

1st Book

Paradise Lost

No 1

2

1st look Paradise Lost.

"Above the Roman Mount"

What was Roma?

One of the ancient names of Beothia.

What was the Roman Mount?

Mt. Helicon sacred to the Muses?

"Since by fate the strength of Gods
And this empyrean substance can-
-not fail"

What is the meaning of the word
Empyrean?

Formed of the element of fire,
Refined beyond aerial, pertaining
to the highest & purest region of
Heaven.

"Briareos or Typhon, whom the den
by ancient Tarsus held".

Who was Briareus?

A famous giant son of Coelus &
Terra.

How many heads had he?

50.

How many hands?

100.

What was he called by men?

Algeon.

What did the gods call him?

Briareus.

What did Briareus do when Juno
Deputee & Minerva, conspired to
dethrone Jupiter?

He ascended the heavens, & seated
himself next to him, and so ter-
rified the conspirators, that they
desisted.

What became of him?

He assisted the giants in their
war against the gods and was
thrown under Mount Etna.

Who was Typhon?

A famous giant, son of Tartarus

& Terra.

How many heads had he?

100, and flames of devouring darts
from his mouth & eyes, and he uttered
dreadful shrieks.

Who was he brother of?

The giants.

What did he do as soon as he was
born?

He made war against heaven.

What effects had his appearance on
the gods?

They were so frightened at his ap-
pearance, that they fled away, &
assumed different shapes.

How did Jupiter at last subdue
Typhon?

He put him to flight with his
thunderbolts, & crushed him under
Mt. Etna. Typhon was the father
of Beberas.

~~What was Perors?~~

"Jorn from Pelorus"

What was Pelorus?

Now cape Faro, one of the three great promontories of Sicily, on whose top was erected a tower to direct the sailor on his voyage. Where does it lie?

It lies near the coast of Italy.

From what did it receive its name?

From Pelorus the pilot of the ship which carried away Annibal from Italy. It is said that he was carried by the tides into the straits of Charybdis, and being ignorant of the coast, he asked the pilot the name of the promontory which appeared in the distance. He replied that it was one of the capes of Sicily, but Annibal not

believing him, & fearful that he meant to deliver him to the Romans, murdered him on the spot. Did he repent?

Yes, he found that the pilot had spoken truth, and to do honor to his memory he called the cape Pelorum. Some suppose this account to be false, and that it bore that name before the age of Annibal.

"Not by the suffrage of Supernal power"

What is the meaning of Supernal?
Relating to things above, placed above, celestial, heavenly.

"Pathless he so endured"

Pathless. nevertheless

"When with fierce winds Orion arm'd"
Who was Orion?

A celebrated giant.

Where was he placed after death?
In heaven, where one of the con-
-stellations sth bears his name.
What was the constellation of
Orion composed of?

17 stars, in the form of a man
holding a sword, which has made
the poets often speak of Orion's
Sword.

When does the constellation of
Orion rise?

About the 9th March; & sets
the 21st June.

What is its generally accompa-
-nied by?

Great rains & storms, from
which Virgil gave it the epithet
of Aquosus.

"Of man's first disobedience". Here
is the subject proposed - the sub-
-ject is the first thing offered to
us. "With loss of Eden". But E-
-den was not lost, for in the
last of the poem, he says, "Thro"
Eden took their solitary way".
Loss of Eden, means no more
than loss of paradise, which
was planted in Eden. Eden, sig-
-nifies delight or pleasure. The
country is supposed to be the
same, which was afterwards cal-
-led Mesopotamia. "th one
greater man". Our Saviour - "that
on the secret top of Horeb, or of
Sinai" Sinai & Horeb are the
same mountain with two emi-
-nences. the higher of them called

Sinai. Both S Sinai are used
for one another in Scripture. From
Sinai God gave his laws to Moses,
and it was covered with clouds,
dark clouds, thick smoke - it
was therefore at that time se-
cret in a peculiar sense. "That
shepherd" - Moses, "For Moses kept
the flock of Jethro, his father
in law." And being the most an-
cient written among the Jews, he
first taught the chosen seed. ("In
the beginning how the Heavens") At-
tending to the first words of Gene-
sis. ("And Silva's brook") Silva was
a small river that flowed near
the temple at Jerusalem. It is
mentioned in Isaiah 4th Chap. Verse
6th "For as much as this people

Refuseth the waters of Silva
that go softly" - Milton thus
invokes the muse, that inspired
David & the prophets, on Int. S
and at Jerusalem, as well as
Moses on Int. Sinai. ("Above the
Roman Mount") A poetical ex-
pression for having to a height
above other poets. Breotia, was
anciently called Romia, and it
was the haunt of the Muses.
"(Dove-like, satst brooding")
According to Genesis, the Spirit of
God moved on the face of the
waters" the word which we trans-
late moved signifies properly broo-
ded, as a bird doth upon her eggs,
he says a dove rather than any
other bird, because the descent of

The Holy Ghost is compared to a
dove in Scripture. ("nine times") the
Angels lay, entranced 9 days after
their dreadful overthrow. ("darkness,
visible") These words are used to
signify gloom; absolute darkness
is strictly speaking invisible, but
where there is a gloom only, it
serves to show that there are
objects, but they cannot be dis-
tinctly seen. ("Beelzebub") The
lord of flies, an idol worshipped
at Ekron, a city of the Philistines.
2^d. Kings 1 chapter 2^d. verse. "And
Elishah fell down through a
lattice in his upper chamber that
was in Samaria, and was sick; &
he sent messengers, and said unto
them, Go, enquire of Baal-zebub

The god of Ekron, whether I shall
recover of this disease". He is
called, "prince of the devils" by
St. Matthew. (And hence in Heaven
called Satan") The word Satan in
Hebrew signifies an enemy, (And
what is else ~~not to be overcome~~)
if there be any thing else, besides,
which is ~~not to be overcome~~. ("to
be weak, is to be miserable, to
suffer") Satan has boasted
that the strength of Gods ~~is not~~
fail, and Beelzebub having said
"If God has left us our strength
entire, to suffer pain strongly, or
to do him mightier service as
his Throat, what then can our
strength avail us? Satan replies,

That it is some comfort to have our strength undiminished, for it is a miserable thing to be without strength, whether we are doing or suffering. ("our afflicted powers") afflicted here is used in the sense of wanted, ruined, utterly broken. ("Lay floating many a wood") A wood is the 4th part of an acre. ("The Typhon, whom the den") The den of Typhon or Typhoeus was in Cilicia, of which Tarsus was a celebrated city. ("Moors by his side under the lee") Mooring at sea is the laying out of anchors in a proper place for the secure riding of the ship. The lee shore is that on which the wind blows, so that mooring under the lee is to be close under the weather shore. ("Th' Almighty, hate not built Here for his envy") This is not a place that God sh^d. envy us. ("like the moon, whose orb") The shield of Satan was large as the moon seen thro' a telescope. ("the Tuscan artist") Galileo, a native of Tuscany, who first applied the telescope to celestial observations. Milton knew him & visited him in Italy. ("Pesolè") is a city in Tuscany. Valdarno, or the valley of Arno, a valley there. ("Valombrosa") a famous valley in Etruria or Tuscany, remar-

have for the cool shade afforded by the vast number of its trees. ("when with fierce winds Orion armed") Orion is a constellation represented in the figure of an armed man, and supposed to be attended with stormy weather. The Red Sea abounds so much with sedge, that in the Hebrew Scripture, it is called the Reddy Sea, and he says he hath, "vers the Red Sea coast," because the wind drives the sedge to the shore. ("Busiris, and his Memphian") Some suppose Pharaoh to have been the same, as Busiris king of Egypt. ("perfidious hatred") because Pharaoh after having given the Israelites leave to depart

followed after them. ("As when the potent rod") Exodus, tenth chapter, thirteenth verse. "Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, & the Lord brought an east wind upon the land, and the east wind brought the locusts, and the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, so that the land was darkened." ("warping") ~~working~~ themselves forward. a sea term. ("The northern north") the northern parts of the world are observed to be more fruitful of people, than the hotter countries. It has been called the northern hive ("From her frozen bowels") it is the scripture expression of children & decrease.

- dants coming out of the loins, as
in Genesis 35th 11th verse "Kings
shall come out of thy loins," these
are called frozen loins on account
of the coldness of the climate. ("To
pass Rhene or the Danaw") Rhine
or the Danube. These northern peo-
ple were the Goths, & Huns, &
Gandals, who overran all the
southern provinces of Europe, &
crossing the Mediterranean, be-
neath Gibraltar, that is more
southward, landed in Africa, &
spread themselves as far as
Libya. ("By falsities & lies") That
is, by false idols, under a corporeal
representation, denying the true
God. The poet plainly alludes to
1st chapter Romans. 22^d verse.
When they knew God, they glorified

him not as God - and changed the
glory of the incorruptible God into
an image - who changed the truth
of God into a lie ("Say, I muse") Milton
here deduces the origin of Superstition.
("Their names then known") When
they had got their new names. Milton
considers that the names he was
object to give to these Angels carry
a bad signification, & therefore c^d
not be those they had in their state
of innocence; he has therefore
said their former names are now
lost. ("Between the Cherubim") This
relates to the ark being placed be-
tween the two golden cherubims
("First Inoloch, horned king") First,
after Satan & Beelzebub. The
word Inoloch signifies king, and

he is called horrid king, on account
of the ^{human} sacrifices which are made
to him. Some suppose this idol to
be the same as Saturn, to whom
the Heathens sacrificed their chil-
dren. He was the god of the Am-
monites, and is called the abomi-
nation of the children of Ammon
1st Kings 11th chapter 7th verse "Then
did Solomon build an high place
for Chemosh, the abomination
of Moab, in the hill that is before
Jerusalem, and for Moloch the
abomination of the children of
Ammon". ^{passed thro' fire} The Scripture says that
the children passed thro' fire to
Moloch, by which we must under-
stand, not that they burnt their
children, but made them leap
over the flames, or pass nimbly

between two fires, to purify them.
Moloch was worshipped in Rabba,
the capital city of the Ammonites,
which David conquered, and took
from thence the crown of their god
Milecom as some render the words
2^d Samuel 12th chapter. 30th verse.
"And he took their king's crown from
off his head, the weight whereof
was a talent of gold, with pre-
cious stones, and it was set on
David's head." Rabba was called
the city of waters" 2^d Samuel
12th ^{chap} verse 27th verse "And Joab
sent messengers to David, and
said, I have fought against Rab-
bah and have taken the city
of waters." (Argob & Basan) neigh-
boring countries to Rabba & sub-
ject to the Ammonites, as far
as to the stream of Arnon.

-Gon, which river was the bound-
-ry of their country on the south.
Solomon built a temple to Mo-
-loch on the Mount of Olives.
1st Kings 11th chap: 7th verse. "In
the high that is before Jerusalem"-
Therefore called that "oppoⁿoⁿion
high"- high places & sacrifices
were made to him, "in the plea-
-sant valley of Hinnom"- Jerem:
7th chap: 31st verse. "And they have
built the high places of Tophet,
which is in the valley of the son
of Hinnom, to burn their sons &
daughters in the fire." This valley
lay south-east of Jerusalem,
and was likewise called Tophet,
from the Hebrew Toph a drum,
drums & noisy instruments being
used to drown the cries of the

Indescribable children who were offered
to this idol, and Gehenna or the
valley of Hinnom, is in several
places of the New Testament, &
by our Saviour himself, made
the name & type of Hell, by
reason of the fire that was kept
up to Moloch, and of the horrid
groans & outcries of human
sacrifices. ("next Chemod") Chemod
is rightly mentioned next to Moloch,
as their names are joined together
in Scripture - give the text - 1st Kings
11th chapter 7th verse - "Then did
Solomon build an high place for
Chemod, the abomination of Moab"
and it is a natural transition
from the God of the Ammonites,
to the God of their neighbors the
Moabites. ("from Moab") a city,

upon the river Arnon, the boundary
of their country to the north, after-
wards belonging to the tribe of Gad,
("To Hebo") a city eastward, after-
wards belonging to the tribe of Reu-
ben, ("And the wild of South most
Havim") a ridge of mountains, the
boundary of their country to the
south ("in Heshbon, and Horonaim,
Leon's realm") two cities of the
Inoabites, taken from them by
Sihon king of the Amorites. The
text - 21st chapter of Numbers,
26th verse - "For Heshbon was the
city of Sihon, the king of the Amo-
rites, who had fought against the
former king of Inoab, and taken
all his land, out of his hand,
even unto Arnon" ("beyond the

flowing dale of Sibma, clad with
vines") a place famous for vine-
yards - the text - 48th chapter
Jeremiah, 32^d verse. "O vine of
Sibmah, I will weep for thee,
with the weeping of Saker, thy
plants are gone over the sea,
they reach even to the sea of
Saker: The spoiler is taken upon
thy summer fruits, and upon
thy vintage" ("And Eleale") a
nother city of the Inoabites, not
far from Heshbon ("to the Rophae-
tic pool") the Dead Sea, so called
from the Rophatras, or bitumen
abounding in it; the river Jor-
dan empties itself into it, and
that river, & this sea were
the boundaries of the Inoabi.

tes to the west. ¹³ It was this god,
Phemos, under the name of Baal-
peor, that the Israelites were
induced to worship in Sittim, for
which they died of the plague,
twenty & four thousand. His
high places, were adjoining those
of Moloch, on the Mount of Olives,
called here, that "high of scandal"
as before, that "obprobrious high,"
because Solomon built high places
for both these idols, on the
Mount of Olives. "(But "good-
-fiak" brake in pieces their ima-
-ges, and cut down their groves,
the text - 2^d. Kings 23^d. chap: 18th
14th verse. And the high places that
were before Jerusalem, which were
on the right hand of the mount
of corruption for Ashtor etc.