

Samson

Agonistes

Samson Agonistes.

("Samson Agonistes") That is Samson
an actor, Samson represented in a
play. ("Twice by an Angel") Once to his
mother, and again to his father Manoah
and his father mother both, and the
second time the Angel ascended in the
flame of the Altar. 13.th chan Judges.
3. 11. 20 verses. ("Chalybean tempered
Steel") That is, the best tempered Steel
by the Chalybes who were famous
among the Ancients for their iron
works. ("The bold Ascalonite") The inha-
bitants of Ascalon, one of the five
principal cities of the Philistines. ("In
Ramath-lechi, famous to this day")
15.th chapter of Judges. 17 v. "He cast a-
way the jaw-bone out of his hand,
and called that place, Ramath-lechi"
That is, the lifting up of the jaw bone, on

casting away of the jaw-bone. ("post L
massy bar") 16th chan Judges 3^d v.

"And Sampson lay t'k mid night, and
arose at midnight, L took the doors
of the gate of the city, and the two posts,
and away with them, bar L ah". (He-
bron, seat of giants old") For He-
bron was the city of Arba, the fa-
ther of Anak, and the seat of the
Anakims 15th chan Judges 13. 14 verses.

"And the Anakims were giants, which
come of the giants 13th chan. Num-
33^d. verse. ("Or the Sphere of fortune
raises") Fortune is painted on a globe,
which by her influence is in a per-
petual rotation on her axis. (From
Eshtaol and Tora's fruitful vale")
These were two towns of the tribe
of Dan, the latter the birth place

of Sampson, 19th chan Joshua 41 v.
the latter the birth place of Sam-
son, 13th chan. Judges. 2^d v. and they
were near one another 18th chan
Judges 25th v. "And the Spirit of the
Lord began to move him at times
in the camp of Dan between Tora
L Eshtaol". And they were both si-
tuated in the valey 15th chan Josh.
33^d v. and therefore the poet says
Eshtaol and Tora's fruitful vale.
("The first I saw at Timna") 14th chan.
Judges. 1st v. "And Sampson went down
to Timnath, and saw a woman in Tim-
nath, of the daughters of the Phi-
listines" ("was in the vale of Sorec
Dahila") 16th chan Judges. 4th v. "And
it came to pass afterward, that he
loved a woman in the valey of So-

-jek, whose name was Delilah"
("Safe to the rock of Etam was re-
-tired") 15th chan Judges. 8. v. "And he
went down, and dwelt in the top of
the rock Etam. Then the Philistines
went up to" ("How Succoth, and the
fort of Penuel") The men of Succoth
and of the tower of Penuel refused
to give loaves of bread to Gideon
and his 300 men pursuing after
Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of
Midian. 8th chan: Judges. 4 and
9. th v. ("And how ingrateful Ephraim")
Jephtha subdued the children of Am-
mon; and he is said to have "de-
fended Israel by arguments not
worse than by arms" on account
of the message which he sent the
king of the children of Ammon 11th

chan: Judges. 15. 27. v. For his victory
over the Ammonites, the Ephraimites
envied and quarreled with him: but
Jephtha and the men of Gilead smote
Ephraim, and took the passages of
Jordan, and there slew those of them
who c^d not rightly pronounce the
word Shibboleth, and there fell at
that time 42,000. of them. See 12th
chan. Judges. 1-6 - verses. ("But the
heart of the fool") Alluding to 14th
Psalm. 1st v. "The fool hath said in
his heart, There is no God" ("This day
the Philistines a popular feast") 16th
chan Judges 23? "Then the lords of
the Philistines gathered them together
for to offer a great sacrifice unto
Dagon their God, and to rejoice; for they
said, Our God hath delivered Samson

our enemy into our hand." ("whose
drink") Samson was a haharite -
13th chap. Judges. 13. v. Therefore to
drink no wine, nor shave his head.
See 6th chap. Numbers. 2^d chap.
Amos. 12th v. ("But God who caused
a fountain at thy prayer") 15th
chap. Judges. 18. 19. v. "And he was
sore athirst, and called on the Lord,
and said, Thou hast given this great
deliverance into the hand of thy
servant, and now shall I die for
thirst, and fall into the hand of
the uncircumcised? But God be.
("from snowy alp") He uses *alp*
for mountain in general, as in
paradise lost, "bein many a frozen,
many alp". *Alp* in the strictly-

-mology of the word signifies a
mountain white with snow. ("Of
Farsus") There is frequent mention
in Scripture of the ships of Farsus,
("isles of Javan") Greece, for Javan
or Jon, the 4th son of Japheth, is
said to have peopled Greece and Ionia
("or Gadir") Gades, Cadix. ("Thou
knows't the magistrates and princes
of my country") 16th chap. Judges
5th v. "And the lords of the Philis-
tines came up unto her, and said
unto her: ("So much of adder's wisdom
I have learned") 50th Psalm. 4. 5. v.
"They are like the deaf adder, that
stoppeth her ear, which will not hear:
ken to the voice of charmers, charming
never so wisely" ("not less renowned

than in Mt. Ephraim Jael) Jael is celebrated in the noble song of Deborah & Barak, and Deborah dwelt between Ramah and Bethel in Mt. Ephraim 4th chap. Judges, 5th v.

("Thy paranymp") Brideman. 14th chap. Judges. 20th v. "But Samson's wife was given to his companion whom he had used as his friend".

("hen eah me Harapha") This character is fictitious. ("Of stock renowned as Og") for Og the king of Bashan, was of the race of the Rephaim, whose bed was 9 cubits long and 4 broad. 3^d chap. Deut. 11th v. ("Or Anak") the father of the Anakims. ("and the Emims old") 2^d chap. Deut. 10. 11th v. "a people great and many, and tak as the

Anakims; which also were accounted giants, as the Anakims, but the Inhabitants call them Emims.

("That Kiriathaim held") 14th ch. Gene: 5th v. "Chedorlaomer &

("And brigandine of brass") Brigandine a coat of mail. ("Habergeon") a coat of mail for the neck & shoulders ("bark-brass") avant-bras - armour for the arms.

("Greves") armour for the legs.

1 Sam. 17th chap. 6th v. "And he had greaves of brass upon his legs"

("Gannet") an iron glove. ("Borgae")

("Who boldly") that is - valiant. ("Who now defies thee thine") This was the custom and the law of arms to give the challenge and to sound

the trumpet thrice. ("Father of
five sons") The story of Iphthim of
Gath is well known; and the other
4 are mentioned 2^d Sam. 21. chap.
15-22^d. v. ("Mummers") Maskers.
("cataphracts") Then on horses com-
pletely armed. ("in number more
than all they ever had slain before")
16th chap. 20 v. "So the dead which
he slew at his death, were more
than they which he slew in his
life" ("In Silo") where the taber-
nacle and ark were at that time.
("Imboss") concealed, covered. Hence.
("a holocaust") An entire burnt
offering. ~~Old~~ generally only part
of the beast was burnt. ("to the
sons of Gath") Philistines,

originally of the island Caphton
or Crete. The people were called
Caphtorim, Pherethim, and after-
wards Crethians. A colony of them
settled in Palestine, and there went
by the name of Philistim. ("with
send for all my kindred,") 16th
chap. Judges 31. v. "Then his bre-
thren, and all the house of his
father, came down and took him,
and brought him up, and buried
him between Torah and Eshtaol
in the burying place of Manoah
his father" ("Requies") acquisition.