

Comus

n^o 2

Who was Perseus? Comm. 2
Son of Jupiter & Danae.

Who was Danae?

The daughter of Acrisius King of Argos.
What is told of his infancy?

He was thrown into the sea with
his mother Danae in a chest.

Why?

Because the oracle had foretold that
Acrisius wd. perish by the hands
of his daughter's son.

What became of Danae & her son?

They were driven by the wind on
the island of Seriphos, one of the
Cyclades. and found by a fisherman
called Dictys, and carried to Poly-
dectes the King of the island.

How did Polydectes treat them?

With humanity at first, but
falling in love with Danae, he be-
came jealous & fearful of her son.

What did he do to remove Perseus?

He invited all his friends to a
sumptuous entertainment, & requi-
red from all his guests a present
of a beautiful horse, which he
knew persons w^d be unable to fur-
nish.

Did Perseus comply?

He told the king as he could not
bring him a horse, he w^d bring
him the head of Medusa.

Who befriended Perseus in his
expedition?

The gods. Pluto, Minerva, & Mercury.
How? did Pluto assist him?

He gave him a helmet, which
had the power of making the bea-
-ren invisible.

What did Minerva give him?

Her buckler which was as res-
-plendent as glass.

What did Mercury give him?

Wings to the Pelasgia, and a short
dagger made of diamonds, called
herpe; some suppose it was Vulcan
gave him the dagger.

Who conducted him thro' the air?
Juno.

Where were the Gorgons supposed to
reside?

In Libya.

How did he find them?

Asleep, and he knew if he looked on
them he w^d be immediately turned
to stone, so he looked on his shield
which reflected all objects.

He cut off Medusa's head at one
blow.

Did this arouse the two immortal
sisters?

Yes, the noise awoke them.

How was he protected from them?

By Pluto's helmet, which rendered
him invisible.

What did he then do?

He made his way back thro' the air.

What sprang from the blood which dropped from Medusa's head?

Those serpents which have since infested the sandy deserts of Libya.

Who else?

Chrysaor, with the golden sword.

And the horse Pegasus.

What is said of the horse Pegasus?

He immediately flew thro' the air,

& stopped on Mt. Helicon, where he became the favorite of the Muses.

What then did Perseus do?

He continued his journey across the deserts of Libya, but the approach of night obliged him to alight in the territories of Atlas.

Who was Atlas?

He was one of the Titans, and king

of Mauritania; he married Hesperis the daughter of Hesperus, by whom he 4 daughters called Atlantides.

What was he master of?

Beautiful gardens.

Did he receive Perseus?

No. he refused him hospitality, & offered violence to his person.

Why?

Because an oracle of Themis had declared that his gardens sh'd be robbed of their fruit by one of the sons of Jupiter.

How did Perseus conquer him?

By showing him Medusa's head, which instantly turned him to stone. Large Mountain which bears his name.

What did Perseus see next?

On the coasts of Ethiopia he saw Andromeda exposed to a sea-monster.

Who was Andromeda?

daughter of Cepheus, king of Ethiopia.

Why was she exposed to the monster?
Neptune had drowned the kingdom
and sent a sea monster to ravage
the country, because Cassiope
the mother of Andromeda had
boasted herself fairer than Juno
& the Nereides; the oracle of Jupiter
Ammon was consulted, & nothing
but the resentment of Neptune
And Andromeda being exposed to
the monster.

Who was Cassiope?

She was the wife of Cepheus.

Did Perseus deliver Andromeda?

He offered her father to deliver
her, if he wd. give her to him in
marriage.

Did Cepheus consent?

Yes.

How was the monster destroyed?

According to some he was turned

into stone, by being thrown the head
of Medusa; others say, that Perseus
plunged his dagger in his right thou-
der and thus destroyed it.

How were their nuptials disturbed?
By Phineus, he entered the palace
with a number of armed men, &
attempted to carry off the bride.

Why did he do so?

Because Andromeda had been promi-
sed to him in marriage long before
the arrival of Perseus.

Who was victorious?

Perseus, he defeated them by showing
them the Gorgon's head and they were
all turned to stone.

Where did Perseus then go?

He returned to Seriphos, with
Andromeda.

How did he find Danae?

She had at that very moment fled
to the altar of Minerva to avoid

The pursuit of Polydectes.

Who defended her?

Sictys, who had saved her from the sea.

What did Perseus do?

He turned Polydectes & his followers into stone by showing them the head, and placed Sictys on the throne of Seriphos.

What did he then do?

He restored Mercury his talaria, & his wings, Pluto his helmet, & Vulcan his sword, and Minerva her shield, but as he was more particularly indebted to Minerva, he placed upon her shield the head of Medusa, or according to some upon heregis.

What then became of Perseus?

He returned to his native country, with his mother & Andromeda.

Where did he land?

At Larissa.

What did he do there?

He killed a man with a quoth, at some funeral games, Lentamias the king of Larissa was celebrating in honor of his father.

Who was this man?

His grandfather Acrisius.

How came he there?

He had fled there upon hearing of Perseus arrival in Peloponnesus, to prevent the fulfilment of the oracles.

Was Perseus grieved at this murder? He was so much afflicted, that he refused to reign in Argos, but exchanged his kingdom for that of Sicyon, and the maritime coast of Argolis, where Megapenthes then reigned.

What did he do there?

He laid the foundations of a new city, called Argos, because the promulgator of his word, called by the Greeks, Myces, had fallen there. These two kingdoms were afterwards united.

"That wise Minerva wore".

Who was Minerva?

She was the goddess of wisdom, & of the liberal arts.

What is said of her birth?

She came forth armed and grown up from Jupiter's brain.

What were her festivals called?
Panathenaea.

"But unsocial as is Apollo's lute"
Who was Apollo?

Son of Jupiter & Latona.

Where was he born?

In the island of Delos.

How happened it that he was born there?

Juno being jealous of Latona, sent

the serpent Python to torment her, & she, having no place of rest her time, raised the island from the bottom of the sea for her.

What was known the god?

All the fine arts, medicine, music & poetry & eloquence.

On what account was Apollo banished from heaven?

Because he hired the Cyclopes who forged the thunder bolts wherewith Jupiter punished Esculapius the son of Apollo.

Why did he kill Esculapius?

Because he raised the dead to life.

Who was Esculapius?
Pana
God of medicine.

What became of Apollo, after his banishment from heaven?

He hired himself to Admetus king of Thessaly, to be one of his shepherds.

How long did he serve him?
Nine years.

How did he reward Admetus?

He gave him a chariot, drawn by a lion & bull, with which he was able to obtain Alceste in marriage.

Who was Alceste?

The daughter of Pelias.

Who was Pelias?

The son of Neptune & Tyro.

What else did Apollo do for Admetus?
He obtained from the Fates, that Admetus might be redeemed from death if another laid down their lives for him.

On what occasion did he assist Neptune?

He assisted him to build the walls of Troy.

What did Apollo do immediately after his birth?

He flew with arrows the serpent Python.

What else did he do?

He flew at the children of the house because they had exulted over Latona was he the inventor of the lyre?
No. Mercury gave it him, and received in return the caduceus, with which Apollo tended the flocks of Admetus.

Where was Apollo's most splendid temple?

At Delphi.
"Under the lofty flag of Achæon"

Where was Achæon?

A river of Thesprotia in Epirus.

What was it called?

One of the rivers of Hell.

Why?

From the dead appearance of its waters.

Who was the god of the stream?

The son of Peneus.

What is said of him?

It was said he concealed himself.

in hell for fear of the Titans, he was changed into a bitter stream, over which the souls of the dead are at first conveyed.

"Harpies & Hydras"

Who were the Harpies?

Winged monsters, who had their feet armed with sharp claws.

How many were there?

Three, Aello, Ocypete, and Calio.

What was the Hydra?

A monster which infested the neighborhood of the Lake Lerna, in Peloponnesus.

How many heads had it?

100.

What is said of these heads?

As soon as one was cut off, two immediately grew up, if the wound was not stopped by fire.

How was it destroyed?

It was one of the labours of Hercules to destroy it.

Did he?

Yes, by the assistance of Iolaus, who applied a burning iron, as soon as one head was cut off.

What happened to Hercules while he was destroying the Hydra?

Iuno sent a sea-crab to bite his foot. But he kicked it. & Iuno placed the crab among the constellations, where it is now called the Cancer.

"That Hermes once to wise Polyphes gave."

Who was Hermes?

The same as Mercury.

Whose son was he?

Son of Jupiter & Maia.

Who was Maia?

Daughter of Atlas & Pleione, one of the Pleiades. The most luminous of the seven.

who were the Pleiades?

The 7 daughters of Pleione, one of the Oceanides by Atlas.

What were they changed into & a constellation, called Pleiades.

What was the office of Mercury?

He was messenger of the gods, he was the patron of travellers & the-
-pheros, he conducted the souls of
the dead to the infernal regions, &
he was the god of thieves.

Where was he born?

On Mount Cythere, in Arcadia.

To whom was the care of his infancy
intrusted?

To the Seasons.

Who were the Seasons?

Three sisters, daughters of Jupiter
& Themis, Eunomia, ^{Demeter} ~~Tietya~~

What did he do the day after he
was born?

He stole the oxen of Admetus which

Apollon tended.

Who was Hygiea?

King of the island of Naxos.

What is said of him?

He was one of the suitors of Helen
but despairing of success he
solicited the hand of Penelope the
daughter of Icarus - he went to
the Trojan war with the rest of
the Greeks, and on his return was
killed on the island of Rhodes. But
was protected the incantments
of Circe by an herb called Moly
the wild garlic, given to him by
Mercury.

"On like the sons of Vulcan vomit
smoke"

Who were the sons of Vulcan?

The Cyclops were supposed to be the
sons of Vulcan. or rather his workmen

Who were the Cyclops?

They inhabited the western part of

Sicily.

"Or, as Daphne was, root-bound
then fled Apollo"-

Who was Daphne?

A daughter of the river Peneus, &
the goddess Terra.

What is said of her?

She was beloved by Apollo, and not
loving him she avoided him by flight.
She entreated the assistance of
the gods, who changed her into a
laurel.

What did Apollo then do?

He crowned his head with the leaves
of the laurel, and ordered that the
tree sh^d be sacred to his Divinity,

"Which the wife of Phoebe"

Who was Phoebe?

An Egyptian Physician.

"In Egypt gave to be-corn He-
lena"

Who was Helena?

Daughter of Jupiter & Leda.

What was the famous ~~love~~ ^{for} ~~love~~?

Her beauty.

What became of her in her 10th year?
She was carried away by Theseus,
with his friend Pirithous.

Where did he conceal her?

At Aphidnae, under the care of
his mother Ethra.

Who recovered her?

Her brothers Castor & Pollux, &
she returned safe to Sparta.

Had she many suitors?

Yes, & her father Tyndarus not
knowing how to determine in fa-

vor of one, was assisted by he-
-lytes, who advised him to en-
-gage them to bind themselves

by oath, to agree to the choice
Helen sh^d make, and to defend

Helen sh^d make, and to defend

her during their lives.

Whom did Helen choose?

Menelaus - son of Atreus, & brother of Agamemnon.

Did they live happily?

For three years they did?

What disturbed their happiness?

Paris, son to the king of Troy, came to Sparta, and gained Helen's affection, and persuaded her to follow him to Troy.

What did Menelaus do?

He assembled the Grecian princes & reminded them of their promise. Did they abide by it?

Yes, they resolved to make war against Troy, but previously sent ambassadors to demand the restitution of Helen.

Was it granted?

No, and they assembled their forces

and sailed for the coast of Asia. How long the Trojan war continued 10 years.

What happened in the 9th year?

Paris was killed.

What did Helen then do?

She married Deiphobus, one of Priam's sons.

Was Troy taken?

Yes, and Helen introduced the Greeks into the chamber of Deiphobus, to ingratiate herself with Menelaus.

Did she return to Sparta?

Yes, and was forgiven by Menelaus.

What happened to her afterwards? Menelaus died - and she was driven from Peloponnesus by the sons of Menelaus.

Where did she go? To Rhodes.

Who reigned there?

Polyxos, the widow of Heptocleus,
whose husband had perished in the
Trojan war.

What did she do to Helen?

In revenge, she made her attendants
murder her.

How were they disguised?

As furies.

How did they murder her?

They tied her to a tree & strangled.

Some suppose Helen to have been
in Egypt during the Trojan war,
& not in Troy.

"And the chains of Erebus"

What was Erebus?

A deity of hell, son of Chaos &
Night.

Whom did he marry?

He married Night by whom he
had the light & the day. The
word is often used to signify hell itself.

Which one of Meliboeus old I
learned"

Who was Meliboeus?

A shepherd mentioned in Virgil's
Eclogues.

"Bearing her straight to aged Terentus
Lark"

Who was Terentus?

A god of the sea, son of Oceanus
and Terra.

Whom did he marry?
Teris.

Who was Teris?

She was sister to Terentus.

Who were his daughters?

The Perseides.

How many were there?

60.

Where was his chief place of re-
sidence?

The Aegean sea. where he was surroun-
ded by his daughters, who danced
around him.

"In name of great Oceanus"

Who was Oceanus?

A deity of the sea, son of ^{Coelus} ~~Oceanus~~
L Terra

Whom did he marry?

He married Tethys.

Who were his daughters?

The Oceanides. He was supposed to
be the father of all the gods by
time.

"And Tethys gave majestic race"

Who was Tethys?

The greatest of the sea-deities,
wife of Oceanus, L daughter of
Coelus or Uranus L Terra.

^{of} Whom was the mother? ~~of~~

The chiefest rivers, and of the
Oceanides.

"By sealy Triton's winding stream"

Who was Triton?

A sea deity, son of Neptune L Am-
phitrite.