

Paradise Regained

Book 4th

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("Another plain") The country here meant
is Italy, which is long but not broad,
and is washed by the Mediterranean on
the south, and screened by the Alps on
the north, and divided in the midst by the
river Tiber. ("turns of horse") troons of horse
a word coined from the Latin ("on the Appian
road, or on the Emilian") The Appian road
from Rome led towards the south of Italy,
the Emilian towards the north. He first
mentions places in Africa; Syene, a city
of Egypt on the confines of Ethiopia. ("he-
re") an island and city of Ethiopia in the
river Nile, therefore called Nilotic ile. ("The
realm of Bocchas") Mauritania. Then
Asian nations ("the golden Chersonese")
Malacca, the most southern promontory
of the East Indies. ("The Sannic pool") the
palus Maeotis. ("This emperor") This ac-
count of the emperor Iovinus is related

by Tacitus & Suetonius. ("On Citron Tables
or Atlantic Stone") Tables made of citron
wood were in great request among the
Romans. They were beautifully veined &
spotted. ("Their wines of Setia, Cales, and
Falerne") Italian wines ("Chios & Cete")
Greek wines, all much admired and commen-
ded by the Ancients. ("Crystal & Myrrhine
cups") Crystal and myrrhine cups are often
joined together by ancient authors. Pliny
reckons myrrhine cups among fossils; but
say that they were like our porcelain.
("abhorred pact") pact, is the technical
term for the contracts of sorcerers with
the devil. ("Sitting Moses chair") Moses
chair was the chair, in which the doc-
tors sitting expounded the law either
publicly to the people, or privately
to their disciples. 23^d. chap Matthew
23^d. verse. "The scribes and Pharisees sit
in Moses chair" ("westward, much nearer
by south west") This corresponds to

our Saviour's supposed situation upon
Mount Saurus. The following description
of Athens & its learning, is extremely
grand & beautiful. ("pure the air &
light the soil") Attica being a mountain-
ous country, the soil was light & barren
and the air sharp & pure. ("Athens
the eye of Greece") So Demosthenes calls
it, and Justin says it is one of the two
eyes of Greece, Sparta being the other.
Athens was built between two small
rivers Cephissus and Ilissus. ("See there
the olive grove of Academe, Plato's
retirement") After his return to Athens
from his journey to Egypt, Plato set-
tled himself in the Academy, a gym-
nasium or place of exercise in the
suburbs of the city, where he taught
his philosophy, and where he was buried,
whence, the sect which sprung from him
was called Academics. ("the olive grove")
the olive was particularly cultivated a-

about Athens, being sacred to Minerva
the goddess of the city. ("Where the At-
tic bird") the nightingale; Philomela
who according to the fables was changed
into a nightingale, was the daughter
of Pandion king of Athens. ("There flowery
like Hymettus") the honey was so much
esteemed, that it was reckoned the best
of the Attic honey. ("Lyceum there, and
painted Stoa next") Lyceum was another
gymnasium of the Athenians, and was
the school of Aristotle, who was the foun-
der of the sect of Peripatetics, so called
from his walking & teaching philosophy.
Stoa was the school of Zeno, whose dis-
ciples from the place had the name of
Stoics, and this Stoa or portico was
adorned with a variety of paintings.
("And his who gave them breath - Blind
Inesigenes") Herodotus in his account
of the life of Homer, says that he was

born near the river Ines from whence
he had the name of Inesigenes ("So Inesigenes
and Artaxerxes throne") his Pericles &
others "fulminated over Greece to Artaxerxes
throne" against the Persian King, so Demos-
thenes was the orator particularly who
fulminated over Greece to Macedon against
king Philip. ("low woft house") Socrates said
that if he c^d meet with a good purchaser
he might easily get for his goods and
horse 5 pounds. ("The first and wisest of
them all") Socrates. ("The next to fabling
fell") Plato. ("A third sort doubted all
things") These were the Sceptics or Pyrrho-
nians, the disciples of Pyrrho ("Others in
virtue") These were the old Academics, &
the Peripatetics, the scholars of Aristotle.
("In corporeal pleasure he") Epicurus.
("wise men have said") Alluding to Ecclesi^{astes}
12 chan. 12 verse "Of making many books
there is no end, and much study is a

weariness of the flesh." ("Our Hebrew songs
and harps in Babylon, that pleased to
weaken our victors ear") 137th Psalm 1 and
2^d. verses. "By the rivers of Babylon &c.
("fulness of time") Gala. 4th chap. 4th v.
"When the fulness of time was come God
sent forth his Son" ("Infernal ghoul")
This is taken from the legend of St. An-
thony's temptation. ("in amice gray")
in gray clothing, amice derived from
the Latin amicio to clothe, & used
by Shenser. ("As when earth's son Antaeus")
see Antaeus. Lempriere. ("And as that
Theban monster") The Sphinx. see
Lempriere. ("Abaddon") The name of the
Angel of the bottomless pit. 11th chap.
Reve: 11th chap. Here applied to the bot-
tomless pit itself.