusks, who usually did spoil  
 King Oeneus' fields, his lofty woods laid prostrate on the soil,  
 Rent by the roots trees fresh, adorn'd with fragrant apple flow'rs.  
 Which Meleager (Oeneus' son) slew, with assembled pow'rs 510  
 Of hunters, and of fiercest hounds, from many cities brought,  
 For such he was that with few lives his death could not be bought,  
 Heaps of dead humans, by his rage, the funeral piles applied.  
 Yet, slain at last, the Goddess stirr'd about his head, and hide,  
 A wondrous tumult, and a war betwixt the Curets wrought 515  
 And brave Ætolians. All the while fierce Meleager fought,  
 Ill far'd the Curets. Near the walls none durst advance his crest,  
 Though they were many. But when wrath inflam'd his haughty breast  
 (Which oft the firm mind of the wise with passion doth infest)  
 Since 'twixt his mother-queen and him arose a deadly strife, 520  
 He left the court, and privately liv'd with his lawful wife,  
 Fair Cleopatra, female birth of bright Marpessa's pain,  
 And of Ideus ; who of all terrestrial men did reign,  
 At that time, king of fortitude, and for Marpessa's sake,  
 'Gainst wanton Phœbus, king of flames, his bow in hand did take, 525  
 Since he had ravish'd her, his joy ; whom her friends after gave  
 The surname of Alcyone, because they could not save  
 Their daughter from Alcyone's fate. In Cleopatra's arms  
 Lay Meleager, feeding on his anger, for the harms  
 His mother pray'd might fall on him ; who, for her brother slain 530  
 By Meleager, griev'd, and pray'd the Gods to wreak her pain

<sup>507</sup> Usually—as is their wont.



With all the horror could be pour'd upon her furious birth.  
 Still knock'd she with her impious hands the many-feeding earth,  
 To urge stern Pluto and his Queen t' incline their vengeful ears,  
 Fell on her knees, and all her breast dew'd with her fiery tears, 535  
 To make them massacre her son, whose wrath enrag'd her thus.  
 Erinnyes, wand'ring through the air, heard, out of Erebus,  
 Pray'rs fit for her unpleas'd mind. Yet Meleager lay  
 Obscur'd in fury. Then the bruit of the tumultuous fray  
 Rung through the turrets as they scal'd; then came the Ætolian peers  
 To Meleager with low suits to rise and free their fears; 541  
 Then sent they the chief priests of Gods with offer'd gifts t' atone  
 His differing fury, bade him choose, in sweet-soil'd Calydon,  
 Of the most fat and yieldy soil, what with an hundred steers  
 Might in an hundred days be plough'd, half that rich vintage bears, 545  
 And half of naked earth to plough; yet yielded not his ire.  
 Then to his lofty chamber-door ascends his royal sire  
 With ruthful plaints, shook the strong bars; then came his sisters' cries;  
 His mother then; and all intreat;—yet still more stiff he lies;—  
 His friends, most reverend, most esteem'd; yet none impression took,  
 Till the high turrets where he lay, and his strong chamber, shook 551  
 With the invading enemy, who now forc'd dreadful way  
 Along the city. Then his wife, in pitiful dismay,  
 Besought him, weeping; telling him the miseries sustain'd  
 By all the citizens, whose town the enemy had gain'd; 555  
 Men slaughter'd; children bondslaves made; sweet ladies forc'd with  
 lust;  
 Fires climbing tow'rs, and turning them to heaps of fruitless dust.  
 These dangers soft'ned his steel heart. Up the stout prince arose,  
 Indu'd his body with rich arms, and freed th' Ætolians' woes,  
 His smother'd anger giving air, which gifts did not assuage 560  
 But his own peril. And because he did not disengage

<sup>538</sup> *Unpleas'd*—implacable.

<sup>542</sup> *Differing*—angry. As we use the word a *difference* in the sense of a quarrel.

Their lives for gifts, their gifts he lost. But for my sake, dear friend,  
 Be not thou bent to see our plights to these extremes descend,  
 Ere thou assist us ; be not so by thy ill angel turn'd  
 From thine own honour. It were shame to see our navy burn'd, 565  
 And then come with thy timeless aid. For offer'd presents, come,  
 And all the Greeks will honour thee, as of celestial room.  
 But if without these gifts thou fight, forc'd by thy private woe,  
 Thou wilt be nothing so renown'd, though thou repel the foe."

Achilles answer'd the last part of this oration thus : 570

" Phœnix, renown'd and reverend, the honours urg'd on us  
 We need not. Jove doth honour me, and to my safety sees,  
 And will, whiles I retain a spirit, or can command my knees.  
 Then do not thou with tears and woes impassion my affects,  
 Becoming gracious to my foe. Nor fits it the respects 575  
 Of thy vow'd love to honour him that hath dishonour'd me,  
 Lest such loose kindness lose his heart that yet is firm to thee.  
 It were thy praise to hurt with me the hurter of my state,  
 Since half my honour and my realm thou mayst participate.  
 Let these lords then return th' event, and do thou here repose, 580  
 And, when dark sleep breaks with the day, our counsels shall disclose  
 The course of our return or stay." This said, he with his eye  
 Made to his friend a covert sign, to hasten instantly  
 A good soft bed, that the old prince, soon as the peers were gone,  
 Might take his rest ; when, soldier-like, brave Ajax Telamon 585  
 Spake to Ulysses, as with thought Achilles was not worth  
 The high direction of his speech, that stood so sternly forth  
 Unmov'd with th' other orators, and spake, not to appease  
 Pelides' wrath, but to depart. His arguments were these :

<sup>567</sup> *As of celestial room*—as one of the family of the Gods.

<sup>570</sup> The second folio has "*his*," which Dr. Taylor has followed.

<sup>574</sup> *Impassion my affects*—passionately appeal to my feelings.

<sup>580</sup> *Return the event*—tell the issue of their embassy. We use the word, to make a parliamentary *return*.

“ High-issued Laertiades, let us insist no more 590  
 On his persuasion. I perceive the world would end before  
 Our speeches end in this affair. We must with utmost haste  
 Return his answer, though but bad. The peers are elsewhere plac’d,  
 And will not rise till we return. Great Thetis’ son hath stor’d  
 Proud wrath within him, as his wealth, and will not be implor’d, 595  
 Rude that he is, nor his friends’ love respects, do what they can,  
 Wherein past all, we honour’d him. O unremorseful man !  
 Another for his brother slain, another for his son,  
 Accepts of satisfaction ; and he the deed hath done  
 Lives in belov’d society long after his amends, 600  
 To which his foe’s high heart, for gifts, with patience condescends ;  
 But thee a wild and cruel spirit the Gods for plague have given,  
 And for one girl, of whose fair sex we come to offer seven,  
 The most exempt for excellence, and many a better prise.  
 Then put a sweet mind in thy breast, respect thy own allies, 605  
 Though others make thee not remiss. A multitude we are,  
 Sprung of thy royal family, and our supremest care  
 Is to be most familiar, and hold most love with thee  
 Of all the Greeks, how great an host soever here there be.”  
 He answer’d : “ Noble Telamon, prince of our soldiers here, 610  
 Out of thy heart I know thou speak’st, and as thou hold’st me dear,  
 But still as often as I think how rudely I was us’d,  
 And, like a stranger, for all rites, fit for our good, refus’d,  
 My heart doth swell against the man that durst be so profane  
 To violate his sacred place ; not for my private bane, 615  
 But since wrack’d virtue’s general laws he shameless did infringe ;  
 For whose sake I will loose the reins, and give mine anger swinge,  
 Without my wisdom’s least impeach. He is a fool, and base,  
 That pities vice-plagued minds, when pain, not love of right, gives place.  
 And therefore tell your king, my lords, my just wrath will not care 620  
 For all his cares, before my tents and navy charged are

<sup>597</sup> *Unremorseful*.—See Bk. VIII. 208.

By warlike Hector, making way through flocks of Grecian lives,  
 Enlight'ned by their naval fire ; but when his rage arrives  
 About my tent, and sable bark, I doubt not but to shield  
 Them and myself, and make him fly the there strong-bounded field."

This said, each one but kiss'd the cup, and to the ships retir'd ; 626  
 Ulysses first. Patroclus then the men and maids requir'd  
 To make grave Phœnix' bed with speed, and see he nothing lacks.  
 They straight obey'd, and thereon laid the subtile fruit of flax,  
 And warm sheep-fells for covering ; and there the old man slept, 630  
 Attending till the golden Morn her usual station kept.  
 Achilles lay in th' inner room of his tent richly wrought,  
 And that fair lady by his side that he from Lesbos brought,  
 Bright Diomeda, Phorbas' seed. Patroclus did embrace  
 The beauteous Iphis, given to him when his bold friend did race 635  
 The lofty Scyrus that was kept in Enyeius' hold.

Now at the tent of Atreus' son, each man with cups of gold  
 Receiv'd th' ambassadors return'd. All cluster'd near to know  
 What news they brought ; which first the king would have Ulysses show :  
 " Say, most praiseworthy Ithacus, the Grecians' great renown, 640  
 Will he defend us ? Or not yet will his proud stomach down ?"

Ulysses made reply : " Not yet will he appeased be,  
 But grows more wrathful, prizing light thy offer'd gifts and thee,  
 And wills thee to consult with us, and take some other course  
 To save our army and our fleet, and says, ' with all his force, 645  
 The morn shall light him on his way to Phthia's wished soil,  
 For never shall high-seated Troy be sack'd with all our toil,  
 Jove holds his hand 'twixt us and it, the soldiers gather heart.'  
 Thus he replies, which Ajax here can equally impart,  
 And both these heralds. Phœnix stays, for so was his desire, 650  
 To go with him, if he thought good ; if not, he might retire."

<sup>629</sup> *Subtile*—Latin *subtilis*, fine. Ben Jonson uses the word in this sense (Cati-  
 line II. 3) when he speaks of "*subtile lips*." Shakespeare, (Coriolanus v. 2.)  
 " Like to a bowl upon a *subtile* ground,"  
 where it refers to the smoothness of the bowling ground.



All wond' red he should be so stern ; at last bold Diomed spake :

“ Would God, Atrides, thy request were yet to undertake,  
And all thy gifts unoffer'd him ! He's proud enough beside,  
But this ambassage thou hast sent will make him burst with pride. 655

But let us suffer him to stay, or go, at his desire,  
Fight when his stomach serves him best, or when Jove shall inspire.

Meanwhile, our watch being strongly held, let us a little rest  
After our food ; strength lives by both, and virtue is their guest.

Then when the rosy-finger'd Morn holds out her silver light, 660  
Bring forth thy host, encourage all, and be thou first in fight.”

The kings admir'd the fortitude that so divinely mov'd

The skilful horseman Diomed, and his advice approv'd.

Then with their nightly sacrifice each took his several tent,

Where all receiv'd the sovereign gifts soft Somnus did present. 665

<sup>659</sup> *Virtue is their guest*—valour accompanies food and rest.



## THE TENTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

TH' Atrides, watching, wake the other peers,  
 And (in the fort, consulting of their fears)  
 Two kings they send, most stout, and honour'd most,  
 For royal scouts, into the Trojan host;  
 Who meeting Dolon, Hector's bribed spy,  
 Take him, and learn how all the quarters lie.  
 He told them, in the Thracian regiment  
 Of rich king Rhesus, and his royal tent,  
 Striving for safety; but they end his strife,  
 And rid poor Dolon of a dangerous life.  
 Then with digressive wiles they use their force  
 On Rhesus' life, and take his snowy horse.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Kappa the night exploits applies:  
 Rhesus' and Dolon's tragedies.



**T**HE other princes at their ships soft-finger'd Sleep did bind,  
 But not the general; Somnus' silks bound not his labour-  
 ing mind  
 That turn'd, and return'd, many thoughts. And as quick  
 lightnings fly,  
 From well-deck'd Juno's sovereign, out of the thick'ned sky,

\* "These are the lightnings before snow &c. that Scaliger's Criticus so unworthily taxeth; citing the place falsely, as in the third book's annotations, &c."—CHAPMAN.

Preparing some exceeding rain, or hail the fruit of cold, 5  
 Or down-like snow that suddenly makes all the fields look old,  
 Or opes the gulfy mouth of war with his ensulphur'd hand,  
 In dazzling flashes pour'd from clouds, on any punish'd land ;  
 So from Atrides' troubled heart, through his dark sorrows, flew  
 Redoubled sighs ; his entrails shook, as often as his view 10  
 Admir'd the multitude of fires that gilt the Phrygian shade,  
 And heard the sounds of fifes, and shawms, and tumults soldiers made.  
 But when he saw his fleet and host kneel to his care and love,  
 He rent his hair up by the roots as sacrifice to Jove,  
 Burnt in his fiery sighs, still breath'd out of his royal heart, 15  
 And first thought good to Nestor's care his sorrows to impart,  
 To try if royal diligence, with his approv'd advice,  
 Might fashion counsels to prevent their threat'ned miseries.

So up he rose, attir'd himself, and to his strong feet tied  
 Rich shoes, and cast upon his back a ruddy lion's hide, 20  
 So ample it his ankles reach'd, then took his royal spear.

Like him was Menelaus pierc'd with an industrious fear,  
 Nor sat sweet slumber on his eyes, lest bitter fates should quite  
 The Greeks' high favours, that for him resolv'd such endless fight.  
 And first a freckled panther's hide hid his broad back athwart ; 25  
 His head his brazen helm did arm ; his able hand his dart ;  
 Then made he all his haste to raise his brother's head as rare,  
 That he who most excell'd in rule might help t' effect his care.  
 He found him, at his ship's crook'd stern, adorning him with arms,  
 Who joy'd to see his brother's spirits awak'd without alarms, 30  
 Well weighing th' importance of the time. And first the younger spake:

“ Why, brother, are ye arming thus ? Is it to undertake  
 The sending of some vent'rous Greek t' explore the foe's intent ?  
 Alas ! I greatly fear, not one will give that work consent,  
 Expos'd alone to all the fears that flow in gloomy night. 35  
 He that doth this must know death well, in which ends every fright.”

<sup>23</sup> *Quite*—requite, put a stop to.

" Brother," said he, " in these affairs we both must use advice,  
 Jove is against us, and accepts great Hector's sacrifice.  
 For I have never seen, nor heard, in one day, and by one,  
 So many high attempts well urg'd, as Hector's power hath done 40  
 Against the hapless sons of Greece ; being chiefly dear to Jove,  
 And without cause, being neither fruit of any Goddess' love,  
 Nor helpful God ; and yet I fear the deepness of his hand,  
 Ere it be 'ras'd out of our thoughts, will many years withstand.  
 But, brother, hie thee to thy ships, and Idomen dis-ease, 45  
 With warlike Ajax ; I will haste to grave Neleides,  
 Exhorting him to rise, and give the sacred watch command,  
 For they will specially embrace incitement at his hand,  
 And now his son their captain is, and Idomen's good friend,  
 Bold Merion, to whose discharge we did that charge commend." 50

" Command'st thou then," his brother ask'd, " that I shall tarry here  
 Attending thy resolv'd approach, or else the message bear,  
 And quickly make return to thee ?" He answer'd : " Rather stay,  
 Lest otherwise we fail to meet, for many a different way  
 Lies through our labyrinthian host. Speak ever as you go, 55  
 Command strong watch, from sire to son urge all t' observe the foe,  
 Familiarly, and with their praise, exciting every eye,  
 Not with unseason'd violence of proud authority.  
 We must our patience exercise, and work ourselves with them,  
 Jove in our births combin'd such care to either's diadem." 60

Thus he dismiss'd him, knowing well his charge before he went.  
 Himself to Nestor, whom he found in bed within his tent,  
 By him his damask curets hung, his shield, a pair of darts,  
 His shining casque, his arming waist ; in these he led the hearts  
 Of his apt soldiers to sharp war, not yielding to his years. 65  
 He quickly started from his bed, when to his watchful ears  
 Untimely feet told some approach ; he took his lance in hand,  
 And spake to him : " Ho, what art thou that walk'st at midnight ? Stand.

<sup>45</sup> *Dis-ease*—disturb, arouse.

<sup>63</sup> *Damask*—inlaid.



Is any wanting at the guards? Or lack'st thou any peer?  
 Speak, come not silent towards me; say, what intend'st thou here?" 70

He answer'd: "O Neleides, grave honour of our host,  
 'Tis Agamemnon thou mayst know, whom Jove afflicteth most  
 Of all the wretched men that live, and will, whilst any breath  
 Gives motion to my toiled limbs, and bears me up from death.  
 I walk the round thus, since sweet sleep cannot inclose mine eyes, 75  
 Nor shut those organs care breaks ope for our calamities.  
 My fear is vehement for the Greeks; my heart, the fount of heat,  
 With his extreme affects made cold, without my breast doth beat;  
 And therefore are my sinews struck with trembling; every part  
 Of what my friends may feel hath act in my dispersed heart. 80  
 But, if thou think'st of any course may to our good redound,  
 (Since neither thou thyself canst sleep) come, walk with me the round;  
 In way whereof we may confer, and look to every guard,  
 Lest watching long, and weariness with labouring so hard,  
 Drown their oppressed memories of what they have in charge. 85  
 The liberty we give the foe, alas, is over large,  
 Their camp is almost mix'd with ours, and we have forth no spies  
 To learn their drifts; who may perchance this night intend surprise."

Grave Nestor answer'd: "Worthy king, let good hearts bear  
 our ill.

Jove is not bound to perfect all this busy Hector's will; 90  
 But I am confidently given, his thoughts are much dismay'd  
 With fear, lest our distress incite Achilles to our aid,  
 And therefore will not tempt his fate, nor ours, with further pride.  
 But I will gladly follow thee, and stir up more beside;  
 Tydides, famous for his lance; Ulysses; Telamon; 95  
 And bold Phyleus' valiant heir. Or else, if any one  
 Would haste to call king Idomen, and Ajax, since their sail  
 Lie so remov'd, with much good speed, it might our haste avail.  
 But, though he be our honour'd friend, thy brother I will blame,  
 Not fearing if I anger thee. It is his utter shame 100

He should commit all pains to thee, that should himself employ,  
 Past all our princes, in the care, and cure, of our annoy,  
 And be so far from needing spurs to these his due respects,  
 He should apply our spirits himself, with pray'rs and urg'd affects.  
 Necessity (a law to laws, and not to be endur'd) 105  
 Makes proof of all his faculties, not sound if not inur'd.

“ Good father,” said the king, “ sometimes you know I have desir'd  
 You would improve his negligence, too oft to ease retir'd.  
 Nor is it for defect of spirit, or compass of his brain,  
 But with observing my estate, he thinks, he should abstain 110  
 Till I commanded, knowing my place ; unwilling to assume,  
 For being my brother, anything might prove he did presume.  
 But now he rose before me far, and came t' avoid delays,  
 And I have sent him for the men yourself desir'd to raise.  
 Come, we shall find them at the guards we plac'd before the fort, 115  
 For thither my direction was they should with speed resort.”

“ Why now,” said Nestor, “ none will grudge, nor his just rule  
 withstand.

Examples make excitements strong, and sweeten a command.”

Thus put he on his arming truss, fair shoes upon his feet,  
 About him a mandilion, that did with buttons meet, 120  
 Of purple, large, and full of folds, curl'd with a warmful nap,  
 A garment that 'gainst cold in nights did soldiers use to wrap ;  
 Then took he his strong lance in hand, made sharp with proved steel,  
 And went along the Grecian fleet. First at Ulysses' keel  
 He call'd, to break the silken fumes that did his senses bind. 125  
 The voice through th' organs of his ears straight rung about his mind.

<sup>108</sup> *Improve*—reprove. An unusual signification. NARES quotes two authorities.

<sup>114</sup> Both the folios read “ *man*.” Dr. Taylor has “ *men*,” which the context requires.

<sup>120</sup> *Mandilion*—“ A loose cassock such as souldiers use to wear.”—BLOUNT, GLOSSOGRAPH. From Ital.

Forth came Ulysses, asking him: "Why stir ye thus so late?  
 Sustain we such enforcive cause?" He answer'd, "Our estate  
 Doth force this perturbation; vouchsafe it, worthy friend,  
 And come, let us excite one more, to counsel of some end 130  
 To our extremes, by fight, or flight." He back, and took his shield,  
 And both took course to Diomed. They found him laid in field,  
 Far from his tent; his armour by; about him was dispread  
 A ring of soldiers, every man his shield beneath his head;  
 His spear fix'd by him as he slept, the great end in the ground, 135  
 The point, that bristled the dark earth, cast a reflection round  
 Like pallid lightnings thrown from Jove; thus this heroë lay,  
 And under him a big ox-hide; his royal head had stay  
 On arras hangings, rolled up; whereon he slept so fast,  
 That Nestor stirr'd him with his foot, and chid to see him cast 140  
 In such deep sleep in such deep woes, and ask'd him why he spent  
 All night in sleep, or did not hear the Trojans near his tent,  
 Their camp drawn close upon their dike, small space 'twixt foes and foes?

He, starting up, said, "Strange old man, that never tak'st repose,  
 Thou art too patient of our toil. Have we not men more young, 145  
 To be employ'd from king to king? Thine age hath too much wrong."

"Said like a king," replied the sire, "for I have sons renown'd,  
 And there are many other men, might go this toilsome round;  
 But, you must see, imperious Need hath all at her command.  
 Now on the eager razor's edge, for life or death, we stand. 150  
 Then go (thou art the younger man) and if thou love my ease,  
 Call swift-foot Ajax up thyself, and young Phyleides."

This said, he on his shoulders cast a yellow lion's hide,  
 Big, and reach'd earth, then took his spear, and Nestor's will applied,  
 Rais'd the heroës, brought them both. All met; the round they went,  
 And found not any captain there asleep or negligent, 156

<sup>148</sup> *And there are, &c.*—The second folio reads, "*As there are;*" and so Dr. Taylor.

<sup>150</sup> "Ἐπὶ ξυροῦ ἴσταιται ἀκμῆς. This went into a proverb, used by Theocritus, in *Dioscuris*, out of Homer."—CHAPMAN.

But waking, and in arms, gave ear to every lowest sound.  
 And as keen dogs keep sheep in cotes, or folds of hurdles bound,  
 And grin at every breach of air, envious of all that moves, 159  
 Still list'ning when the ravenous beast stalks through the hilly groves,  
 Then men and dogs stand on their guards, and mighty tumults make,  
 Sleep wanting weight to close one wink; so did the captains wake,  
 That kept the watch the whole sad night, all with intentive ear  
 Converted to the enemies' tents, that they might timely hear  
 If they were stirring to surprise; which Nestor joy'd to see. 165

“Why so, dear sons, maintain your watch, sleep not a wink,” said he,  
 Rather than make your fames the scorn of Trojan perjury.”

This said, he foremost pass'd the dike, the others seconded,  
 Even all the kings that had been call'd to counsel from the bed,  
 And with them went Meriones, and Nestor's famous son; 170  
 For both were call'd by all the kings to consultation.

Beyond the dike they chose a place, near as they could from blood,  
 Where yet appear'd the falls of some, and whence, the crimson flood  
 Of Grecian lives being pour'd on earth by Hector's furious chace,  
 He made retreat, when night repour'd grim darkness in his face. 175  
 There sat they down, and Nestor spake: “O friends, remains not one  
 That will rely on his bold mind, and view the camp, alone;  
 Of the proud Trojans, to approve if any straggling mate  
 He can surprise near th' utmost tents, or learn the brief estate  
 Of their intentions for the time, and mix like one of them 180  
 With their outguards, expiscating if the renown'd extreme  
 They force on us will serve their turns, with glory to retire,  
 Or still encamp thus far from Troy? This may he well inquire,  
 And make a brave retreat untouch'd; and this would win him fame  
 Of all men canopied with heaven, and every man of name 185  
 In all this host shall honour him with an enriching meed,  
 A black ewe and her sucking lamb (rewards that now exceed

<sup>157</sup> Dr. Taylor, with the second folio, reads “give ear.”

<sup>181</sup> *Expiscating*—inquiring into, fishing out.



All other best possessions, in all men's choice requests)  
And still be bidden by our kings to kind and royal feasts." 189

All reverenc'd one another's worth ; and none would silence break,  
Lest worst should take best place of speech ; at last did Diomed speak :

“ Nestor, thou ask'st if no man here have heart so well inclin'd  
To work this stratagem on Troy ? Yes, I have such a mind.  
Yet, if some other prince would join, more probable would be  
The strengthened hope of our exploit. Two may together see 195  
(One going before another still) sly danger every way ;  
One spirit upon another works, and takes with firmer stay  
The benefit of all his powers ; for though one knew his course,  
Yet might he well distrust himself, which th' other might enforce.”

This offer every man assum'd ; all would with Diomed go ; 200  
The two Ajaces, Merion, and Menelaus too ;  
But Nestor's son enforc'd it much, and hardy Ithacus  
Who had to every vent'rous deed a mind as venturous.

Amongst all these thus spake the king : “ Tydides, most belov'd,  
Choose thy associate worthily ; a man the most approv'd 205  
For use and strength in these extremes. Many thou seest stand forth ;  
But choose not thou by height of place, but by regard of worth,  
Lest with thy nice respect of right to any man's degree,  
Thou wrong'st thy venture, choosing one least fit to join with thee,  
Although perhaps a greater king.” This spake he with suspect 210  
That Diomed, for honour's sake, his brother would select.

Then said Tydides : “ Since thou giv'st my judgment leave to  
choose,

How can it so much truth forget Ulysses to refuse  
That bears a mind so most exempt, and vigorous in th' effect  
Of all high labours, and a man Pallas doth most respect ? 215  
We shall return through burning fire, if I with him combine,  
He sets strength in so true a course with counsels so divine.”

Ulysses, loth to be esteem'd a lover of his praise,  
With such exceptions humbled him as did him higher raise,

And said: "Tydides, praise me not more than free truth will bear, 220  
 Nor yet impair me; they are Greeks that give judicial ear.  
 But come, the morning hastes, the stars are forward in their course,  
 Two parts of night are past, the third is left t'employ our force."  
 Now borrow'd they for haste some arms. Bold Thrasymedes lent  
 Advent'rous Diomed his sword (his own was at his tent) 225  
 His shield, and helm tough and well tann'd, without or plume or  
 crest,  
 And call'd a murrion, archers' heads it used to invest.  
 Meriones lent Ithacus his quiver and his bow,  
 His helmet fashion'd of a hide, the workman did bestow  
 Much labour in it, quilting it with bow-strings, and without 230  
 With snowy tusks of white-mouth'd boars 'twas armed round about  
 Right cunningly, and in the midst an arming cap was plac'd,  
 That with the fix'd ends of the tusks his head might not be ras'd.  
 This, long since, by Autolycus was brought from Eleon,  
 When he laid waste Amyntor's house, that was Ormenus' son. 235  
 In Scandia, to Cytherius, surnam'd Amphidamas,  
 Autolycus did give this helm; he, when he feasted was  
 By honour'd Molus, gave it him, as present of a guest;  
 Molus to his son Merion did make it his bequest.  
 With this Ulysses arm'd his head; and thus they, both address'd, 240  
 Took leave of all the other kings. To them a glad ostent,  
 As they were ent'ring on their way, Minerva did present,  
 A hernshaw consecrate to her, which they could ill discern  
 Through sable night, but, by her clange, they knew it was a hern.  
 Ulysses joy'd, and thus invok'd: "Hear me, great Seed of Jove, 245  
 That ever dost my labours grace with presence of thy love,  
 And all my motions dost attend! Still love me, sacred Dame,  
 Especially in this exploit, and so protect our fame  
 We both may safely make retreat, and thriftily employ  
 Our boldness in some great affair baneful to them of Troy." 250

<sup>227</sup> *Murrion*—i. e. morion.

<sup>244</sup> *Clange*.—See Bk. III. 5.

Then pray'd illustrate Diomed : " Vouchsafe me likewise ear,  
 O thou unconquer'd Queen of arms ! Be with thy favours near,  
 As, to my royal father's steps, thou went'st a bounteous guide,  
 When th' Achives and the peers of Thebes he would have pacified,  
 Sent as the Greeks' ambassador, and left them at the flood 255  
 Of great Æsopus ; whose retreat thou mad'st to swim in blood  
 Of his enambush'd enemies ; and, if thou so protect  
 My bold endeavours, to thy name an heifer most select,  
 That never yet was tam'd with yoke, broad-fronted, one year old,  
 I'll burn in zealous sacrifice, and set the horns in gold." 260

The Goddess heard ; and both the kings their dreadless passage bore  
 Through slaughter, slaughter'd carcasses, arms, and discolour'd gore.

Nor Hector let his princes sleep, but all to council call'd,  
 And ask'd, " What one is here will vow, and keep it unappall'd,  
 To have a gift fit for his deed, a chariot and two horse, 265  
 That pass for speed the rest of Greece ? What one dares take this course,  
 For his renown, besides his gifts, to mix amongst the foe,  
 And learn if still they hold their guards, or with this overthrow  
 Determine flight, as being too weak to hold us longer war ?"

All silent stood ; at last stood forth one Dolon, that did dare 270  
 This dangerous work, Eumedes' heir, a herald much renown'd.  
 This Dolon did in gold and brass exceedingly abound,  
 But in his form was quite deform'd, yet passing swift to run,  
 Amongst five sisters, he was left Eumedes' only son.  
 And he told Hector, his free heart would undertake t' explore 275  
 The Greeks' intentions, " but," said he, " thou shalt be sworn before,  
 By this thy sceptre, that the horse of great Æacides,  
 And his strong chariot bound with brass, thou wilt (before all these)  
 Resign me as my valour's prise ; and so I rest unmov'd  
 To be thy spy, and not return before I have approv'd 280  
 (By venturing to Atrides' ship, where their consults are held)  
 If they resolve still to resist, or fly as quite expell'd."

He put his sceptre in his hand, and call'd the thunder's God,  
 Saturnia's husband, to his oath, those horse should not be rode  
 By any other man than he, but he for ever joy 235  
 (To his renown) their services, for his good done to Troy.  
 Thus swore he, and forswore himself, yet made base Dolon bold ;  
 Who on his shoulders hung his bow, and did about him fold  
 A white wolf's hide, and with a helm of weasels' skins did arm  
 His weasel's head, then took his dart, and never turn'd to harm 290  
 The Greeks with their related drifts ; but being past the troops  
 Of horse and foot, he promptly runs, and as he runs he stoops  
 To undermine Achilles' horse. Ulysses straight did see,  
 And said to Diomed : " This man makes footing towards thee,  
 Out of the tents. I know not well, if he be us'd as spy 295  
 Bent to our fleet, or come to rob the slaughter'd enemy.  
 But let us suffer him to come a little further on,  
 And then pursue him. If it chance, that we be overgone  
 By his more swiftness, urge him still to run upon our fleet,  
 And (lest he 'scape us to the town) still let thy javelin meet 300  
 With all his offers of retreat." Thus stepp'd they from the plain  
 Amongst the slaughter'd carcasses. Dolon came on amain,  
 Suspecting nothing ; but once past, as far as mules outdraw  
 Oxen at plough, being both put on, neither admitted law,  
 To plough a deep-soil'd furrow forth, so far was Dolon past. 305  
 Then they pursu'd, which he perceiv'd, and stay'd his speedless haste,  
 Subtly supposing Hector sent to countermand his spy ;  
 But, in a javelin's throw or less, he knew them enemy.  
 Then laid he on his nimble knees, and they pursu'd like wind.  
 As when a brace of greyhounds are laid in with hare or hind, 310  
 Close-mouth'd and skill'd to make the best of their industrious course,  
 Serve either's turn, and, set on hard, lose neither ground nor force ;

<sup>291</sup> *Related drifts*—i. e. never returned to harm the Greeks by a relation of their designs. *Infrà*, line 332.



So constantly did Tydeus' son, and his town-razing peer,  
Pursue this spy, still turning him, as he was winding near  
His covert, till he almost mix'd with their out-courts of guard. 315

Then Pallas prompted Diomed, lest his due worth's reward  
Should be impair'd if any man did vaunt he first did sheath  
His sword in him, and he be call'd but second in his death.  
Then spake he, threat'ning with his lance: "Or stay, or this comes on,  
And long thou canst not run before thou be by death outgone." 320

This said, he threw his javelin forth; which miss'd as Diomed  
would,

Above his right arm making way, the pile stuck in the mould.  
He stay'd and trembled, and his teeth did chatter in his head.  
They came in blowing, seiz'd him fast; he, weeping, offered  
A wealthy ransom for his life, and told them he had brass, 325  
Much gold, and iron, that fit for use in many labours was,  
From whose rich heaps his father would a wondrous portion give,  
If, at the great Achaian fleet, he heard his son did live.

Ulysses bad him cheer his heart. "Think not of death," said he,  
"But tell us true, why runn'st thou forth when others sleeping be? 330  
Is it to spoil the carcasses? Or art thou choicely sent  
T' explore our drifts? Or of thyself seek'st thou some wish'd event?"

He trembling answer'd: "Much reward did Hector's oath propose,  
And urg'd me, much against my will, t' endeavour to disclose  
If you determin'd still to stay, or bent your course for flight, 335  
As all dismay'd with your late foil, and wearied with the fight.  
For which exploit, Pelides' horse and chariot he did swear,  
I only ever should enjoy." Ulysses smil'd to hear  
So base a swain have any hope so high a prise t' aspire,  
And said, his labours did affect a great and precious hire, 340  
And that the horse Pelides rein'd no mortal hand could use  
But he himself, whose matchless life a Goddess did produce.

"But tell us, and report but truth, where left'st thou Hector now?  
Where are his arms? His famous horse? On whom doth he bestow

The watch's charge? Where sleep the kings? Intend they still to lie  
Thus near encamp'd, or turn suffic'd with their late victory?" 346

"All this," said he, "I'll tell most true. At Ilus' monument  
Hector with all our princes sits, t'advise of this event,  
Who choose that place remov'd to shun the rude confused sounds  
The common soldiers throw about. But, for our watch, and rounds, 350  
Whereof, brave lord, thou mak'st demand, none orderly we keep.  
The Trojans, that have roofs to save, only abandon sleep,  
And privately without command each other they exhort  
To make prevention of the worst; and in this slender sort  
Is watch and guard maintain'd with us. Th' auxiliary bands 355  
Sleep soundly, and commit their cares into the Trojans' hands,  
For they have neither wives with them, nor children to protect;  
The less they need to care, the more they succour dull neglect."

"But tell me," said wise Ithacus, "are all these foreign powers  
Appointed quarters by themselves, or else commix'd with yours?" 360

"And this," said Dolon, "too, my lords, I'll seriously unfold.  
The Pæons with the crooked bows, and Cares, quarters hold  
Next to the sea, the Leleges, and Caucons, join'd with them,  
And brave Pelasgians. ThyMBER's mead, remov'd more from the  
stream,

Is quarter to the Lycians, the lofty Mysian force, 365  
The Phrygians and Meonians, that fight with armed horse.  
But what need these particulars? If ye intend surprise  
Of any in our Trojan camps, the Thracian quarter lies  
Utmost of all, and uncommix'd with Trojan regiments,  
That keep the voluntary watch. New pitch'd are all their tents. 370  
King Rhesus, Eioneus' son, commands them, who hath steeds  
More white than snow, huge, and well-shap'd, their fiery pace exceeds  
The winds in swiftness; these I saw; his chariot is with gold  
And pallid silver richly fram'd, and wondrous to behold;  
His great and golden armour is not fit a man should wear, 375  
But for immortal shoulders fram'd. Come then, and quickly bear

Your happy prisoner to your fleet ; or leave him here fast bound  
Till your well-urg'd and rich return prove my relation sound."

Tydides dreadfully replied : " Think not of passage thus,  
Though of right acceptable news thou hast advértis'd us, 380  
Our hands are holds more strict than so ; and should we set thee free  
For offer'd ransom, for this 'scape thou still wouldst scouting be  
About our ships, or do us scathe in plain opposed arms,  
But, if I take thy life, no way can we repent thy harms."

With this, as Dolon reach'd his hand to use a suppliant's part 385  
And stroke the beard of Diomed, he struck his neck athwart  
With his forc'd sword, and both the nerves he did in sunder wound,  
And suddenly his head, deceiv'd, fell speaking on the ground.  
His weasel's helm they took, his bow, his wolf's skin, and his lance,  
Which to Minerva Ithacus did zealously advance, 390  
With lifted arm into the air ; and to her thus he spake :

" Goddess, triumph in thine own spoils ; to thee we first will make  
Our invocations, of all powers thron'd on th' Olympian hill ;  
Now to the Thracians, and their horse, and beds, conduct us still."  
With this, he hung them up aloft upon a tamrick bough 395  
As eyeful trophies, and the sprigs that did about it grow  
He proined from the leafy arms, to make it easier view'd  
When they should hastily retire, and be perhaps pursu'd.  
Forth went they through black blood and arms, and presently aspir'd  
The guardless Thracian regiment, fast bound with sleep, and tir'd ; 400  
Their arms lay by, and triple ranks they, as they slept, did keep,  
As they should watch and guard their king, who, in a fatal sleep,  
Lay in the midst ; their chariot horse, as they coachfellows were,  
Fed by them ; and the famous steeds, that did their general bear,  
Stood next him, to the hinder part of his rich chariot tied. 405  
Ulysses saw them first, and said, " Tydides, I have spied  
The horse that Dolon, whom we slew, assur'd us we should see.  
Now use thy strength ; now idle arms are most unfit for thee ;  
Prise thou the horse ; or kill the guard, and leave the horse to me."

<sup>397</sup> *Proined*—plucked off, pruned.

Minerva, with the azure eyes, breath'd strength into her king, 410  
 Who fill'd the tent with mixed death. The souls, he set on wing,  
 Issued in groans, and made air swell into her stormy flood.  
 Horror and slaughter had one power; the earth did blush with blood.  
 As when a hungry lion flies, with purpose to devour,  
 On flocks unkept, and on their lives doth freely use his power; 415  
 So Tydeus' son assail'd the foe; twelve souls before him flew;  
 Ulysses waited on his sword, and ever as he slew,  
 He drew them by their strengthless heels out of the horses' sight,  
 That, when he was to lead them forth, they should not with affright  
 Boggle, nor snore, in treading on the bloody carcasses; 420  
 For being new come, they were unus'd to such stern sights as these.  
 Through four ranks now did Diomed the king himself attain,  
 Who, snoring in his sweetest sleep, was like his soldiers slain.  
 An ill dream by Minerva sent that night stood by his head,  
 Which was Oenides' royal son, unconquer'd Diomed. 425

Meanwhile Ulysses loos'd his horse, took all their reins in hand,  
 And led them forth; but Tydeus' son did in contention stand  
 With his great mind to do some deed of more audacity,  
 If he should take the chariot, where his rich arms did lie,  
 And draw it by the beam away, or bear it on his back, 430  
 Or if, of more dull Thracian lives, he should their bosoms sack.

In this contention with himself, Minerva did suggest  
 And bade him think of his retreat, lest from their tempted rest  
 Some other God should stir the foe, and send him back dismay'd.

He knew the voice, took horse, and fled. The Trojans' heavenly aid,  
 Apollo with the silver bow, stood no blind sentinel 436  
 To their secure and drowsy host, but did discover well  
 Minerva following Diomed; and, angry with his act,  
 The mighty host of Ilion he ent'red, and awak'd  
 The cousin german of the king, a counsellor of Thrace, 440  
 Hippocoon; who when he rose, and saw the desert place,

<sup>433</sup> *Tempted*—tried.



Where Rhesus' horse did use to stand, and th' other dismal harms,  
 Men struggling with the pangs of death, he shriek'd out thick alarms,  
 Call'd 'Rhesus! Rhesus!' but in vain; then still, 'Arm! Arm!' he cried.  
 The noise and tumult was extreme on every startled side 145  
 Of Troy's huge host; from whence in throngs all gather'd, and admir'd  
 Who could perform such harmful facts, and yet be safe retir'd.

Now, coming where they slew the scout, Ulysses stay'd the steeds,  
 Tydides lighted, and the spoils, hung on the tamrick reeds,  
 He took and gave to Ithacus, and up he got again. 450  
 Then flew they joyful to their fleet. Nestor did first attain  
 The sounds the horse-hoofs struck through air, and said: "My royal  
 peers!

Do I but dote, or say I true? Methinks about mine ears  
 The sounds of running horses beat. O would to God they were  
 Our friends thus soon return'd with spoils! But I have hearty fear, 455  
 Lest this high tumult of the foe doth their distress intend."  
 He scarce had spoke, when they were come. Both did from horse descend.  
 All, with embraces and sweet words, to heaven their worth did raise.  
 Then Nestor spake: "Great Ithacus, even heap'd with Grecian praise,  
 How have you made these horse your prise? Pierc'd you the dangerous  
 host, 460

Where such gems stand? Or did some God your high attempts accost,  
 And honour'd you with this reward? Why, they be like the rays  
 The sun effuseth. I have mix'd with Trojans all my days;  
 And now, I hope you will not say, I always lie aboard,  
 Though an old soldier I confess; yet did all Troy afford 465  
 Never the like to any sense that ever I possess'd.  
 But some good God, no doubt, hath met, and your high valours bless'd,

<sup>464</sup> *Aboard*.—Dr. Taylor has printed "*abord*," and ridiculously says, "*abord, readily; from the French.*" Had he consulted the original, or given one moment's thought, he would have seen what the true word was. Nestor says, "I have mixed with Trojans all my days, and now, though I confess I am an old man, I hope you will not say I always *lie aboard*, remain on board ship, and avoid the battle."

For He that shadows heaven with clouds loves both as his delights,  
And She that supples earth with blood cannot forbear your sights."

Ulysses answer'd: " Honour'd sire, the willing Gods can give 470  
Horse much more worth than these men yield, since in more power they  
live.

These horse are of the Thracian breed ; their king Tydides slew,  
And twelve of his most trusted guard, and of that meaner crew  
A scout for thirteenth man we kill'd, whom Hector sent to spy  
The whole estate of our designs, if bent to fight or fly." 475

Thus, follow'd with whole troops of friends, they with applauses pass'd  
The spacious dike, and in the tent of Diomed they plac'd  
The horse without contention, as his deserving's meed,  
Which, with his other horse set up, on yellow wheat did feed.  
Poor Dolon's spoils Ulysses had ; who shrin'd them on his stern, 480  
As trophies vow'd to her that sent the good-aboding hern.

Then enter'd they the mere main sea, to cleanse their honour'd sweat  
From off their feet, their thighs and necks ; and, when their vehement heat  
Was calm'd, and their swoln hearts refresh'd, more curious baths they us'd,  
Where odorous and dissolving oils they through their limbs diffus'd. 485  
Then, taking breakfast, a big bowl fill'd with the purest wine  
They offer'd to the Maiden Queen, that hath the azure eyne.

<sup>480</sup> *Stern*—hung them up as votive offerings on the stern of his ship.

<sup>482</sup> *Mere*—pure, unmixed. See Bk. xvii. 420.

THE END OF THE TENTH BOOK.



## THE ELEVENTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

ATRIDES and his other peers of name  
Lead forth their men; whom Eris doth inflame.  
Hector (by Iris' charge) takes deedless breath,  
Whiles Agamemnon plies the work of death,  
Who with the first bears his imperial head.  
Himself, Ulysses, and king Diomed,  
Eurypylus, and Æsculapius' son,  
(Enforc'd with wounds) the furious skirmish shun.  
Which martial sight when great Achilles views,  
A little his desire of fight renews;  
And forth he sends his friend, to bring him word  
From old Neleides, what wounded lord  
He in his chariot from the skirmish brought;  
Which was Machaon. Nestor then besought  
He would persuade his friend to wreak their harms,  
Or come himself, deck'd in his dreadful arms.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Lambda presents the General,  
In fight the worthiest man of all.



URORA out of restful bed did from bright Tithon rise,  
To bring each deathless Essence light, and use to mortal  
eyes;  
When Jove sent Eris to the Greeks, sustaining in her hand  
Stern signs of her designs for war. She took her horrid stand

Upon Ulysses' huge black bark that did at anchor ride 5  
 Amidst the fleet, from whence her sounds might ring on every side,  
 Both to the tents of Telamon, and th' author of their smarts,  
 Who held, for fortitude and force, the navy's utmost parts.

The red-ey'd Goddess, seated there, thunder'd th' Orthian song,  
 High, and with horror, through the ears of all the Grecian throng. 10  
 Her verse with spirits invincible did all their breasts inspire,  
 Blew out all darkness from their limbs, and set their hearts on fire,  
 And presently was bitter war more sweet a thousand times  
 Than any choice in hollow keels to greet their native climes.

Atrides summon'd all to arms, to arms himself dispos'd. 15  
 First on his legs he put bright greaves with silver buttons clos'd ;  
 Then with rich curace arm'd his breast, which Cinyras bestow'd  
 To gratify his royal guest ; for even to Cyprus flow'd  
 Th' unbounded fame of those designs the Greeks propos'd for Troy,  
 And therefore gave he him those arms, and wish'd his purpose joy. 20  
 Ten rows of azure mix'd with black, twelve golden like the sun,  
 Twice ten of tin, in beaten paths, did through this armour run.  
 Three serpents to the gorget crept, that like three rainbows shin'd  
 Such as by Jove are fix'd in clouds when wonders are divin'd.

About his shoulders hung his sword, whereof the hollow hilt 25  
 Was fashion'd all with shining bars, exceeding richly gilt ;  
 The scabbard was of silver plate, with golden hangers grac'd.  
 Then took he up his weighty shield, that round about him cast  
 Defensive shadows ; ten bright zones of gold-affecting brass  
 Were driven about it, and of tin, as full of gloss as glass, 30  
 Swell'd twenty bosses out of it ; in centre of them all  
 One of black metal had engraven, full of extreme appall,  
 An ugly Gorgon, compassed with Terror and with Fear.  
 At it a silver bawdrick hung, with which he us'd to bear,  
 Wound on his arm, his ample shield, and in it there was woven 35  
 An azure dragon, curl'd in folds, from whose one neck was cloven

<sup>7</sup> *Author*—Achilles. Both folios and Dr. Taylor have erroneously “ *authors*.”



Three heads contorted in an orb. Then plac'd he on his head  
 His four-plum'd casque ; and in his hands two darts he managed,  
 Arm'd with bright steel that blaz'd to heaven. Then Juno, and the Maid  
 That conquers empires, trumpets serv'd to summon out their aid 40  
 In honour of the General, and on a sable cloud,  
 To bring them furious to the field, sat thund'ring out aloud.

Then all enjoin'd their charioteers to rank their chariot horse  
 Close to the dike. Forth march'd the foot, whose front they did r'enforce  
 With some horse troops. The battle then was all of charioteers, 45  
 Lin'd with light horse. But Jupiter disturb'd this form with fears,  
 And from air's upper region did bloody vapours rain,  
 For sad ostent much noble life should ere their times be slain.  
 The Trojan host at Ilus' tomb was in battalia led  
 By Hector and Polydamas, and old Anchises' seed 50  
 Who god-like was esteem'd in Troy, by grave Antenor's race  
 Divine Agenor, Polybus, unmarried Acamas  
 Proportion'd like the States of heaven. In front of all the field,  
 Troy's great Priamides did bear his all-ways-equal shield,  
 Still plying th' ordering of his power. And as amidst the sky 55  
 We sometimes see an ominous star blaze clear and dreadfully,  
 Then run his golden head in clouds, and straight appear again ;  
 So Hector otherwhiles did grace the vaunt-guard, shining plain,  
 Then in the rear-guard hid himself, and labour'd everywhere  
 To order and encourage all ; his armour was so clear, 60  
 And he applied each place so fast, that, like a lightning thrown  
 Out of the shield of Jupiter, in every eye he shone.  
 And as upon a rich man's crop of barley or of wheat,  
 Oppos'd for swiftness at their work, a sort of reapers sweat,  
 Bear down the furrows speedily, and thick their handfuls fall ; 65  
 So at the joining of the hosts ran slaughter through them all,

<sup>64</sup> *Opposed*—standing opposite to one another for expedition's sake.

<sup>64</sup> *Sort*—set. See Bk. IV. 460.

None stoop'd to any fainting thought of foul inglorious flight,  
 But equal bore they up their heads, and far'd like wolves in fight.  
 Stern Eris, with such weeping sights, rejoic'd to feed her eyes,  
 Who only show'd herself in field of all the Deities ; 70  
 The other in Olympus' tops sat silent, and repin'd  
 That Jove to do the Trojans grace should bear so fix'd a mind.  
 He car'd not, but, enthron'd apart, triumphant sat in sway  
 Of his free power, and from his seat took pleasure to display  
 The city so adorn'd with tow'rs, the sea with vessels fill'd, 75  
 The splendour of refulgent arms, the killer and the kill'd.  
 As long as bright Aurora rul'd, and sacred day increas'd,  
 So long their darts made mutual wounds, and neither had the best ;  
 But when in hill-environ'd vales the timber-feller takes  
 A sharp set stomach to his meat, and dinner ready makes, 80  
 His sinews fainting, and his spirits become surcharg'd and dull,  
 Time of accustom'd ease arriv'd, his hands with labour full,  
 Then by their valours Greeks brake through the Trojan ranks, and cheer'd  
 Their general squadrons through the host, then first of all appear'd  
 The person of the king himself, and then the Trojans lost 85  
 Bianor by his royal charge, a leader in the host.  
 Who being slain, his charioteer, Oileus, did alight,  
 And stood in skirmish with the king ; the king did deadly smite  
 His forehead with his eager lance, and through his helm it ran,  
 Enforcing passage to his brain quite through the hard'ned pan, 90  
 His brain mix'd with his clotter'd blood, his body strew'd the ground.  
 There left he them, and presently he other objects found ;  
 Isus and Antiphus, two sons king Priam did beget,  
 One lawful, th' other wantonly. Both in one chariot met  
 Their royal foe ; the baser born, Isus, was charioteer, 95  
 And famous Antiphus did fight ; both which king Peleus' heir,

<sup>74</sup> *Display*—behold, view. A rare sense. See Bk. xvii. 90.

<sup>90</sup> *Pan*—skull, brain-pan.

Whilome in Ida keeping flocks, did deprehend and bind  
 With pliant osiers, and, for price, them to their sire resign'd.  
 Atrides with his well-aim'd lance smote Isus on the breast  
 Above the nipple ; and his sword a mortal wound impress'd 100  
 Beneath the ear of Antiphus ; down from their horse they fell.  
 The king had seen the youths before, and now did know them well,  
 Rememb'ring them the prisoners of swift Æacides,  
 Who brought them to the sable fleet from Ida's foody leas.

And as a lion having found the furrow of a hind, 105  
 Where she hath calv'd two little twins, at will and ease doth grind  
 Their joints snatch'd in his solid jaws, and crusheth into mist  
 Their tender lives ; their dam, though near, not able to resist,  
 But shook with vehement fear herself, flies through the oaken chace  
 From that fell savage, drown'd in sweat, and seeks some covert place ;  
 So when with most unmatched strength the Grecian General bent 111  
 'Gainst these two princes, none durst aid their native king's descent,  
 But fled themselves before the Greeks. And where these two were slain,  
 Pisander and Hippolochus, not able to restrain  
 Their headstrong horse, the silken reins being from their hands let fall,  
 Were brought by their unruly guides before the General. 116  
 Antimachus begat them both, Antimachus that took  
 Rich gifts, and gold, of Helen's love, and would by no means brook  
 Just restitution should be made of Menelaus' wealth,  
 Bereft him, with his ravish'd queen, by Alexander's stealth. 120  
 Atrides, lion-like, did charge his sons, who on their knees  
 Fell from their chariot, and besought regard to their degrees,  
 Who, being Antimachus's sons, their father would afford  
 A worthy ransom for their lives, who in his house did hoard  
 Much hidden treasure, brass, and gold, and steel, wrought wondrous  
 choice. 125

Thus wept they, using smoothing terms, and heard this rugged voice

<sup>104</sup> *Foody leas*—fertile, fruitful, meads. The word occurs again Ek. xv. 638.

<sup>116</sup> *Helen's love*—Paris.

Breath'd from the unrelenting king : “ If you be of the breed  
 Of stout Antimachus, that stay'd the honourable deed  
 The other peers of Ilion in counsel had decreed,  
 To render Helen and her wealth, and would have basely slain 130  
 My brother and wise Ithacus, ambassadors t' attain  
 The most due motion, now receive wreak for his shameful part.”  
 This said, in poor Pisander's breast he fix'd his wreakful dart,  
 Who upward spread th' oppressed earth ; his brother crouch'd for dread,  
 And, as he lay, the angry king cut off his arms and head, 135  
 And let him like a football lie for every man to spurn.  
 Then to th' extremest heat of fight he did his valour turn,  
 And led a multitude of Greeks, where foot did foot subdue,  
 Horse slaughter'd horse, Need feather'd flight, the batter'd centre flew  
 In clouds of dust about their ears, rais'd from the horses' hooves, 140  
 That beat a thunder out of earth as horrible as Jove's.  
 The king, persuading speedy chace, gave his persuasions way  
 With his own valour, slaught'ring still, as in a stormy day  
 In thick-set woods a ravenous fire wraps in his fierce repair  
 The shaken trees, and by the roots doth toss them into air ; 145  
 Even so beneath Atrides' sword flew up Troy's flying heels,  
 Their horse drew empty chariots, and sought their thund'ring wheels  
 Some fresh directors through the field, where least the pursuit drives.  
 Thick fell the Trojans, much more sweet to vultures than their wives.

Then Jove drew Hector from the darts, from dust, from death and blood,  
 And from the tumult. Still the king firm to the pursuit stood, 151  
 Till at old Ilus' monument, in midst of all the field,  
 They reach'd the wild fig-tree, and long'd to make their town their shield.  
 Yet there they rested not ; the king still cried, ‘ Pursue ! Pursue !’  
 And all his unreprieved hands did blood and dust imbrue. 155  
 But when they came to Scæa's ports, and to the beech of Jove,  
 There made they stand ; there every eye, fix'd on each other, strove

<sup>148</sup> *Directors*.—The second folio erroneously prints “ *directions*,” which has been adopted by Dr. Taylor.



Who should outlook his mate amaz'd ; through all the field they fled.  
 And as a lion, when the night becomes most deaf and dead,  
 Invades ox herds, affrighting all, that he of one may wreak 160  
 His dreadful hunger, and his neck he first of all doth break,  
 Then laps his blood and entrails up ; so Agamemnon plied  
 The manage of the Trojan chace, and still the last man died,  
 The other fled, a number fell by his imperial hand,  
 Some grovelling downwards from their horse, some upwards strew'd the sand.  
 High was the fury of his lance. But, having beat them close 166  
 Beneath their walls, the both worlds' Sire did now again repose  
 On fountain-flowing Ida's tops, being newly slid from heaven,  
 And held a lightning in his hand ; from thence this charge was given  
 To Iris with the golden wings : " Thaumantia, fly," said he, 170  
 " And tell Troy's Hector, that as long as he enrag'd shall see  
 The soldier-loving Atreus' son amongst the foremost fight,  
 Depopulating troops of men, so long he must excite  
 Some other to resist the foe, and he no arms advance ;  
 But when he wounded takes his horse, attain'd with shaft or lance, 175  
 Then will I fill his arm with death, even till he reach the fleet,  
 And peaceful night treads busy day beneath her sacred feet."

The wind-foot swift Thaumantia obey'd, and us'd her wings  
 To famous Ilion from the mount enchas'd with silver springs,  
 And found in his bright chariot the hardy Trojan knight, 180  
 To whom she spake the words of Jove, and vanish'd from his sight.

He leapt upon the sounding earth, and shook his lengthful dart,  
 And everywhere he breath'd exhorts, and stirr'd up every heart.  
 A dreadful fight he set on foot. His soldiers straight turn'd head.  
 The Greeks stood firm. In both the hosts the field was perfected. 185  
 But Agamemnon foremost still did all his side exceed,  
 And would not be the first in name unless the first in deed.

<sup>169</sup> *This charge.*—The second folio, followed by Dr. Taylor, reads "*his charge.*"

<sup>175</sup> *Attain'd*—touched, hit. *Infra*, line 512, we have "*attainted.*" See note on Bk. III. 374.

Now sing, fair Presidents of verse, that in the heavens embow'r,  
 Who first encounter'd with the king, of all the adverse pow'r.  
 Iphidamas, Antenor's son, ample and bigly set, 190  
 Brought up in pasture-springing Thrace that doth soft sheep beget,  
 In grave Cissëus' noble house, that was his mother's sire,  
 Fair Theano; and when his breast was height'ned with the fire  
 Of gaysome youth, his grandsire gave his daughter to his love.  
 Who straight his bridal-chamber left. Fame with affection strove, 195  
 And made him furnish twelve fair ships to lend fair Troy his hand.  
 His ships he in Percope left, and came to Troy by land.  
 And now he tried the fame of Greece, encount'ring with the king,  
 Who threw his royal lance and miss'd. Iphidamas did fling,  
 And struck him on the arming waist, beneath his coat of brass, 200  
 Which forc'd him stay upon his arm, so violent it was,  
 Yet pierc'd it not his well-wrought zone, but when the lazy head  
 Tried hardness with his silver waist, it turn'd again like lead.  
 He follow'd, grasping the ground end, but with a lion's wife  
 That wrests away a hunter's staff, he caught it by the pile, 205  
 And pluck'd it from the caster's hand, whom with his sword he strook  
 Beneath the ear, and with his wound his timeless death he took.  
 He fell and slept an iron sleep; wretched young man, he died,  
 Far from his newly-married wife, in aid of foreign pride,  
 And saw no pleasure of his love; yet was her jointure great, 210  
 An hundred oxen gave he her, and vow'd in his retreat  
 Two thousand head of sheep and goats, of which he store did leave.  
 Much gave he of his love's first-fruits, and nothing did receive.

When Coon (one that for his form might feast an amorous eye,  
 And elder brother of the slain) beheld his tragedy, 215  
 Deep sorrow sat upon his eyes, and (standing laterally,  
 And to the General undiscern'd) his javelin he let fly,  
 That 'twixt his elbow and his wrist transfix'd his armless arm;  
 The bright head shin'd on th' other side. The unexpected harm

<sup>207</sup> *Timeless*.—See Bk. VI. 349.  
 older copies “*his*.”

<sup>215</sup> *His*.—Both folios have “*this* ;” the

Impress'd some horror in the king ; yet so he ceas'd not fight, 220  
 But rush'd on Coon with his lance, who made what haste he might,  
 Seizing his slaughter'd brother's foot, to draw him from the field,  
 And call'd the ablest to his aid, when under his round shield  
 The king's brass javelin, as he drew, did strike him helpless dead ;  
 Who made Iphidamas the block, and cut off Coon's head. 225

Thus under great Atrides' arm Antenor's issue thriv'd,  
 And, to suffice precisest fate, to Pluto's mansion div'd.  
 He with his lance, sword, mighty stones, pour'd his heroic wreak  
 On other squadrons of the foe, whiles yet warm blood did break  
 Through his cleft veins ; but when the wound was quite exhaust and crude,  
 The eager anguish did approve his princely fortitude. 231

As when most sharp and bitter pangs distract a labouring dame,  
 Which the divine Ilithyæ, that rule the painful frame  
 Of human child-birth, pour on her ; th' Ilithyæ that are  
 The daughters of Saturnia ; with whose extreme repair 235  
 The woman in her travail strives to take the worst it gives,  
 With thought it must be, 'tis love's fruit, the end for which she lives,  
 The mean to make herself new born, what comforts will redound ;  
 So Agamemnon did sustain the torment of his wound.

Then took he chariot, and to fleet bad haste his charioteer, 240  
 But first pour'd out his highest voice to purchase every ear :

“ Princes and leaders of the Greeks, brave friends, now from our fleet  
 Do you expel this boist'rous sway. Jove will not let me meet  
 Illustrate Hector, nor give leave that I shall end the day  
 In fight against the Ilion power ; my wound is in my way.” 245

This said, his ready charioteer did scourge his spriteful horse,  
 That freely to the sable fleet perform'd their fiery course,  
 To bear their wounded sovereign apart the martial thrust,  
 Sprinkling their powerful breasts with foam, and snowing on the dust.

<sup>231</sup> *Eager*.—

“ It is a nipping and an *eager* air.”—SHAKESPEARE. *Hamlet*. I. 4.

<sup>231</sup> *Approve*—try.

When Hector heard of his retreat, thus he for fame contends : 250  
 “ Trojans, Dardanians, Lycians, all my close-fighting friends,  
 Think what it is to be renown'd, be soldiers all of name,  
 Our strongest enemy is gone, Jove vows to do us fame,  
 Then in the Grecian faces drive your one-hoof'd violent steeds,  
 And far above their best be best, and glorify your deeds.” 255

Thus as a dog-given hunter sets upon a brace of boars  
 His white-tooth'd hounds, puffs, shouts, breathes terms, and on his em-  
 prese pours

All his wild art to make them pinch ; so Hector urg'd his host  
 To charge the Greeks, and, he himself most bold and active most,  
 He brake into the heat of fight, as when a tempest raves, 260  
 Stoops from the clouds, and all on heaps doth cuff the purple waves.

Who then was first, and last, he kill'd, when Jove did grace his  
 deed ?

Assæus, and Autonus, Opys, and Clytus' seed  
 Prince Dolops, and the honour'd sire of sweet Euryalus  
 Opheltes, Agelaus next, and strong Hipponous, 265  
 Orus, Æsymnus, all of name. The common soldiers fell,  
 As when the hollow flood of air in Zephyr's cheeks doth swell,  
 And sparseth all the gather'd clouds white Notus' power did draw,  
 Wraps waves in waves, hurls up the froth beat with a vehement flaw ;  
 So were the common soldiers wrack'd in troops by Hector's hand. 270  
 Then ruin had enforc'd such works as no Greeks could withstand,  
 Then in their fleet they had been hous'd, had not Laertes' son  
 Stirr'd up the spirit of Diomed, with this impression :

“ Tydides, what do we sustain, forgetting what we are ?  
 Stand by me, dearest in my love. 'Twere horrible impair 275  
 For our two valours to endure a customary flight,  
 To leave our navy still engag'd, and but by fits to fight.”

<sup>257</sup> *Emprese.*—Thus both the folios, doubtless for *emprise*, the contracted form of *enterprise*.

<sup>258</sup> *Pinch.*—See Bk. v. 462.



He answer'd: " I am bent to stay, and anything sustain ;  
 But our delight to prove us men will prove but short and vain,  
 For Jove makes Trojans instruments, and virtually then 280  
 Wiolds arms himself. Our cross affairs are not 'twixt men and men."

This said, Thymbræus with his lance he tumbled from his horse,  
 Near his left nipple wounding him. Ulysses did enforce  
 Fair Molion, minion to this king that Diomed subdu'd.  
 Both sent they thence till they return'd, who now the king pursu'd 285  
 And furrow'd through the thick'ned troops. As when two chased boars  
 Turn head'gainst kennels of bold hounds, and race way through their gores ;  
 So, turn'd from flight, the forward kings show'd Trojans backward death.  
 Nor fled the Greeks, but by their wills, to get great Hector breath.

Then took they horse and chariot from two bold city foes, 290  
 Merops Percosius' mighty sons. Their father could disclose,  
 Beyond all men, hid auguries, and would not give consent  
 To their egression to these wars, yet wilfully they went,  
 For Fates, that order sable death, enforc'd their tragedies.  
 Tydides slew them with his lance, and made their arms his prise.

Hypirochus, and Hippodus, Ulysses reft of light. 296  
 But Jove, that out of Ida look'd, then equalis'd the fight,  
 A Grecian for a Trojan then paid tribute to the Fates.  
 Yet royal Diomed slew one, even in those even debates,  
 That was of name more than the rest, Pæon's renowned son, 300  
 The prince Agastrophus ; his lance into his hip did run ;  
 His squire detain'd his horse apart, that hinder'd him to fly,  
 Which he repented at his heart, yet did his feet apply  
 His 'scape with all the speed they had amongst the foremost bands,  
 And there his loved life dissolv'd. This Hector understands, 305  
 And rush'd with clamour on the king, right soundly seconded  
 With troops of Trojans. Which perceiv'd by famous Diomed,  
 The deep conceit of Jove's high will stiffen'd his royal hair,  
 Who spake to near-fought Ithacus : " The fate of this affair

<sup>288</sup> *Show'd Trojans, &c.*—i. e. as they retreated slew the Trojans.

Is bent to us. Come let us stand, and bound his violence." 310  
 Thus threw he his long javelin forth, which smote his head's defence  
 Full on the top, yet pierc'd no skin ; brass took repulse with brass ;  
 His helm (with three folds made, and sharp) the gift of Phœbus was.  
 The blow made Hector take the troop, sunk him upon his hand,  
 And struck him blind. The king pursu'd before the foremost band 315  
 His dart's recovery, which he found laid on the purple plain ;  
 By which time Hector was reviv'd, and, taking horse again,  
 Was far commix'd within his strength, and fled his darksome grave.  
 He follow'd with his trusty lance, and this elusive brave :

“ Once more be thankful to thy heels, proud dog, for thy escape.  
 Mischief sat near thy bosom now ; and now another rape 321  
 Hath thy Apollo made of thee, to whom thou well mayst pray,  
 When through the singing of our darts thou find'st such guarded way.  
 But I shall meet with thee at length, and bring thy latest hour,  
 If with like favour any God be fautour of my pow'r. 325  
 Meanwhile some other shall repay what I suspend in thee.”

This said, he set the wretched soul of Pæon's issue free,  
 Whom his late wound not fully slew. But Priam's amorous birth  
 Against Tydides bent his bow, hid with a hill of earth,  
 Part of the ruined tomb for honour'd Ilus built, 330  
 And as the curace of the slain, engraven and richly gilt,  
 Tydides from his breast had spoil'd, and from his shoulders raft  
 His target and his solid helm, he shot, and his keen shaft  
 (That never flew from him in vain) did nail unto the ground 334  
 The king's right foot ; the spleenful knight laugh'd sweetly at the wound,  
 Crept from his covert, and triumph'd : “ Now art thou maim'd,” said he,  
 “ And would to God my happy hand had so much honour'd me  
 To have infix'd it in thy breast as deep as in thy foot,  
 Even to th' expulsure of thy soul ! Then blest had been my shoot

<sup>325</sup> *Fautour*.—See Bk. i. 441, xv. 399.

<sup>328</sup> *Priam's amorous birth*—Paris.

<sup>334</sup> The second folio, followed as usual by Dr. Taylor, reads “ nail upon the ground.”

Of all the Trojans ; who had then breath'd from their long unrests, 340  
 Who fear thee, as the braying goats abhor the king of beasts."

Undaunted Diomed replied : " You braver with your bow,  
 You slick-hair'd lover, you that hunt and fleer at wenches so,  
 Durst thou but stand in arms with me, thy silly archery  
 Would give thee little cause to vaunt. As little suffer I 345  
 In this same tall exploit of thine, perform'd when thou wert hid,  
 As if a woman, or a child that knew not what it did,  
 Had touch'd my foot. A coward's steel hath never any edge.  
 But mine, t' assure it sharp, still lays dead carcasses in pledge ;  
 Touch it, it renders lifeless straight, it strikes the fingers' ends 350  
 Of hapless widows in their cheeks, and children blind of friends.  
 The subject of it makes earth red, and air with sighs inflames,  
 And leaves limbs more embrac'd with birds than with enamour'd dames."

Lance-fam'd Ulysses now came in, and stept before the king,  
 Kneel'd opposite, and drew the shaft. The eager pain did sting 355  
 Through all his body. Straight he took his royal chariot there,  
 And with direction to the fleet did charge his charioteer.

Now was Ulysses desolate, fear made no friend remain,  
 He thus spake to his mighty mind : " What doth my state sustain ?  
 If I should fly this odds in fear, that thus comes clust'ring on, 360  
 'Twere high dishonour ; yet 'twere worse to be surpris'd alone.  
 'Tis Jove that drives the rest to flight ; but that's a faint excuse.  
 Why do I tempt my mind so much ? Pale cowards fight refuse.  
 He that affects renown in war must like a rock be fix'd,  
 Wound, or be wounded. Valour's truth puts no respect betwixt." 365

In this contention with himself, in flew the shady bands  
 Of targeteers, who sieg'd him round with mischief-filled hands.  
 As when a crew of gallants watch the wild muse of a boar,  
 Their dogs put after in full cry, he rusheth on before,

<sup>368</sup> *Muse*—haunt of an animal. The word seems to have been applied more especially to the "run" of a hare.

Whets, with his lather-making jaws, his crooked tusks for blood, 370  
 And, holding firm his usual haunts, breaks through the deep'ned wood,  
 They charging, though his hot approach be never so abhorr'd ;  
 So, to assail the Jove-lov'd Greek, the Ilians did accord,  
 And he made through them. First he hurt, upon his shoulder blade,  
 Deiops, a blameless man at arms ; then sent to endless shade 375  
 Thoon and Eunomus ; and struck the strong Chersidamas,  
 As from his chariot he leap'd down, beneath his targe of brass,  
 Who fell, and crawl'd upon the earth with his sustaining palms,  
 And left the fight. Nor yet his lance left dealing martial alms,  
 But Socus' brother by both sides, young Carops, did impress. 380  
 Then princely Socus to his aid made brotherly access,  
 And, coming near, spake in his charge : " O great Laertes' son,  
 Insatiate in sly stratagems, and labours never done,  
 This hour, or thou shalt boast to kill the two Hippasides  
 And prise their arms, or fall thyself in my resolv'd access." 385

This said, he threw quite through his shield his fell and well-driven  
 lance,  
 Which held way through his curaces, and on his ribs did glance,  
 Plowing the flesh alongst his sides ; but Pallas did repel  
 All inward passage to his life. Ulysses, knowing well  
 The wound undeadly (setting back his foot to form his stand) 390  
 Thus spake to Socus : " O thou wretch, thy death is in this hand,  
 That stay'st my victory on Troy, and where thy charge was made  
 In doubtful terms (or this or that) this shall thy life invade."

This frightened Socus to retreat, and, in his faint reverse, 394  
 The lance betwixt his shoulders fell, and through his breast did perse,  
 Down fell he sounding, and the king thus play'd with his mis-ease :  
 " O Socus, you that make by birth the two Hippasides,  
 Now may your house and you perceive death can outfly the flyer.  
 Ah wretch ! thou canst not 'scape my vows. Old Hippasus thy sire,

<sup>395</sup> *Perse*—pierce ; probably so printed merely to suit the rhyme.



Nor thy well-honour'd mother's hands, in both which lies thy worth,  
 Shall close thy wretched eyes in death, but vultures dig them forth, 401  
 And hide them with their darksome wings; but when Ulysses dies,  
 Divinest Greeks shall tomb my corse with all their obsequies."

Now from his body and his shield the violent lance he drew,  
 That princely Socus had infix'd; which drawn, a crimson dew 405  
 Fell from his bosom on the earth; the wound did dare him sore.  
 And when the furious Trojans saw Ulysses' forced gore,  
 Encouraging themselves in gross, all his destruction vow'd.  
 Then he retir'd, and summon'd aid. Thrice shouted he aloud,  
 As did denote a man engag'd. Thrice Menelaus' ear 410  
 Observ'd his aid-suggesting voice, and Ajax being near,  
 He told him of Ulysses' shouts, as if he were enclos'd  
 From all assistance, and advis'd their aids might be dispos'd  
 Against the ring that circled him, lest, charg'd with troops alone,  
 (Though valiant) he might be oppress'd, whom Greece so built upon.

He led, and Ajax seconded. They found their Jove-lov'd king 416  
 Circled with foes. As when a den of bloody lucerns cling  
 About a goodly-palmed hart, hurt with a hunter's bow,  
 Whose 'scape his nimble feet enforce, whilst his warm blood doth flow,  
 And his light knees have power to move; but, mast' red of his wound,  
 Emboss'd within a shady hill, the lucerns charge him round, 421  
 And tear his flesh; when instantly fortune sends in the pow'rs  
 Of some stern lion, with whose sight they fly, and he devours;  
 So charg'd the Ilians Ithacus, many and mighty men.  
 But then made Menelaus in, and horrid Ajax then, 425

<sup>417</sup> *Lucerns*.—The original is *ῥῶτες*, *wolves*, or *jackalls*. The term "*lucern*" is used by Chapman in his "*Bussy d'Ambois*" (Act III.) for a sort of hunting dog. Beaumont and Fletcher apply it to an animal whose fur was much valued, "*the rich-skinned lucerne*," (*Beggars' Bush*, III. 3). Some writers have described it as the *lynx*. Others (Minshew and Blount) say it was "a beast almost as big as a wolf, breeding in Muscovia and Russia, of colour between red and brown, mingled with black spots; its skin is a very rich fur." The etymology seems uncertain.

<sup>421</sup> *Emboss'd*.—See Bk. IV. 258.

Bearing a target like a tower, close was his violent stand,  
 And every way the foe dispers'd ; when, by the royal hand,  
 Kind Menelaus led away the hurt Laertes' son,  
 Till his fair squire had brought his horse. Victorious Telamon  
 Still plied the foe, and put to sword a young Priamides, 430  
 Doryclus, Priam's bastard son ; then did his lance impress  
 Pandocus, and strong Pirasus, Lysander and Palertes.  
 As when a torrent from the hills, swoln with Saturnian show'rs,  
 Falls on the fields, bears blasted oaks and wither'd rosin flow'rs,  
 Loose weeds, and all dispersed filth, into the ocean's force ; 435  
 So matchless Ajax beat the field, and slaughter'd men and horse.  
 Yet had not Hector heard of this, who fought on the left wing  
 Of all the host, near those sweet herbs Scamander's flood doth spring,  
 Where many foreheads trode the ground, and where the skirmish burn'd  
 Near Nestor and king Idomen, where Hector overturn'd 440  
 The Grecian squadrons, authoring high service with his lance,  
 And skilful manage of his horse. Nor yet the discrepance  
 He made in death betwixt the hosts had made the Greeks retire,  
 If fair-hair'd Helen's second spouse had not repress'd the fire  
 Of bold Machaon's fortitude, who with a three-fork'd head 445  
 In his right shoulder wounded him. Then had the Grecians dread,  
 Lest, in his strength declin'd, the foe should slaughter their hurt friend.  
 Then Crete's king urg'd Neleides his chariot to ascend,  
 And getting near him, take him in, and bear him to their tents.  
 A surgeon is to be preferr'd, with physic ornaments, 450  
 Before a multitude ; his life gives hurt lives native bounds  
 With sweet inspersion of fit balms, and perfect search of wounds.  
 Thus spake the royal Idomen. Neleides obey'd,  
 And to his chariot presently the wounded Greek convey'd

<sup>434</sup> *Rosin flow'rs.*—Dr. Taylor has printed “withered *rosy* flow'rs.” Had he known the original, he would have found no necessity for altering the reading of both folios. Homer speaks of the river bearing down in its course “many withered oaks and *fir trees* ;” which latter Chapman has translated “*rosin* flowers.”

The son of Æsculapius, the great physician. 455  
 To fleet they flew. Cebriones perceiv'd the slaughter done  
 By Ajax on the other troops, and spake to Hector thus :  
 " Whiles we encounter Grecians here, stern Telamonius  
 Is yonder raging, turning up in heaps our horse and men ;  
 I know him by his spacious shield. Let us turn chariot then 460  
 Where both of horse and foot the fight most hotly is propos'd,  
 In mutual slaughters. Hark, their throats from cries are never clos'd."  
 This said, with his shrill scourge he struck the horse, that fast ensu'd  
 Stung with his lashes, tossing shields, and carcasses imbru'd.  
 The chariot tree was drown'd in blood, and th' arches by the seat 465  
 Dispurpled from the horses' hoofs, and from the wheelbands beat.  
 Great Hector long'd to break the ranks and startle their close fight,  
 Who horribly amaz'd the Greeks, and plied their sudden fright  
 With busy weapons, ever wing'd ; his lance, sword, weighty stones.  
 Yet charg'd he other leaders' bands not dreadful Telamon's, 470  
 With whom he wisely shunn'd foul blows. But Jove (that weighs above  
 All human pow'rs) to Ajax' breast divine repressions drove,  
 And made him shun who shunn'd himself ; he ceas'd from fight amaz'd,  
 Cast on his back his seven-fold shield, and round about him gaz'd  
 Like one turn'd wild, look'd on himself in his distract retreat, 475  
 Knee before knee did scarcely move. As when from herds of neat  
 Whole threaves of boors and mongrels chase a lion skulking near,  
 Loth he should taint the well-priz'd fat of any stall-fed steer,  
 Consuming all the night in watch, he, greedy of his prey,  
 Oft thrusting on is oft thrust off, so thick the javelins play 480

<sup>477</sup> *Threaves*—properly " a number of sheaves of corn ;" in which sense the word is still in use in the Northern Counties. Metaphorically applied to a collection of any objects. Ben Jonson to people,—

" Gallants, men and women,  
 And of all sorts, tag, rag, been seen to flock here  
 In *threaves*, these ten weeks."—*Alchem.* v. 2.

Bp. Hall (*Satire*, iv. 6.)

" He sends forth *threaves* of ballads to the sale."

<sup>478</sup> *Taint*.—See *suprà*, line 175.

On his bold charges, and so hot the burning fire-brands shine,  
Which he, though horrible, abhors, about his glowing eyne,  
And early his great heart retires ; so Ajax from the foe,  
For fear their fleet should be inflam'd, 'gainst his swoln heart did go.

As when a dull mill ass comes near a goodly field of corn 485  
Kept from the birds by children's cries, the boys are overborne  
By his insensible approach, and simply he will eat,  
About whom many wands are broke, and still the children beat,  
And still the self-providing ass doth with their weakness bear,  
Not stirring till his paunch be full, and scarcely then will steer ; 490  
So the huge son of Telamon amongst the Trojans far'd,  
Bore showers of darts upon his shield, yet scorn'd to fly as scar'd,  
And so kept softly on his way ; nor would he mend his pace  
For all their violent pursuits that still did arm the chase  
With singing lances. But, at last, when their cur-like presumes 495  
More urg'd the more forborne, his spirits did rarify their fumes,  
And he revok'd his active strength, turn'd head, and did repel  
The horse troops that were new made in, 'twixt whom the fight grew fell,  
And by degrees he stole retreat, yet with such puissant stay  
That none could pass him to the fleet. In both the armies' sway 500  
He stood, and from strong hands receiv'd sharp javelins on his shield,  
Where many stuck, thrown on before, many fell short in field,  
Ere the white body they could reach, and stuck, as telling how  
They purpos'd to have pierc'd his flesh. His peril pierced now  
The eyes of prince Eurypylus, Evemon's famous son, 505  
Who came close on, and with his dart struck duke Apisaon,  
Whose surname was Phausiades, even to the concrete blood  
That makes the liver ; on the earth out gush'd his vital flood.  
Eurypylus made in, and eas'd his shoulders of his arms ;  
Which Paris seeing, he drew his bow, and wreak'd in part the harms

<sup>496</sup> *Rarify*—the second folio reads “*ratify* ;” and so Dr. Taylor.

<sup>508</sup> *Vital flood*.—Both the folios have “*blood* ;” the older editions however have “*flood*.”



Of his good friend Phausiades, his arrow he let fly 511  
 That smote Eurypylus, and brake in his attained thigh ;  
 Then took he troop to shun black death, and to the flyers cried :  
 “ Princes, and leaders of the Greeks, stand, and repulse the tide  
 Of this our honour-wracking chase. Ajax is drown'd in darts, 515  
 I fear past 'scape ; turn, honour'd friends, help out his vent'rous parts.”  
 Thus spake the wounded Greek ; the sound cast on their backs their shields,  
 And rais'd their darts ; to whose relief Ajax his person wields.  
 Then stood he firmly with his friends, retiring their retire.  
 And thus both hosts indifferent join'd, the fight grew hot as fire. 520  
 Now had Neleides' sweating steeds brought him, and his hurt friend,  
 Amongst their fleet. Æacides, that wishly did intend,  
 Standing astern his tall-neck'd ship, how deep the skirmish drew  
 Amongst the Greeks, and with what ruth the insecution grew,  
 Saw Nestor bring Machaon hurt, and from within did call 525  
 His friend Patroclus, who, like Mars in form celestial,  
 Came forth with first sound of his voice, first spring of his decay,  
 And ask'd his princely friend's desire. “ Dear friend,” said he, “ this day  
 I doubt not will enforce the Greeks to swarm about my knees ;  
 I see unsuffer'd need employ'd in their extremities. 530  
 Go, sweet Patroclus, and inquire of old Neleides  
 Whom he brought wounded from the fight ; by his back parts I guess  
 It is Machaon, but his face I could not well descry,  
 They pass'd me in such earnest speed.” Patroclus presently  
 Obey'd his friend, and ran to know. They now descended were, 535  
 And Nestor's squire, Eurymedon, the horses did ungear ;

<sup>512</sup> *Attained*.—See *suprà*, line 175.

<sup>522</sup> *Wishly intend*—anxiously regard, watch. These lines have been adopted by Niccols in his “*England's Eliza*,” (*Mirror for Magistrates*, Pt. v.)

“ The noble Dev'reux, that undaunted knight,

Who stood astern his ship, and wishly ey'd

How deep the skirmish drew on either side.”—Stanza 404.

There are frequent plagiarisms from Chapman in the same poem.

<sup>524</sup> *Insecution*—pursuit. Latin.

<sup>527</sup> *First spring of his decay*—first dawning of his approaching fate.

Themselves stood near th' extremest shore to let the gentle air  
 Dry up their sweat ; then to the tent, where Hecamed the fair  
 Set chairs, and for the wounded prince a potion did prepare.

This Hecamed, by war's hard fate, fell to old Nestor's share, 540  
 When Thetis' son sack'd Tenedos ; she was the princely seed  
 Of worthy king Arsinous, and by the Greeks decreed  
 The prise of Nestor, since all men in counsel he surpass'd.  
 First, a fair table she appos'd, of which the feet were grac'd  
 With bluish metal mix'd with black ; and on the same she put 545  
 A brass fruit dish, in which she serv'd a wholesome onion cut  
 For pittance to the potion, and honey newly wrought,  
 And bread, the fruit of sacred meal. Then to the board she brought  
 A right fair cup with gold studs driven, which Nestor did transfer  
 From Pylos ; on whose swelling sides four handles fixed were, 550  
 And upon every handle sat a pair of doves of gold,  
 Some billing, and some pecking meat ; two gilt feet did uphold  
 The antique body ; and withal so weighty was the cup  
 That, being propos'd brimful of wine, one scarce could lift it up,  
 Yet Nestor drunk in it with ease, spite of his years' respect. 555  
 In this the goddess-like fair dame a potion did confect  
 With good old wine of Pramnius, and scrap'd into the wine  
 Cheese made of goat's milk, and on it 'spers'd flour exceeding fine.  
 In this sort for the wounded lord the potion she prepar'd,  
 And bad him drink. For company, with him old Nestor shar'd. 560  
 Thus physically quench'd they thirst, and then their spirits reviv'd  
 With pleasant conference. And now Patroclus, being arriv'd,  
 Made stay at th' entry of the tent. Old Nestor, seeing it,  
 Rose, and receiv'd him by the hand, and fain would have him sit.  
 He set that courtesy aside, excusing it with haste, 565  
 Since his much-to-be-reverenced friend sent him to know who past,  
 Wounded with him in chariot, so swiftly through the shore ;  
 " Whom now," said he, " I see and know, and now can stay no more ;

<sup>554</sup> *Proposed*—held forth, set before (Lat. *proponere*). See Bk. I. 14.

You know, good father, our great friend is apt to take offence,  
Whose fiery temper will inflame sometimes with innocence." 570

He answer'd : " When will Peleus' son some royal pity show  
On his thus wounded countrymen ? Ah ! is he yet to know  
How much affliction tires our host ? How our especial aid,  
Tainted with lances, at their tents are miserably laid ?

Ulysses, Diomed, our king, Eurypylus, Machaon, 575  
All hurt, and all our worthiest friends ; yet no compassion  
Can supple thy friend's friendless breast ! Doth he reserve his eye  
Till our fleet burn, and we ourselves one after other die ?

Alas, my forces are not now as in my younger life.  
Oh would to God I had that strength I used in the strife 580

Betwixt us and the Elians, for oxen to be driven,  
When Itymonius' lofty soul was by my valour given  
As sacrifice to destiny, Hypirochus' strong son,  
That dwelt in Elis, and fought first in our contention !

We foraged, as proclaimed foes, a wondrous wealthy boot, 585  
And he, in rescue of his herds, fell breathless at my foot.

All the dorp boors with terror fled. Our prey was rich and great ;  
Twice five and twenty flocks of sheep ; as many herds of neat ;  
As many goats, and nasty swine ; an hundred fifty mares,  
All sorrel, most with sucking foals. And these soon-moned wares 590

We drave into Neleius' town, fair Pylos, all by night.

My father's heart was glad to see so much good fortune quite  
The forward mind of his young son, that us'd my youth in deeds,  
And would not smother it in moods. Now drew the Sun's bright steeds  
Light from the hills ; our heralds now accited all that were 595

Endamag'd by the Elians ; our princes did appear ;  
Our boot was parted ; many men th' Epeians much did owe,  
That, being our neighbours, they did spoil ; afflictions did so flow  
On us poor Pylians though but few. In brake great Hercules  
To our sad confines of late years, and wholly did suppress 600

<sup>587</sup> *Dorp*—village, Anglo-Sax.

<sup>595</sup> *Accited*—summoned, roused.

Our hapless princes. Twice six sons renown'd Neleius bred,  
 Only myself am left of all, the rest subdued and dead.  
 And this was it that made so proud the base Epeian bands,  
 On their near neighbours, being oppress'd, to lay injurious hands.  
 A herd of oxen for himself, a mighty flock of sheep, 605  
 My sire selected, and made choice of shepherds for their keep ;  
 And from the general spoil he cull'd three hundred of the best.  
 The Elians ought him infinite, most plagued of all the rest.  
 Four wager-winning horse he lost, and chariots intervented,  
 Being led to an appointed race ; the prize that was presented 610  
 Was a religious three-foot urn ; Augeas was the king  
 That did detain them, and dismiss'd their keeper sorrowing  
 For his lov'd charge lost with foul words. Then both for words and deeds  
 My sire being worthily incens'd, thus justly he proceeds  
 To satisfaction, in first choice of all our wealthy prise ; 615  
 And, as he shar'd much, much he left his subjects to suffice,  
 That none might be oppress'd with power, or want his portion due.  
 Thus for the public good we shar'd. Then we to temples drew  
 Our complete city, and to heaven we thankful rights did burn  
 For our rich conquest. The third day ensuing our return 620  
 The Elians flew on us in heaps ; their general leaders were  
 The two Moliones, two boys, untrained in the fear  
 Of horrid war, or use of strength. A certain city shines  
 Upon a lofty prominent, and in th' extreme confines  
 Of sandy Pylos, seated where Alpheus' flood doth run, 625  
 And call'd Thryessa ; this they sieg'd, and gladly would have won,  
 But, having pass'd through all our fields, Minerva as our spy  
 Fell from Olympus in the night, and arm'd us instantly ;  
 Nor muster'd she unwilling men, nor unprepar'd for force.  
 My sire yet would not let me arm, but hid away my horse, 630  
 Esteeming me no soldier yet ; yet shin'd I nothing less  
 Amongst our gallants, though on foot ; Minerva's mightiness



Led me to fight, and made me bear a soldier's worthy name.  
 There is a flood falls into sea, and his crook'd course doth frame  
 Close to Arena, and is call'd bright Minyæus' stream. 635  
 There made we halt, and there the sun cast many a glorious beam  
 On our bright armours, horse and foot insea'd together there.  
 Then march'd we on. By fiery noon we saw the sacred clear  
 Of great Alphæus, where to Jove we did fair sacrifice ;  
 And to the azure God, that rules the under-liquid skies, 640  
 We offer'd up a solemn bull ; a bull t' Alphæus' name ;  
 And to the blue-ey'd Maid we burn'd a heifer never tame.  
 Now was it night ; we supp'd and slept, about the flood, in arms.  
 The foe laid hard siege to our town, and shook it with alarms,  
 But, for prevention of their spleens, a mighty work of war 345  
 Appear'd behind them ; for as soon as Phœbus' fiery car  
 Cast night's foul darkness from his wheels (invoking reverend Jove,  
 And the unconquer'd Maid his birth) we did th' event approve,  
 And gave them battle. First of all, I slew (the army saw)  
 The mighty soldier Mulus, Augeas' son-in-law, 650  
 And spoil'd him of his one-hoof'd horse ; his eldest daughter was  
 Bright Agamede, that for skill in simples did surpass,  
 And knew as many kind of drugs as earth's broad centre bred.  
 Him charg'd I with my brass-arm'd lance, the dust receiv'd him dead.  
 I, leaping to his chariot, amongst the foremost press'd, 655  
 And the great hearted Elians fled frighted, seeing their best  
 And loftiest soldier taken down, the general of their horse.  
 I follow'd like a black whirlwind, and did for prise enforce  
 Full fifty chariots, every one furnish'd with two arm'd men,  
 Who ate the earth, slain with my lance. And I had slaughter'd then  
 The two young boys, Moliones, if their world-circling sire, 661  
 Great Neptune, had not saft their lives, and cover'd their retire

<sup>637</sup> *Insea'd*—enclosed by the sea.

<sup>651</sup> *Eldest*.—The second folio reads “ *elder* daughter.”

With unpierced clouds. Then Jove bestow'd a haughty victory  
 Upon us Pyliaus ; for so long we did the chase apply,  
 Slaught'ring and making spoil of arms, till sweet Buprasius' soil, 665  
 Alesius, and Olenia, were fam'd with our recoil ;  
 For there Minerva turn'd our power, and there the last I slew  
 As, when our battle join'd, the first. The Pyliaus then withdrew  
 To Pylos from Buprasius. Of all the Immortals then  
 They most thank'd Jove for victory ; Nestor the most of men. 670  
 Such was I ever, if I were employ'd with other peers,  
 And I had honour of my youth which dies not in my years.  
 But great Achilles only joys hability of act  
 In his brave prime, and doth not deign t' impart it where 'tis lack'd.  
 No doubt he will extremely mourn long after that black hour 675  
 Wherein our ruin shall be wrought, and rue his ruthless pow'r.  
 O friend ! my memory revives the charge Menœtius gave  
 Thy towardness, when thou sett'st forth, to keep out of the grave  
 Our wounded honour. I myself and wise Ulysses were  
 Within the room, where every word then spoken we did hear, 680  
 For we were come to Peleus' court, as we did mustering pass  
 Through rich Achaia, where thy sire, renown'd Menœtius, was,  
 Thyself and great Æacides, when Peleus the king  
 To thunder-loving Jove did burn an ox for offering,  
 In his court-yard. A cup of gold, crown'd with red wine, he held 685  
 On th' holy incensory pour'd. You, when the ox was fell'd,  
 Were dressing his divided limbs. We in the portal stood.  
 Achilles seeing us come so near, his honourable blood  
 Was struck with a respective shame, rose, took us by the hands,  
 Brought us both in, and made us sit, and us'd his kind commands 690

<sup>686</sup> *Incensory*—altar of incense.

<sup>689</sup> *Respective*—respectful.—

“ For new made honour doth forget men's names ;  
 'Tis too *respective*, and too sociable.”

SHAKESPEARE. *K. John*, I. 1.

For seemly hospitable rights, which quickly were appos'd.  
 Then, after needfulness of food, I first of all disclos'd  
 The royal cause of our repair ; mov'd you and your great friend  
 To consort our renown'd designs ; both straight did condescend.  
 Your fathers knew it, gave consent, and grave instruction 695  
 To both your valours. Peleus charg'd his most unequall'd son  
 To govern his victorious strength, and shine past all the rest  
 In honour as in mere main force. Then were thy partings blest  
 With dear advices from thy sire ; ' My loved son,' said he,  
 ' Achilles, by his grace of birth, superior is to thee, 700  
 And for his force more excellent, yet thou more ripe in years ;  
 Then with sound counsels, age's fruits, employ his honour'd years,  
 Command and overrule his moods ; his nature will obey  
 In any charge discreetly given, that doth his good assay.'

" Thus charg'd thy sire, which thou forgett'st. Yet now at last approve,  
 With forced reference of these, th' attraction of his love ; 706  
 Who knows if sacred influence may bless thy good intent,  
 And enter with thy gracious words, even to his full consent ?  
 The admonition of a friend is sweet and vehement.  
 If any oracle he shun, or if his mother-queen 710  
 Hath brought him some instinct from Jove that fortifies his spleen,  
 Let him resign command to thee of all his Myrmidons,  
 And yield by that means some repulse to our confusions,  
 Adorning thee in his bright arms, that his resembled form  
 May haply make thee thought himself, and calm this hostile storm ; 715  
 That so a little we may ease our overcharged hands,  
 Draw some breath, not expire it all. The foe but faintly stands  
 Beneath his labours ; and your charge being fierce, and freshly given,  
 They easily from our tents and fleet may to their walls be driven."

This mov'd the good Patroclus' mind, who made his utmost haste  
 T' inform his friend ; and as the fleet of Ithacus he past, 721

(At which their markets were dispos'd, counsels, and martial courts,  
 And where to th' altars of the Gods they made divine resorts)  
 He met renown'd Eurypylus, Evemon's noble son,  
 Halting, his thigh hurt with a shaft, the liquid sweat did run 725  
 Down from his shoulders and his brows, and from his raging wound  
 Forth flow'd his melancholy blood, yet still his mind was sound.  
 His sight in kind Patroclus' breast to sacred pity turn'd,  
 And (nothing more immortal for true ruth) thus he mourn'd:  
 " Ah wretched progeny of Greece, princes, dejected kings, 730  
 Was it your fates to nourish beasts, and serve the outcast wings  
 Of savage vultures here in Troy? Tell me, Evemon's fame,  
 Do yet the Greeks withstand his force whom yet no force can tame?  
 Or are they hopeless thrown to death by his resistless lance?"  
 " Divine Patroclus," he replied, " no more can Greece advance 735  
 Defensive weapons, but to fleet they headlong must retire,  
 For those that to this hour have held our fleet from hostile fire,  
 And are the bulwarks of our host, lie wounded at their tents,  
 And Troy's unvanquishable pow'r, still as it toils, augments.  
 But take me to thy black-stern'd ship, save me, and from my thigh 740  
 Cut out this arrow, and the blood, that is ingor'd and dry,  
 Wash with warm water from the wound; then gentle salves apply,  
 Which thou knowest best, thy princely friend hath taught thee surgery,  
 Whom, of all Centaurs the most just, Chiron did institute.  
 Thus to thy honourable hands my ease I prosecute, 745  
 Since our physicians cannot help. Machaon at his tent  
 Needs a physician himself, being leech and patient;  
 And Podalirius, in the field, the sharp conflict sustains."  
 Strong Menœtiades replied: " How shall I ease thy pains?  
 What shall we do, Eurypylus? I am to use all haste 750  
 To signify to Thetis' son occurrents that have past

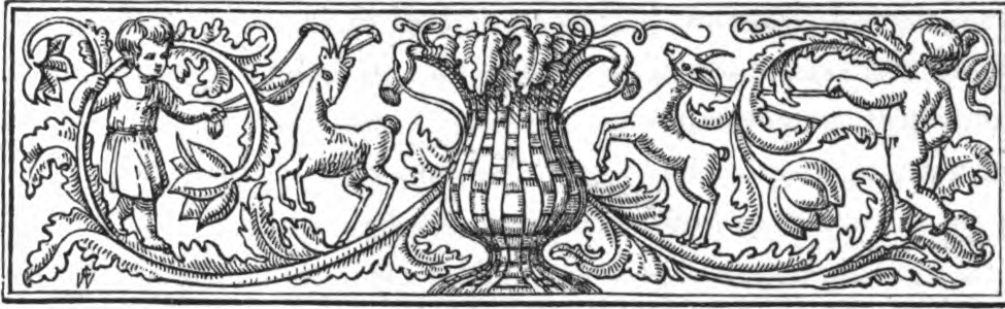
<sup>729</sup> *Nothing more immortal for true ruth*—not the worse soldier for feeling true pity.



At Nestor's honourable suit. But be that work achiev'd  
When this is done, I will not leave thy torments unreliev'd."

This said, athwart his back he cast, beneath his breast, his arm,  
And nobly help'd him to his tent. His servants, seeing his harm, 755  
Dispread ox-hides upon the earth, whereon Machaon lay.  
Patroclus cut out the sharp shaft, and clearly wash'd away  
With lukewarm water the black blood ; then 'twixt his hands he bruis'd  
A sharp and mitigatory root, which when he had infus'd  
Into the green, well-cleansed, wound, the pains he felt before 760  
Were well, and instantly allay'd, the wound did bleed no more.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.



## THE TWELFTH BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIADS.

### THE ARGUMENT.

THE Trojans at the trench their pow'rs engage,  
 Though greeted by a bird of bad presage.  
 In five parts they divide their pow'r to scale,  
 And Prince Sarpedon forceth down the pale.  
 Great Hector from the ports tears out a stone,  
 And with so dead a strength he sets it gone  
 At those broad gates the Grecians made to guard  
 Their tents and ships, that, broken, and unbarr'd,  
 They yield way to his power; when all contend  
 To reach the ships; which all at last ascend.

### ANOTHER ARGUMENT.

Mū works the Trojans all the grace,  
 And doth the Grecian fort deface.



ATROCLUS thus employ'd in cure of hurt Eurypylus,  
 Both hosts are all for other wounds doubly contentious,  
 One always labouring to expel, the other to invade.  
 Nor could the broad dike of the Greeks, nor that strong  
 wall they made

To guard their fleet, be long unrac't, because it was not rais'd 5  
 By grave direction of the Gods, nor were their Deities prais'd  
 (When they begun) with hecatombs, that then they might be sure  
 (Their strength being season'd well with heaven's) it should have force  
 t' endure,

And so, the safeguard of their fleet, and all their treasure there,  
 Infallibly had been confirm'd ; when, now, their bulwarks were 10  
 Not only without pow'r of check to their assaulting foe  
 (Even now, as soon as they were built) but apt to overthrow ;  
 Such as, in very little time, shall bury all their sight  
 And thought that ever they were made. As long as the despight  
 Of great Æacides held up, and Hector went not down, 15  
 And that by those two means stood safe king Priam's sacred town,  
 So long their rampire had some use, though now it gave some way ;  
 But when Troy's best men suffer'd fate, and many Greeks did pay  
 Dear for their sufferance, then the rest home to their country turn'd,  
 The tenth year of their wars at Troy, and Troy was sack'd and burn'd,  
 And then the Gods fell to their fort ; then they their pow'rs employ 21  
 To ruin their work, and left less of that than they of Troy.  
 Neptune and Phœbus tumbled down from the Idalian hills  
 An inundation of all floods that thence the broad sea fills  
 On their huge rampire ; in one glut, all these together roar'd, 25  
 Rhesus, Heptaporus, Rhodius, Scamander the ador'd,  
 Caresus, Simois, Grenicus, Æsepus ; of them all  
 Apollo open'd the rough mouths, and made their lusty fall  
 Ravish the dusty champion, where many a helm and shield,  
 And half-god race of men, were strew'd. And, that all these might yield  
 Full tribute to the heavenly work, Neptune and Phœbus won 31  
 Jove to unburthen the black wombs of clouds, fill'd by the sun,  
 And pour them into all their streams, that quickly they might send  
 The huge wall swimming to the sea. Nine days their lights did spend  
 To nights in tempests ; and when all their utmost depth had made, 35  
 Jove, Phœbus, Neptune, all came down, and all in state did wade  
 To ruin of that impious fort. Great Neptune went before,  
 Wrought with his trident, and the stones, trunks, roots of trees, he tore  
 Out of the rampire, toss'd them all into the Hellespont,  
 Even all the proud toil of the Greeks with which they durst confront 40

<sup>29</sup> *Champion*—champaign, level country.

The to-be-shunned Deities, and not a stone remain'd  
 Of all their huge foundations, all with the earth were plain'd.  
 Which done, again the Gods turn'd back the silver-flowing floods  
 By that vast channel through whose vaults they pour'd abroad their broods,  
 And cover'd all the ample shore again with dusty sand. 45  
 And this the end was of that wall, where now so many a hand  
 Was emptied of stones and darts, contending to invade,  
 Where Clamour spent so high a throat, and where the fell blows made  
 The new-built wooden turrets groan. And here the Greeks were pent,  
 Tam'd with the iron whip of Jove that terrors vehement 50  
 Shook over them by Hector's hand, who was in every thought  
 The terror-master of the field, and like a whirlwind fought,  
 As fresh as in his morn's first charge. And as a savage boar,  
 Or lion, hunted long, at last, with hounds' and hunters' store  
 Is compass'd round; they charge him close, and stand (as in a tow'r 55  
 They had inchas'd him) pouring on of darts an iron show'r;  
 His glorious heart yet nought appall'd, and forcing forth his way,  
 Here overthrows a troop, and there a running ring doth stay  
 His utter passage; when, again, that stay he overthrows,  
 And then the whole field frees his rage; so Hector wearies blows, 60  
 Runs out his charge upon the fort, and all his force would force  
 To pass the dike; which, being so deep, they could not get their horse  
 To venture on, but trample, snore, and on the very brink  
 To neigh with spirit, yet still stand off. Nor would a human think  
 The passage safe; or, if it were, 'twas less safe for retreat; 65  
 The dike being everywhere so deep, and, where 'twas least deep, set  
 With stakes exceeding thick, sharp, strong, that horse could never pass,  
 Much less their chariots after them; yet for the foot there was  
 Some hopeful service, which they wish'd. Polydamas then spake:  
 "Hector, and all our friends of Troy, we indiscreetly make 70  
 Offer of passage with our horse; ye see the stakes, the wall,  
 Impossible for horse to take; nor can men fight at all,

<sup>59</sup> *Utter passage*—egress.



The place being strait, and much more apt to let us take our bane  
 Than give the enemy. And yet, if Jove decree the wane  
 Of Grecian glory utterly, and so bereave their hearts 75  
 That we may freely charge them thus, and then will take our parts,  
 I would with all speed wish th' assault, that ugly shame might shed  
 (Thus far from home) these Grecians' bloods. But, if they once turn head  
 And sally on us from their fleet, when in so deep a dike  
 We shall lie struggling, not a man of all our host is like 80  
 To live and carry back the news. And therefore be it thus :  
 Here leave we horse kept by our men, and all on foot let us  
 Hold close together, and attend the grace of Hector's guide,  
 And then they shall not bear our charge, our conquest shall be dyed  
 In their lives' purples." This advice pleas'd Hector, for 'twas sound ;  
 Who first obey'd it, and full arm'd betook him to the ground. 86  
 And then all left their chariots when he was seen to lead,  
 Rushing about him, and gave up each chariot and steed  
 To their directors to be kept, in all procinct of war,  
 There, and on that side of the dike. And thus the rest prepare 90  
 Their onset : In five regiments they all their power divide,  
 Each regiment allow'd three chiefs. Of all which even the pride  
 Serv'd in great Hector's regiment ; for all were set on fire  
 (Their passage beaten through the wall) with hazardous desire  
 That they might once but fight at fleet. With Hector captains were  
 Polydamas, and Cebriones, who was his charioteer 96  
 But Hector found that place a worse. Chiefs of the second band  
 Were Paris, and Alcathous, Agenor. The command  
 The third strong phalanx had was given to th' augur Helenus,  
 Deiphobus, that god-like man, and mighty Asius, 100  
 Even Asius Hyrtacides, that from Arisba rode  
 The huge bay horse, and had his house where river Selleës flow'd.

<sup>89</sup> *Procinct*—preparation, girding for war. Lat. *procinctus*. Blount preserves it as a technical word in his *Glossographia*. Todd observes that he was unable to meet with an example besides the one quoted by Johnson from Milton.

The fourth charge good Æneas led, and with him were combin'd  
 Archelochus, and Acamas, Antenor's dearest kind,  
 And excellent at every fight. The fifth brave company 105  
 Sarpedon had to charge, who chose, for his command's supply,  
 Asteropæus great in arms, and Glaucus, for both these  
 Were best of all men but himself, but he was fellowless.

Thus fitted with their well-wrought shields, down the steep dike  
 they go,

And (thirsty of the wall's assault) believe in overthrow, 110  
 Not doubting but with headlong falls to tumble down the Greeks  
 From their black navy. In which trust, all on ; and no man seeks  
 To cross Polydamas' advice with any other course,  
 But Asius Hyrtacides, who (proud of his bay horse)  
 Would not forsake them, nor his man, that was their manager, 115  
 (Fool that he was) but all to fleet, and little knew how near  
 An ill death sat him, and a sure, and that he never more  
 Must look on lofty Ilion ; but looks, and all, before,  
 Put on th' all-covering mist of fate, that then did hang upon  
 The lance of great Deucalides ; he fatally rush'd on 120  
 The left hand way, by which the Greeks, with horse and chariot,  
 Came usually from field to fleet ; close to the gates he got,  
 Which both unbarr'd and ope he found, that so the easier might  
 An entry be for any friend that was behind in flight ;  
 Yet not much easier for a foe, because there was a guard 125  
 Maintain'd upon it, past his thought ; who still put for it hard,  
 Eagerly shouting ; and with him were five more friends of name,  
 That would not leave him, though none else would hunt that way for  
 fame

(In their free choice) but he himself. Orestes, Iamenus,  
 And Acamas Asiades, Thoon, Oenomaus, 130  
 Were those that follow'd Asius. Within the gates they found  
 Two eminently valorous, that from the race renown'd

<sup>112</sup> *All on*—go onwards.

<sup>120</sup> Idomeneus.

Of the right valiant Lapithes deriv'd their high descent ;  
 Fierce Leonteus was the one, like Mars in detriment,  
 The other mighty Polypæt, the great Pirithous' son. 135  
 These stood within the lofty gates, and nothing more did shun  
 The charge of Asius and his friends, than two high hill-bred oaks,  
 Well-rooted in the binding earth, obey the airy strokes  
 Of wind and weather, standing firm 'gainst every season's spite.  
 Yet they pour on continued shouts, and bear their shields upright ; 140  
 When in the mean space Polypæt and Leonteus cheer'd  
 Their soldiers to the fleet's defence. But when the rest had heard  
 The Trojans in attempt to scale, clamour and flight did flow  
 Amongst the Grecians ; and then, the rest dismay'd, these two  
 Met Asius ent'ring, thrust him back, and fought before their doors. 145  
 Nor far'd they then like oaks that stood, but as a brace of boars,  
 Couch'd in their own bred hill, that hear a sort of hunters shout,  
 And hounds in hot trail coming on, then from their dens break out,  
 Traverse their force, and suffer not, in wildness of their way,  
 About them any plant to stand, but thickets offering stay 150  
 Break through, and rend up by the roots, whet gnashes into air,  
 Which Tumult fills with shouts, hounds, horns, and all the hot affair  
 Beats at their bosoms ; so their arms rung with assailing blows,  
 And so they stirr'd them in repulse, right well assur'd that those 154  
 Who were within, and on the wall, would add their parts, who knew  
 They now fought for their tents, fleet, lives, and fame, and therefore threw  
 Stones from the walls and tow'rs, as thick as when a drift wind shakes  
 Black clouds in pieces, and plucks snow, in great and plummy flakes,  
 From their soft bosoms, till the ground be wholly cloth'd in white ;  
 So earth was hid with stones and darts, darts from the Trojan fight, 160  
 Stones from the Greeks, that on the helms and bossy Trojan shields  
 Kept such a rapping, it amaz'd great Asius, who now yields  
 Sighs, beats his thighs, and in a rage his fault to Jove applies :  
 " O Jove," said he, " now clear thou show'st thou art a friend to lies,

<sup>134</sup> " Such maketh Virgil Pandarus and Bitias."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>156</sup> *Fame*.—The second folio has "*fames*."

Pretending, in the flight of Greece, the making of it good, 165  
 To all their ruins, which I thought could never be withstood ;  
 Yet they, as yellow wasps, or bees (that having made their nest  
 The gasping cranny of a hill) when for a hunter's feast  
 Hunters come hot and hungry in, and dig for honeycombs,  
 They fly upon them, strike and sting, and from their hollow homes 170  
 Will not be beaten, but defend their labour's fruit, and brood ;  
 No more will these be from their port, but either lose their blood  
 (Although but two against all us) or be our prisoners made."  
 All this, to do his action grace, could not firm Jove persuade,  
 Who for the general counsel stood, and, 'gainst his singular brave, 175  
 Bestow'd on Hector that day's fame. Yet he and these behave  
 Themselves thus nobly at this port ; but how at other ports,  
 And all amongst the stony wall, sole force, 'gainst force and forts,  
 Rag'd in contention 'twixt both hosts, it were no easy thing,  
 Had I the bosom of a God, to tune to life and sing. 180  
 The Trojans fought not of themselves, a fire from heaven was thrown  
 That ran amongst them, through the wall, mere added to their own.  
 The Greeks held not their own ; weak Grief went with her wither'd hand,  
 And dipp'd it deeply in their spirits, since they could not command  
 Their forces to abide the field, whom harsh Necessity, 185  
 To save those ships should bring them home, and their good fort's supply,  
 Drave to th' expulsive fight they made ; and this might stoop them more  
 Than Need itself could elevate, for even Gods did deplore  
 Their dire estates, and all the Gods that were their aids in war,  
 Who, though they could not clear their plights, yet were their friends  
     thus far, 190  
 Still to uphold the better sort ; for then did Polypæt pass  
 A lance at Damasus, whose helm was made with cheeks of brass,  
 Yet had not proof enough, the pile drave through it and his skull,  
 His brain in blood drown'd, and the man, so late so spiritful,

<sup>167</sup> "Apta ad rem comparatio."—CHAPMAN.

<sup>175</sup> 'Gainst his singular brave—in opposition to his individual boasting.

<sup>187</sup> *Expulsive*—fight made for expelling their foes.



Fell now quite spiritless to earth. So emptied he the veins 195  
 Of Pylon, and Ormenus' lives. And then Leonteus gains  
 The life's end of Hippomachus, Antimachus's son ;  
 His lance fell at his girdle-stead, and with his end begun  
 Another end. Leonteus left him, and through the prease  
 (His keen sword drawn) ran desperately upon Antiphates, 200  
 And lifeless tumbled him to earth. Nor could all these lives quench  
 His fiery spirit, that his flame in Menon's blood did drench,  
 And rag'd up even to Iamen's, and young Orestes' life ;  
 All heap'd together made their peace in that red field of strife.  
 Whose fair arms while the victors spoil'd, the youth of Ilion 205  
 (Of which there serv'd the most and best) still boldly built upon  
 The wisdom of Polydamas, and Hector's matchless strength,  
 And follow'd, fill'd with wondrous spirit, with wish and hope at length,  
 The Greeks' wall won, to fire their fleet. But, having pass'd the dike,  
 And willing now to pass the wall, this prodigy did strike 210  
 Their hearts with some deliberate stay : A high-flown eagle soar'd  
 On their troops' left hand, and sustain'd a dragon, all engor'd,  
 In her strong seres, of wondrous size, and yet had no such check  
 In life and spirit but still she fought, and turning back her neck  
 So stung the eagle's gorge, that down she cast her fervent prey 215  
 Amongst the multitude, and took upon the winds her way,  
 Crying with anguish. When they saw a branded serpent sprawl  
 So full amongst them from above, and from Jove's fowl let fall,  
 They took it an ostent from him, stood frighted, and their cause  
 Polydamas thought just, and spake : " Hector, you know, applause 220  
 Of humour hath been far from me ; nor fits it, or in war,  
 Or in affairs of court, a man employ'd in public care  
 To blanch things further than their truth, or flatter any pow'r ;  
 And therefore for that simple course your strength hath oft been sour

<sup>217</sup> *Branded*—Halliwell tells us is " a mixture of red and black."

<sup>223</sup> *Blanch*—give a fair appearance to a thing, disguise. Lord Bacon says, " And commonly by amusing men with a subtlety *blanch* the matter," (Essay *x x v i.*) The word is not uncommon, yet it seems to have puzzled Nares.

To me in counsels ; yet again, what shows in my thoughts best, 225  
 I must discover. Let us cease, and make their flight our rest  
 For this day's honour, and not now attempt the Grecian fleet,  
 For this, I fear, will be th' event, the prodigy doth meet  
 So full with our affair in hand. As this high-flying fowl  
 Upon the left wing of our host, implying our control, 230  
 Hover'd above us, and did truss within her golden seres  
 A serpent so embru'd and big, which yet, in all her fears,  
 Kept life and fervent spirit to fight, and wrought her own release,  
 Nor did the eagle's eyry feed ; so though we thus far prease  
 Upon the Grecians, and perhaps may overturn their wall, 235  
 Our high minds aiming at their fleet, and that we much appall  
 Their trussed spirits, yet are they so serpent-like dispos'd  
 That they will fight, though in our seres, and will at length be los'd  
 With all our outcries, and the life of many a Trojan breast  
 Shall with the eagle fly, before we carry to our nest 240  
 Them, or their navy." Thus expounds the augur this ostent,  
 Whose depth he knows, and these should fear. Hector, with countenance  
 bent,

Thus answer'd him : " Polydamas, your depth in augury  
 I like not, and know passing well thou dost not satisfy  
 Thyself in this opinion ; or if thou think'st it true, 245  
 Thy thoughts the Gods blind, to advise, and urge that as our due,  
 That breaks our duties, and to Jove, whose vow and sign to me  
 Is past directly for our speed ; yet light-wing'd birds must be,  
 By thy advice, our oracles, whose feathers little stay  
 My serious actions. What care I, if this, or th' other, way 250  
 Their wild wings sway them, if the right, on which the sun doth rise,  
 Or, to the left hand, where he sets ? 'Tis Jove's high counsel flies  
 With those wings that shall bear up us ; Jove's, that both earth and  
 heaven,

Both men and Gods, sustains and rules. One augury is given  
 To order all men, best of all : Fight for thy country's right. 255

But why fear'st thou our further charge ? For though the dangerous fight  
 Strew all men here about the fleet, yet thou need'st never fear  
 To bear their fates ; thy wary heart will never trust thee where  
 An enemy's look is ; and yet fight, for, if thou dar'st abstain,  
 Or whisper into any ear an abstinence so vain 260  
 As thou advisest, never fear that any foe shall take  
 Thy life from thee, for 'tis this lance." This said, all forwards make,  
 Himself the first ; yet before him exulting Clamour flew,  
 And thunder-loving Jupiter from lofty Ida blew  
 A storm that usher'd their assault, and made them charge like him. 265  
 It drave directly on the fleet a dust so fierce and dim  
 That it amaz'd the Grecians, but was a grace divine  
 To Hector and his following troops, who wholly did incline  
 To him, being now in grace with Jove, and so put boldly on  
 To raze the rampire ; in whose height they fiercely set upon 270  
 The parapets, and pull'd them down, raz'd every foremost fight,  
 And all the buttresses of stone that held their tow'rs upright  
 They tore away with crows of iron, and hop'd to ruin all.

The Greeks yet stood, and still repair'd the fore-fights of their wall  
 With hides of oxen, and from thence they pour'd down stones in show'rs  
 Upon the underminers' heads. Within the foremost towers 276  
 Both the Ajaces had command, who answer'd every part,  
 Th' assaulters, and their soldiers, repress'd, and put in heart ;  
 Repairing valour as their wall ; spake some fair, some reprov'd,  
 Whoever made not good his place ; and thus they all sorts mov'd : 280

“ O countrymen, now need in aid would have excess be spent,  
 The excellent must be admir'd, the meanest excellent,  
 The worst do well. In changing war all should not be alike,  
 Nor any idle ; which to know fits all, lest Hector strike  
 Your minds with frights, as ears with threats. Forward be all your hands,  
 Urge one another. This doubt down, that now betwixt us stands, 286

<sup>271</sup> *Fight*.—Here, and in v. 274, defence, bulwark.

<sup>286</sup> *Doubt*—redoubt.

Jove will go with us to their walls." To this effect aloud  
 Spake both the princes ; and as high, with this, th' expulsion flow'd.  
 And as in winter time, when Jove his cold sharp javelins throws  
 Amongst us mortals, and is mov'd to white earth with his snows, 290  
 The winds asleep, he freely pours, till highest prominents,  
 Hill tops, low meadows, and the fields that crown with most contents  
 The toils of men, seaports, and shores, are hid, and every place,  
 But floods, that snow's fair tender flakes, as their own brood, embrace ;  
 So both sides cover'd earth with stones, so both for life contend, 295  
 To show their sharpness ; through the wall uproar stood up an end.  
 Nor had great Hector and his friends the rampire overrun,  
 If heaven's great Counsellor, high Jove, had not inflam'd his son  
 Sarpedon (like the forest's king when he on oxen flies)  
 Against the Grecians ; his round targe he to his arm applies, 300  
 Brass-leav'd without, and all within thick ox-hides quilted hard,  
 The verge nail'd round with rods of gold ; and, with two darts prepar'd,  
 He leads his people. As ye see a mountain-lion fare,  
 Long kept from prey, in forcing which, his high mind makes him dare  
 Assault upon the whole full fold, though guarded never so 305  
 With well-arm'd men, and eager dogs ; away he will not go,  
 But venture on, and either snatch a prey, or be a prey ;  
 So far'd divine Sarpedon's mind, resolved to force his way  
 Through all the fore-fights, and the wall ; yet since he did not see  
 Others as great as he in name, as great in mind as he, 310  
 He spake to Glaucus : " Glaucus, say, why are we honour'd more  
 Than other men of Lycia, in place ; with greater store  
 Of meats and cups ; with goodlier roofs ; delightful gardens ; walks ;  
 More lands and better ; so much wealth, that court and country talks  
 Of us and our possessions, and every way we go, 315  
 Gaze on us as we were their Gods ? This where we dwell is so ;

<sup>296</sup> *Wall*.—The second folio incorrectly prints "*war*," followed by Dr. Taylor.

<sup>311</sup> " Sarpedon's speech to Glaucus, neither equalled by any (in this kind) of all that have written."—CHAPMAN.



The shores of Xanthus ring of this ; and shall we not exceed  
 As much in merit as in noise ? Come, be we great in deed  
 As well as look ; shine not in gold, but in the flames of fight ;  
 That so our neat-arm'd Lycians may say : ‘ See, these are right 320  
 Our kings, our rulers ; these deserve to eat and drink the best ;  
 These govern not ingloriously ; these, thus exceed the rest,  
 Do more than they command to do.’ O friend, if keeping back  
 Would keep back age from us, and death, and that we might not wrack  
 In this life’s human sea at all, but that deferring now 325  
 We shunn’d death ever, nor would I half this vain valour show,  
 Nor glorify a folly so, to wish thee to advance ;  
 But since we must go, though not here, and that, besides the chance  
 Propos’d now, there are infinite fates of other sort in death,  
 Which, neither to be fled nor ’scap’d, a man must sink beneath, 330  
 Come, try we, if this sort be ours, and either render thus  
 Glory to others, or make them resign the like to us.”

This motion Glaucus shifted not, but without words obey’d.  
 Foreright went both, a mighty troop of Lycians followed.  
 Which by Menestheus observ’d, his hair stood up on end, 335  
 For, at the tow’r where he had charge, he saw Calamity bend  
 Her horrid brows in their approach. He threw his looks about  
 The whole fights near, to see what chief might help the misery out  
 Of his poor soldiers, and beheld where both th’ Ajaces fought,  
 And Teucer newly come from fleet ; whom it would profit nought 340  
 To call, since tumult on their helms, shields, and upon the ports,  
 Laid such loud claps ; for every way, defences of all sorts  
 Were adding, as Troy took away ; and Clamour flew so high  
 Her wings struck heaven, and drown’d all voice. The two dukes yet so nigh  
 And at the offer of assault, he to th’ Ajaces sent 345  
 Thoos the herald with this charge : “ Run to the regiment  
 Of both th’ Ajaces, and call both, for both were better here,  
 Since here will slaughter, instantly, be more enforc’d than there.

<sup>331</sup> *Sort*—fate, lot.

The Lycian captains this way make, who in the fights of stand  
 Have often show'd much excellence. Yet if laborious hand 350  
 Be there more needful than I hope, at least afford us some,  
 Let Ajax Telamonius and th' archer Teucer come."

The herald hasted, and arriv'd ; and both th' Ajaces told,  
 That Peteus' noble son desir'd their little labour would  
 Employ himself in succouring him. Both their supplies were best, 355  
 Since death assail'd his quarter most ; for on it fiercely press'd  
 The well-prov'd mighty Lycian chiefs. Yet if the service there  
 Allow'd not both, he pray'd that one part of his charge would bear,  
 And that was Ajax Telamon, with whom he wish'd would come  
 The archer Teucer. Telamon left instantly his room 360  
 To strong Lycomedes, and will'd Ajax Oiliades  
 With him to make up his supply, and fill with courages  
 The Grecian hearts till his return, which should be instantly  
 When he had well reliev'd his friend. With this the company  
 Of Teucer he took to his aid ; Teucer, that did descend 365  
 (As Ajax did) from Telamon. With these two did attend  
 Pandion, that bore Teucer's bow. When to Menestheus' tow'r  
 They came, alongst the wall, they found him, and his heart'ned pow'r,  
 Toiling in making strong their fort. The Lycian princes set  
 Black whirlwind-like, with both their powers, upon the parapet. 370  
 Ajax, and all, resisted them. Clamour amongst them rose.  
 The slaughter Ajax led ; who first the last dear sight did close  
 Of strong Epicles, that was friend to Jove's great Lycian son.  
 Amongst the high munition heap, a mighty marble stone  
 Lay highest, near the pinnacle, a stone of such a paise 375  
 That one of this time's strongest men with both hands could not raise,  
 Yet this did Ajax rouse and throw, and all in sherds did drive  
 Epicles' four-topp'd casque and skull ; who (as ye see one dive

<sup>373</sup> Dr. Taylor has followed the error of the second folio, in printing "*that war-friend to Jove's,*" &c.

<sup>375</sup> *Paise*—weight. In v. 430, balance.

In some deep river) left his height ; life left his bones withal.

Teucer shot Glaucus, rushing up yet higher on the wall, 380  
 Where naked he discern'd his arm, and made him steal retreat  
 From that hot service, lest some Greek, with an insulting threat,  
 Beholding it, might fright the rest. Sarpedon much was griev'd  
 At Glaucus' parting, yet fought on, and his great heart reliev'd  
 A little with Alcmaon's blood, surnam'd Thestorides, 385  
 Whose life he hurl'd out with his lance ; which following through the prease,  
 He drew from him. Down from the tow'r Alcmaon dead it strook ;  
 His fair arms ringing out his death. Then fierce Sarpedon took  
 In his strong hand the battlement, and down he tore it quite,  
 The walk stripp'd naked, and broad way for entry and full fight 390  
 He made the many. Against him Ajax and Teucer made.  
 Teucer the rich belt on his breast did with a shaft invade ;  
 But Jupiter averted death, who would not see his son  
 Die at the tails of th' Achive ships. Ajax did fetch his run,  
 And, with his lance, struck through the targe of that brave Lycian king ;  
 Yet kept he it from further pass, nor did it anything 396  
 Dismay his mind, although his men stood off from that high way  
 His valour made them, which he kept, and hop'd that stormy day  
 Should ever make his glory clear. His men's fault thus he blam'd :  
 " O Lycians, why are your hot spirits so quickly disinflam'd ? 400  
 Suppose me ablest of you all, 'tis hard for me alone  
 To ruin such a wall as this, and make confusion  
 Way to their navy. Lend your hands. What many can dispatch,  
 One cannot think. The noble work of many hath no match."

The wise king's just rebuke did strike a reverence to his will 405  
 Through all his soldiers ; all stood in, and 'gainst all th' Achives still  
 Made strong their squadrons, insomuch, that to the adverse side,  
 The work show'd mighty, and the wall, when 'twas within descried,  
 No easy service ; yet the Greeks could neither free the wall 409  
 Of these brave Lycians, that held firm the place they first did scale ;

<sup>408</sup> *When.*—The second folio has incorrectly "*then*;" and so Dr. Taylor.

Nor could the Lycians from their fort the sturdy Grecians drive,  
 Nor reach their fleet. But as two men about the limits strive  
 Of land that toucheth in a field, their measures in their hands,  
 They mete their parts out curiously, and either stiffly stands  
 That so far is his right in law, both hugely set on fire 415  
 About a passing-little ground ; so, greedily aspire  
 Both these foes to their several ends, and all exhaust their most  
 About the very battlements, for yet no more was lost.

With sword and fire they vex'd for them their targes hugely round  
 With ox-hides lin'd, and bucklers light ; and many a ghastly wound  
 The stern steel gave for that one prise ; whereof though some receiv'd  
 Their portions on their naked backs, yet others were bereav'd  
 Of brave lives, face-turn'd, through their shields ; tow'rs, bulwarks,  
 everywhere

Were freckled with the blood of men. Nor yet the Greeks did bear  
 Base back-turn'd faces ; nor their foes would therefore be out-fac'd. 425  
 But as a spinster poor and just, ye sometimes see, strait-lac'd  
 About the weighing of her web, who, careful, having charge  
 For which she would provide some means, is loth to be too large  
 In giving or in taking weight, but ever with her hand  
 Is doing with the weights and wool, till both in just paise stand ; 430  
 So evenly stood it with these foes, till Jove to Hector gave  
 The turning of the scales, who first against the rampire drave,  
 And spake so loud that all might hear : “ O stand not at the pale,  
 Brave Trojan friends, but mend your hands ; up, and break through  
 the wall,

<sup>413</sup> *A field.*—The second folio, and Taylor, “ *the field.*”

<sup>418</sup> “ *Admiranda et penè inimitabilis comparatio* (saith Spond.); and yet in the explication of it, he thinks all superfluous but three words, *ὀλίγω ἐνὶ χώρῳ, exiguo in loco*, leaving out other words more expressive, with his old rule, *uno pede, &c.*”

CHAPMAN.

<sup>430</sup> *Paise.*—The second folio, and Taylor, “ *poise.*”

<sup>430</sup> “ A simile superior to the other, in which, comparing mightiest things with meanest, and the meanest illustrating the mightiest, both meeting in one end of this life's preservation and credit, our Homer is beyond comparison and admiration.”—CHAPMAN.



And make a bonfire of their fleet." All heard, and all in heaps 435  
 Got scaling-ladders, and aloft. In mean space, Hector leaps  
 Upon the port, from whose out-part he tore a massy stone,  
 Thick downwards, upward edg'd; it was so huge an one  
 That two vast yeomen of most strength, such as these times beget,  
 Could not from earth lift to a cart, yet he did brandish it 440  
 Alone, Saturnius made it light; and swinging it as nought,  
 He came before the planky gates, that all for strength were wrought  
 And kept the port; two-fold they were, and with two rafters barr'd,  
 High, and strong lock'd; he rais'd the stone, bent to the hurl so hard,  
 And made it with so main a strength, that all the gates did crack, 445  
 The rafters left them, and the folds one from another brake,  
 The hinges piecemeal flew, and through the fervent little rock  
 Thund' red a passage; with his weight th' inwall his breast did knock,  
 And in rush'd Hector, fierce and grim as any stormy night;  
 His brass arms round about his breast reflected terrible light; 450  
 Each arm held up held each a dart; his presence call'd up all  
 The dreadful spirits his being held, that to the threat'ned wall  
 None but the Gods might check his way; his eyes were furnaces;  
 And thus he look'd back, call'd in all. All fir'd their courages, 454  
 And in they flow'd. The Grecians fled, their fleet now and their freight  
 Ask'd all their rescue. Greece went down, Tumult was at his height.

439 " Δύ' άνέρε δήμου. Duo viri plebei."--CHAPMAN.

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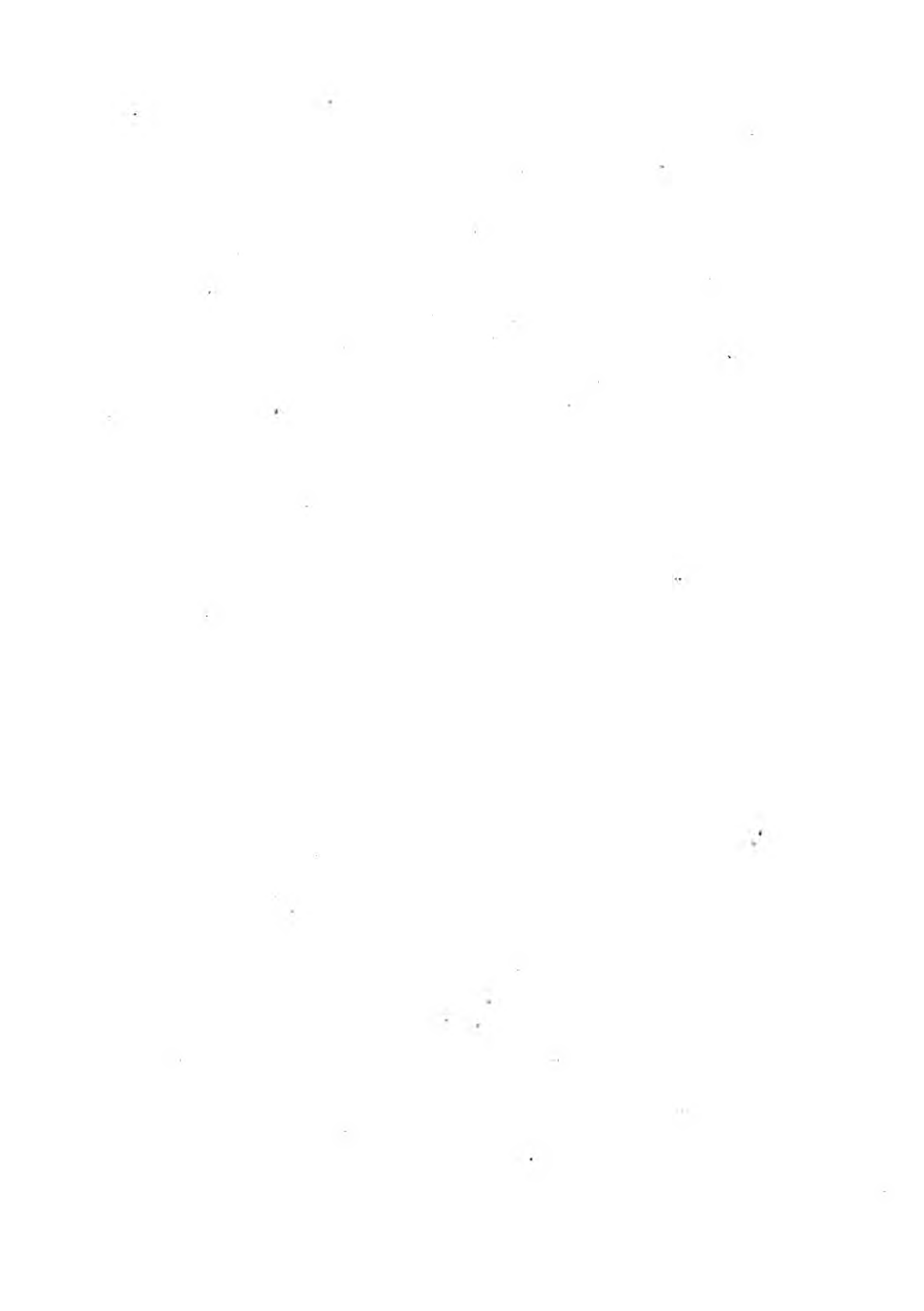
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