

Paradise Lost

1st Book

No. 3.

Paradise Lost 1st book - 3^d -

Israelites who rebelled against Rehoboam. 1 Kings ("doubled that sin") by making two golden calves, probably in imitation of the Egyptians with whom he had conversed, who had a couple of oxen which they worshipped, one called Apis, and the other Innevis; the former in the chief city of upper Egypt, and the other in the chief city of lower Egypt; and Jeroboam set them golden calves up ("in Bethel & in Dan") the two extremities of the kingdom of Israel, the former in the south, the latter in the north ("Lifting his maker to the graced ox") at

ending to the 106th Psalm 20th
verse ("Thus they changed their
glory into the similitude of an
ox that eateth grass": ("Jehovah
who in one night when he passed
from Egypt marching" for the
children of Egypt Israel not
only drafted from Egypt, but
marched in a warlike manner
and the Lord brought them out,
the Lord went before them.

("equaled with one stroke both
her first born, and all her
bleating gods") for the Lord "Hew
all the first born in the land
of Egypt, both man & beast, &
upon their gods also the Lord
executed judgments." 12th chap:

Exodus 12th ver: 23rd chap: 4th ver:
and Milcom means all their gods
in general, tho' he says bleating
gods in particular, borrowing
the metaphor from sheep, and
using it for the cry of any sort
of beasts. ("Behiae came last")
Moloch is made the first in this
catalogue of evil spirits as he
was the ("fiercest spirit that fought
in Heaven") and Behiae the last, as
he is represented as the "most timo-
rous & thoughtful" - It doth not ap-
pear that he was ever worshipped
but profligate fellows, such as regard
neither God nor man, are called in
Scripture the "children of Behiae"
Levitic. 13th chap: 13th ver: "Certain
men, the children of Behiae, are gone

out from among you, and have with-
drawn the inhabitants of their
city, saying, Let us go and serve
other gods, which ye have not
known" So the sons of Eli are called
1st Sam: 2 chap: 12th ver: Now the
sons of Eli were sons of Bechae,
they knew not the Lord" to the men
of Gibeah, who abused the Levite's
wife Judges 19th chap: 22nd ver: "Now
as they were making merry, behold,
the men of the city, certain sons
of Bechae, beset the house round
about" ("The 'Ionian gods, of Javan's
issue held gods") Javan, the fourth
son of Japheth, and grandson of
Noah, is supposed to have settled
in the south west part of Asia
Minor, about Ionia. His descendants

were the Ionians and Grecians, and
the principal of their gods were Hea-
ven & Earth. (Titan) was their eldest
son, he was father of the giants.
(And birthright seized by younger
Saturn") his empire was seized by
his younger brother Saturn. ("he
from mightier love, his own & Rhea,
won like measure found") as Saturn
was by Jupiter son of Saturn &
Rhea, ("These first in Crete") These
first were known in the island of
Crete, now Candia, in which is
Mount Ida, where Jupiter is said
to have been born. Thence passed
over into Greece, and resided in
Mount Olympus in Thessaly ("the
snowy top of old Olympus")

which mountain afterwards be-
-came the name of Heaven a-
-mong their worshippers. ("or on
the Delphian cliff") Mount Pan-
-nassus whereon was seated the
city Delphi famous for the temple
to oracle of Apollo. ("or in Dodona")
a city to wood adjoining sacred to
Jupiter ("and thro' all the bounds
of Ionia land") That is of Greece,
Ionia being a part of Greece ("flow
over Adria") the Adriatic ("to the
Hesperian fields" to Italy ("and o'er
the Celtic") France and the other
countries overrun by the Celtes,
"framed the utmost isles") Great
Britain, Ireland, the Orkneys
Thule or Iceland, Ultima Thule

as it is called, the utmost bounda-
-ry of the world. ("Of trumpets loud
and clarions") A clarion is a high
thin treble trumpet. ("Blatant at
his right") This name is derived from
two Hebrew words signifying brave
in retreating, a proper appellation
for the standard bearer of the
father's angels. ("serried shields")
locked one within another, linked &
clasped together, from the French
serrer, to lock, to shut close, ("to
the Dorian mood") There were three
principal modes or measures ^{of music} among
the ancients, The Lydian, the Phrygian
and the Dorian. The Lydian was the
most doleful, the Phrygian the most
sprightly, and the Dorian, the most

grave and majestic; This therefore
was the measure best adapted
to the fallen Angels at this juncture
and their instruments were "flutes,
jupes, and soft recorders" for the rea-
-son that the ancients are said
to have used these instruments
as most likely to inspire a cool
& deliberate courage, whereas trum-
-pets and other martial music
incited & inflamed them more to
rage. Thus when "(a doubtful hue was
cast upon the countenance of Sa-
-tan & his associates, in order to
"raise their fainting courage, and dis-
-pel their fears") he commanded
his standard to be "unrolled at the
warlike sound of trumpets & clarions"
which immediately inspired them

with such a flow of spirits, that
they sent up "a shout that tore Heav'n
concave". But when they were to
move in perfect phalanx, then
the instruments are changed, for
"flutes & recorders", which composed
them into a more cool, and delib-
-erate valor. ("That smah infantry
warred on by cranes") All the heroes
and armies that ever were assem-
-bled were no more than pygmies
in comparison with these Angels
"Though ah the giant brood of
Phlegra" a city of Macedonia
where the giants fought with the
Gods, ("with th' heroic race were join'd
that fought at Thebes") a city in
Boeotia famous for the war between
the sons of Odin ("and Thun")

made famous by Homer's Iliad,
where ("on each side") the heroes
were assisted by the gods, therefore
called "auxiliar" or helping gods.
"and what resounds even in fa-
ble or romance of Wther's son")
King Arthur, son of Wther Pendra-
gon, whose exploits are extolled
by Geoffrey of Monmouth "begint
with British & Armonic knights"
for he was often in alliance with
the king of Armonica, since called
Bretagne, of the Britons who settled
there, ("Aspramouth or Monthallban")
romantic names of places men-
tioned in Orlando Furioso, ("or Grei-
ford") a city of Cappadocia, in
 Lesser Asia, and these places

are famous in romances for jous-
-trist between the baptised & the
Infidels. ("on whom Biserta") former-
-ly called Utica. ("Sent from Africa
thore") that is the Saracens who
passed from Biserta in Africa to
Spain, ("when Charlemain with all
his peerage fell by Fontarabia")
Charlemain king of France & em-
-peror of Germany about the
year 800, undertook a war against
the Saracens in Spain. Mariana
and the Spanish Historians are
Milton's authorities for saying
that he & his army were routed
in this manner at Fontarabia,
which is a strong town in Biscay at
the very entrance into Spain, and es-
-teemed the key of the kingdom, but the

French writers give a more probable account of him, that he was at last victorious over his enemies and died in peace. ("Hath emptied Heaven") It is conceived that a third part of the Angels fell with Satan, according to Revelations 12th chap: 4th verse. "And his tail drew the third part of the stars of Heaven, and cast them to the earth." But Satan here magnifies the number. ("with grasped arms") The known custom of the Roman soldiers when they appeared a speech of their general, was to smite their shields with their swords. ("Mammon")

This name is ^{Syriac} signifies riches. "I cannot leave God & Mammon"

Says our Saviour - "Some look upon Mammon as the god of riches, & Mammon is accordingly made a person by our poet. ("The riches of Heavens Harbours, trodden gold") So the Heavenly Jerusalem is described by St. John, Revelations 21st chap: 21st ver: "And the street of the city is pure gold". ("and the works of Memphian kings") He seems here to allude to the Pyramids of Egypt, which were near Memphis. ("And hands innumerable") There were 360,000 men employed for near 21 years upon one of the Pyramids. ("with wondrous art founded the massy ore") The first band dug the metal out of the mountain, & second multitude

on the plain laid by, founded
or metted it (Babylon and Alcairo)
Alcairo, is the modern name of
Memphis. ("Belus or Serapis")
Belus the son of Nimrod, second
king of Babylon, and the first
man worshipped for a god, by
the Chaldeans, stiled Bel, by
the Phenicians Baal. Serapis
the same with Anis the god of
the Egyptians. ("and blazing
cressets fed with Naphtal &
Asphaltus") A cresset is any
great blazing light, as a beacon.
Naphtal is of so unctuous &
fiery a nature, that it kindles
at approaching the fire, or the
sun beams, Asphaltus or bitumen
another pitchy substance.

("Nor was his name unheard")
Mulciber a name for Vulcan -
"Behold a wonder" ("and hearken
to the earth") in allusion to the
superstitious notion of witches
& fairies having great power over
the moon.

