

nian refugee, and there devoured by the fabled Minotaur, a monster represented as half bull and half man¹¹⁷.

LETTER
II.

By this labyrinth we ought perhaps to understand a strong and magnificent state-prison, abounding with apartments, in which the tributary captives were confined, until the celebration of certain funeral games, instituted by Minos in honour of the memory of his son Androgeus; and at which the Athenian youths and virgins were the prizes, and became the slaves of the victors¹¹⁸. The idea of the Minotaur was probably suggested by the ferocious appearance, and brutal disposition, of a man of great bodily strength, named *Taurus*, who generally carried off the prizes at those games, and who was also general of the forces of Minos, or captain of the guards that secured the labyrinth or state-prison¹¹⁹.

LET those things, however, have been as they might, it seems certain, that the payment of the tribute imposed by Minos excited dreadful apprehensions in the breasts of the Athenian fathers and mothers; and that Theseus, the third time it was demanded, and the first time apparently after his arrival at Athens, discovered a generosity of spirit worthy of his heroic character. The tributary youths and virgins having hitherto been drawn by lot, he voluntarily offered himself as one of the youths; resolved to kill the Minotaur, and free his country from a cruel tribute, or to perish in the bold attempt. He accordingly embarked, in a vessel equipped on purpose, along with the other exacted victims¹²⁰.

117. Diod. Sicul. lib. iv. Plut. *Vit. These.*

118. Philochor. ap. Plut. *Vit. These.*

119. Id. *ibid.*

120. Plut. *Vit. These.* Diod. Sicul. lib. iv.

PART I.

WHEN the Athenian prince arrived in Crete, where his gallant exploits had already been announced by fame, the manly beauty of his person attracted the eye of Ariadne, the king's daughter; and his patriotic heroism seems in some measure to have subdued the inexorable heart of Minos, still craving vengeance for the murder of his son. Through the intercession of Ariadne with her father, or by some happy amorous contrivance, Theseus was permitted to combat in the funeral games, instituted in honour of the memory of Androgeus, and vanquished the redoubted champion Taurus¹²¹; or, in other words, he was victorious over all competitors; and, therefore, might be truly said to have killed the *Minotaur*, as he thus procured indemnity to the sons and daughters of his father's unhappy subjects, who must otherwise have lingered out their days in foreign slavery. But whether Minos, filled with admiration of the prowess and magnanimity of Theseus, gave him his daughter Ariadne in marriage, and generously remitted the Athenian tribute, as some late writers have affirmed; or continued to adhere to the austere maxims of rigid policy, ancient historians have not enabled us to decide. All we know with any degree of certainty is, that Ariadne accompanied Theseus when he left Crete, and that the Athenians thenceforth paid no tribute to Minos¹²².

WERE I to hazard an opinion upon this intricate subject, I should say, in conformity with the general tenor of ancient tradition, that Ariadne eloped with Theseus; and that he chose rather to trust to his own adventurous spirit for the certain possession of that princess, and to his courage and high renown in arms, for an exemption from the odious tribute, than to rest

121. Philochor. ap. Plut. *Vit. These.*

122. Plut. *Vit. These.* Dioq. Sicul. lib. iv.

either upon the doubtful generosity of Minos. He therefore embarked in the night, and carried with him his fair preserver¹²³; who appears to have been taken ill in the course of the voyage, and to have died¹²⁴, or been stolen from him at the isle of Naxos¹²⁵.

THE glory acquired by Theseus, in having magnanimously freed his country from an ignominious and cruel tribute, raised his already popular character to the height of idolatry. His fortunate voyage to Crete was celebrated at Athens with sacrifices and solemn processions, which were continued down to the latest times of that republic¹²⁶. And the vessel in which he had performed the voyage, supported by constant repairs, was sent annually, for upwards of eight hundred years, to the sacred island of Delos, in order to return thanks to Apollo, for the deliverance the Athenian hero had accomplished¹²⁷.

BUT the patriotic voyage of Theseus was followed by other consequences, no less important to Attica than the abolition of the tribute imposed by the Cretan monarch. The Athenian prince, while in Crete, had opportunity to observe the salutary institutions of the elder Minos. These presented to his view a more regular system of policy, and a more rigid civil and military discipline, than was to be found in any Græcian state on the continent.

A PLAN of government so harmonious, and so firmly combined, could not escape the discerning eye of Theseus. And no sooner did he succeed to the Athenian sceptre, than he endeavoured to profit by his political

123. Diod. Sicul. lib. iv.

124. Hom. Odyss. lib. xi.

125. Diod. Sicul. ubi sup.

126. Plut. *Vit. Thesei*.

127. Plato, in *Phædo*, et Plut. ubi sup.

PART I.

knowledge. He saw with concern the little kingdom of Attica broken into twelve independent jurisdictions; the inhabitants of one district often hostile to those of another; and those of each district, enslaved by prejudices against their neighbours, agitated with jealousies and local antipathies¹²⁸.

IN order to remedy these evils, and give union and vigour to the state, Theseus abolished the exclusive jurisdictions; dissolved the separate councils and magistracies; and, establishing in the metropolis one grand council or national assembly, and one senate-house, or Prutaneion, which served also for a hall of justice, made Athens the sole seat of law and government¹²⁹.

IN consequence of these regulations, every free inhabitant of Attica became in effect an Athenian citizen. The people of no one district having thenceforth any separate interest, the welfare of the state, its security and grandeur, was made equally the care of all its members. And yet more perfectly to unite the hearts and the interests of his subjects, Theseus saw the necessity of one common religion, or a communion of pious ceremonies. He accordingly instituted, in honour of the goddess Athena, or Minerva, an annual festival for the whole body of the inhabitants of Attica. To this sacred solemnity he gave the name of *Panathena*; the festival of all the Athenians, or people of Minerva¹³⁰. And from the time of its institution they seem all, according to his intention, to have considered themselves as united under the immediate protection of that goddess.

128. Thucyd. lib. ii. Plut. *Vit. Thesei*.

129. Id. *ibid*.

130. Plut. *ubi supra*.

AWARE, however, that the most perfect civil and religious union is insufficient to preserve order in a populous community, Theseus had recourse to the distinction of ranks, as a farther support to his authority. He divided the inhabitants of Attica into three classes; consisting of nobility, husbandmen, and artificers. To the nobles he assigned the trust of executive justice, the expounding of the laws, the offices of civil government, the offering of sacrifices, the superintendence of religious ceremonies, and the interpretation of the will of the gods. The husbandmen and artificers formed the body of the state, enjoyed freedom and equality, and composed the majority of the popular assembly. To himself he reserved only the military power and the guardianship of the laws ¹³¹.

AFTER the change in the Athenian constitution accomplished by Theseus, which had no small influence upon the government of the neighbouring states, the next important transaction in the history of Greece, was the Theban war. The cause of that war is thus related by the Græcian historians. Æteocles and Polynices, the two sons of Œdipus king of Thebes, (whose involuntary crimes have furnished so many triumphs for the tragic muse) agreed to sway by turns the sceptre, each for a year, instead of dividing the kingdom between them. Æteocles, the elder brother, ascended the Theban throne first; and found royalty so congenial to his disposition, that he refused to relinquish his sway at the stipulated term ¹³².

Ant. Chr.
1225.

ENRAGED at such duplicity, the injured Polynices sought redress at the court of Adrastus, king of Argos. Adrastus warmly embraced his cause, and gave him

131. Aristot. *Polit.* lib. ii. Plut. *Vit. These.*

132. Diod. Sicul. lib. iv. Apollod. lib. iii.

PART I.

his daughter Argia in marriage. And these two allied princes, assisted by five potent chiefs, collected a large body of forces, or armed followers, and marched toward Thebes ¹³³.

MEANWHILE Eteocles, foreseeing his danger, had neglected nothing necessary for his defence. He had negotiated alliances, and assembled a numerous army. The hostile princes, and their confederated chieftains, met near the banks of the river Ismenus. The Thebans gave ground on the first shock, and took shelter within the walls of their capital. The victors invested Thebes in seven divisions, under their seven leaders, who took post before its seven gates, and formed the first siege mentioned in Græcian history ¹³⁴.

THE unskilfulness of the assailants, and the valour of the defenders, threatening to make the siege of great length, the rival brothers, Eteocles and Polynices, agreed to decide their dispute by single combat ¹³⁵. They accordingly engaged under the walls of Thebes, in sight of both armies; and fought with such ferocity, that they fell by mutual wounds ¹³⁶. But although the cause of the war was removed by the bloody termination of this unnatural combat, the Thebans did not suffer the invaders of their country to escape with impunity. Roused to revenge by Creon, the uncle of the two ill-fated princes, they made a vigorous sally; forced the enemy's camp, and put almost every man in it to the sword ¹³⁷. Nay, so exasperated were they against the besiegers, that, contrary to all the laws of war and the maxims of ancient piety, they would not permit the Argives to bury their dead ¹³⁸.

¹³³. Id. *ibid*.

¹³⁵. Apollod. lib. iii.

¹³⁷. Pausan. lib. ix.

¹³⁴. Apollod. lib. iii. Pausan. lib. ix.

¹³⁶. Apollod. *ubi sup*. Diod. Sicul. lib. iv.

¹³⁸. Apollod. lib. iii.

THE value, which the early Greeks set upon the privilege of sepulture, made this refusal be regarded with general horror, and considered as a cruel misfortune by the Argives. In the depth of their sorrow for the condition of their deceased countrymen, they applied to Theseus king of Athens, whose humanity and generosity were well known; and that prince, actuated by a sense of religion and natural justice, conducted an army into Boeotia, and compelled the Thebans to grant funeral honours to their slaughtered enemies¹³⁹.

ABOUT ten years after this mournful tribute had been paid, war was again declared against Thebes. It was besieged by the Epigoni, or sons of the seven chiefs who had formerly invested that capital, and fallen beneath its walls. More fortunate than their fathers, whose insulted manes they undertook to avenge, they made themselves masters of the place; killed many of the inhabitants, dragged more into slavery, and obliged the remainder to acknowledge for their king Thersander, son of the unhappy Polynices, whose injuries had been the occasion of the first Theban war¹⁴⁰.

Ant. Chr.
1215.

THE sacking of Thebes was soon followed by the siege of Troy; the first great enterprize in which the Greeks acted as one people, having a common interest. But this famous siege, which introduces a new and memorable æra in the annals of ancient Greece, will require a new Letter. And before we enter upon the history of the Trojan war, I must turn your eye, my Lord, upon the countries against which it was directed, and investigate the causes by which it was produced.

139. Apollod. lib. iii.

140. Diod. Sicul. lib. iv. Apollod. lib. iii. Pausan. lib. ix.

LETTER III.

Continuation of the traditional History of GREECE, with an Account of the State of ASIA MINOR, from the Beginning of the TROJAN WAR, to the Return of the HERACLIDÆ.

THE large promontory anciently called *Asia Minor*, and now known by the name of *Natolia*; which is formed by the Mediterranean and Euxine seas, and extends toward Greece about seven hundred miles, from the mountains of Lesser Armenia to the Hellespont, hath in all ages been considered as one of the finest regions of the earth. The oldest inhabitants of this delightful country (of which history or tradition make mention) were the Paphlagonians, Phrygians, Dardanians or Trojans, Meonians or Lydians, the Carians and Lycians ¹.

COMPARED with the early Greeks, several of those nations were rich and polished before the Trojan war ²; and only inferior in arts and civility to the Assyrians, Egyptians, and Phœnicians. The Trojans were most distinguished for wealth and power, at the period of which I am here treating; when venerable Priam, the sixth in descent from Jupiter, to use the language of Homer, filled the throne of Dardanus ³.

THE

1. Homer, *Iliad.* et Herodotus, *Historiar.* passim. See also Strabo, *Geog.* lib. xiii. xiv.

2. Id. *ibid.*

3. Hom. *Iliad.* lib. xx. When Homer can trace the lineage of a king or hero no higher traditionally, he generally makes the first of the race the son of Jupiter; as much as to say, that nothing more was known concerning the genealogy of the family of which he speaks.

He

THE kingdom of Troy, in the reign of Priam, extended from mount Ida over all the eastern coast of the Hellespont, and from the Propontis to the Ægean sea ⁴; comprehending also within its jurisdiction the isles of Tenedos and Lesbos ⁵. Nor did the Trojans fail to take advantage of so happy a situation for commerce. They had diligently applied themselves to trade and navigation, as well as to arts and manufactures ⁶. Hence we find them, at the time of the Græcian invasion, in possession of most of the conveniencies, and even many of the luxuries of life ⁷.

THE city of Ilion or Troy, the capital of the kingdom of Priam, was a large and populous place, with broad streets ⁸. It was secured with high walls, and

He accordingly calls Dardanus, the founder of the Trojan state, the son of Jupiter. (*Iliad. ubi sup.*) All attempts, therefore, to prove that Dardanus was of Græcian descent must be disregarded, as they are built on inferior authority. And the notion, that the Greeks and Trojans spoke the same language, seems equally void of foundation; it being refuted chiefly on Homer's *omission* of *interpreters* between the armies of the two nations. If the learned gentlemen, who make use of this argument, had been poets, they would have praised the *illustrious bard* for his magnanimous neglect of such formality, and eschewed the absurdity into which they have fallen. But in apology for Homer, considered as an *historian* it may be urged, (if such apology should be deemed necessary) that the Greeks might have acquired the language of the Trojans before he opens his scene of action, they having been then almost nine years in the country.

4. Hom. *Iliad. lib. xxiv.* Strabo, *Geog. lib. xiii.*

5. *Id. ibid.*

6. Hom. *Iliad. lib. v. xviii.* Virgil. *Æneid. lib. iii. init.* Plin. *Hist. Nat. lib. vii. cap. lvi.* The words of Homer, in regard to the Trojan wealth and commerce are too remarkable to be omitted. "The lofty city of Priam," says Hector, "was rich in gold, and abounding in brass; but now they are perished from our halls. Our wealth, laid up with care, is fled: our precious stores are borne from hence to Phrygia, to the pleasing Meonia. Our *bartered wealth* is fled a far." (*Iliad. lib. xviii.*) From this, and other passages in the *Iliad*, it appears, that the Trojans paid subsidies to their allies.

7. Hom. *Iliad. passim.*

8. Hom. *Iliad. lib. ix.*

PART I.

farther defended with towers⁹. The houses of people of rank consisted of many spacious apartments, well finished, and elegantly furnished¹⁰. The dress of the women was gay and voluptuous¹¹, and that of the young men rich and splendid¹².

PARIS,

9. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii. et lib. xviii.

10. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. vi. xxiv. For the sake of illustration, I shall give the description of Priam's palace, "the beautiful house of the sovereign of Troy. Lofty porticoes rose in order around; and fifty halls of polished stone were built near each other *within*. There the sons of Priam lay in the arms of their lovely wives. The apartments of the daughters opposite, arose within the spacious court; twelve in number, with lofty roofs, the walls of polished marble formed. There lay the sons-in-law of Priam in the arms of their blushing wives." (*Iliad*. lib. vi.) "To his fragrant chamber, with speed, descended the eager king; with cedar were lined the walls." (*Iliad*. lib. xxiv.) The chambers of the young princes were still more elegant. In that of Paris was "a polished ivory bed." (*Iliad*. lib. iii.) Even in the chambers of Hecuba, his aged mother, was "a fragrant room, where her *high-wrought, varied robes* were laid; the work of Sidonian dames, and brought from the wealthy Siden." *Iliad*. lib. vi.

11. The dress of the Trojan ladies was long and flowing, with sweeping trains. (Hom. *Iliad*. *passim*.) And they wore veils of *varied dyes*, with a figure in the middle "bright as a star." (*Iliad*. lib. vi.) For the privacy of their dressing-rooms, and their manner of attiring themselves, we must have recourse to the chamber and toilet of Juno. "Her chamber, which opened with a secret key, she entered, and closed behind her the glittering door. First she bathes in ambrosial streams her fair limbs, of proportion divine! then over her beautiful body she poured rich oil, sweet to the smell. When with this fragrant essence she had anointed her lovely form, she combed her long hair with her hands, she placed in order her shinings locks. Her robe, high laboured with art; wove with many figures to ravish the eye, she bound beneath her white breast with golden clasps, that shone afar. She girt her waist with a precious zone, enriched with tassels of purest gold. The beautiful pendants hung from her ears: in each three gems beamed bright to view, and shed around her a heavenly lustre. Her radiant charms she concealed with a veil." *Iliad*. lib. xiv.

12. Hom. *Iliad*. *passim*. We have only a description of military dress; which, though sufficiently poppish, Homer lets us understand, was not equal to that of a "youth who moves to the feast, or sits from the sprightly dance." (*Iliad*. lib. iii.) Yet were the braided locks of Euphorbus, "renowned at the spear," such as "the Graces might wear; bound with

PARIS, second son of Priam, was reputed the handsomest man in Asia Minor¹²; as Helen, daughter of Tyndraeus, and wife of Menelaus, king of Sparta, was thought the most beautiful woman in Greece¹⁴. And, like Helen, he added to perfect symmetry of form, a graceful air, a winning manner, and every exterior accomplishment¹⁵. Presuming on these captivating allurements, and his success in employing them, Paris found a pretence to visit the court of Menelaus; and, during his stay at Sparta, he engaged the affection of the lovely Helen, who eloped with him, and took with her a quantity of treasure¹⁶.

ALTHOUGH the most respectable Græcian writers do not say, that Helen was carried off by force, they are unanimous in representing her elopement, or *skape*,

"with silver, and adorned with gold" (*Iliad*. lib. xvii.) The greaves of Paris were "bound with silver clasps;" and "his sword from his shoulders hung, ornamented with silver studs" *Iliad*. lib. iii.

13. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii. et seq. The person of Paris, distinguished by the epithet of *form divine*, was confessedly superior in beauty to that of every other warrior, among the Trojans or their allies. (*Id. ibid.*) Hence he is called, *first in form*. Hom. *Iliad* ubi sup.

14. For so saying, we have the uniform testimony of tradition. And Homer lets us understand, that the *long-haired* Helen, (the epithet he constantly gives her) "in stately steps, in face excelled," all the beauties of Troy as well as of Greece. *Iliad*. lib. iii. et seq.

15. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii. et seq. Paris was so noted for his gallantries, and so consummately skilled in all the arts of seduction, that he is repeatedly called "*specious deceiver of women*." (*Id. ibid.*) He seems to have prosecuted his amorous adventures in different countries. For we find he had been in Paphlagonia; (*Iliad*. lib. xiii.) which, as well as Phrygia, is termed a "*peopled land*." (*Ib. ibid.*) Paris, among his other seductive accomplishments, excelled in playing soft tunes on the harp. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii.

16. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii. xxii. Of what this treasure consisted, or what was its value, we are not informed; but it appears to have been considerable. For it is always mentioned by the Greeks in demanding, and by the Trojans in treating for, or in deliberating on the restitution of the Spartan queen. *Iliad*. passim.

PART I. (as usually expressed) as the chief cause of the Trojan war¹⁷. It is thus they tell the story:

HELEN, when only ten years old¹⁸, had been seized because of her enchanting beauty, by Theseus king of Attica, and kept by him for a time in secret¹⁹. But Castor and Pollux, her two valiant brothers, having recovered her yet untasted charms²⁰, she became the admiration and wish of every unmarried Græcian prince²¹. Among her declared lovers, who preferred their suit at Sparta, were numbered the most illustrious chiefs and warriors of those heroic times²².

APPREHENSIVE of danger, if a decided preference was given to any one prince, Tyndareus, the reputed father of Helen, exacted an oath from all her lovers, that they would maintain the choice to be made²³. Each chieftain flattering himself, that he would be the favoured man, took the oath required²⁴; and also bound himself to arm for the recovery of Helen, should she be carried away from her husband²⁵. Her hand

17. Homer, in the person of Achilles, represents it as the sole cause. "Why roused Atrides," says he, "whole nations to arms?—why hither waisted the gathered host?—Was it not for the sake of Helen?—to recover the long-haired queen?" (Hom. *Iliad*, lib. ix.) And he is so far from representing the carrying away of Helen as an act of violence, that he makes her declare she chose Paris. (*Iliad*, lib. vi.) To the authority of Homer, I may add that of Herodotus; both in regard to the cause of the Trojan war, and the seduction of Helen; (*Historiar*, lib. i. ii.) But it appears that Menelaus did not know of the infidelity of his wife, when he engaged Greece in that war; for "much the king wished to revenge the rape of Helen, and her flight in a foreign land." Hom. *Iliad*, lib. ii. sub. fin.

18. Diod. Sicul. lib. iv.

19. Id. ibid. Apollod. lib. iii. et Plut. *Vit. These*.

20. Diod. Sicul. et Plut. ubi. sup.

22. Id. ibid.

24. Id. ibid.

21. Apollod. lib. iii.

23. Apollod. ubi sup.

25. Pausan. lib. iii. This oath is also

alluded to by Thucydides, lib. i. cap. ix. init.

was

was given to Menelaus²⁶; who, in consequence of the violent and immature death of Castor and Pollux, the deified brothers of Helen, became king of Sparta before the Trojan war²⁷.

LETTER
III.

AGAMEMNON, the elder brother of Menelaus, as I have had occasion to observe, was king not only of Argos and Mycenæ, but also of some neighbouring islands²⁸. Through the influence of these two powerful princes, and the obligation of the oath taken by the lovers of Helen²⁹, the assembled states of Greece resolved, that they would compel the restitution of the Spartan queen, or accomplish the destruction of Troy.

In consequence of this resolution, an embassy was sent to Troy, to demand Helen³⁰. But no satisfactory answer being given, the Græcian leaders began to assemble their forces, and Agamemnon was chosen commander in chief³¹; a station for which he was well fitted by his character as a king and a warrior³², and to which he was entitled by his superior sway.

Much time, however, elapsed before the confederated princes were ready to put to sea. They had ships to build, troops to raise, provisions to collect, and precautions to take for the security of their patrimonial dominions during their absence. At length the necessary preparations being made, they sailed from

26. Apollod. lib. iii.

27. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. sub fin.

28. Thucyd. lib. i. cap. ix.

29. Id. *ibid*.

30. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. Herodot. lib. i. cap. iii.

31. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. i. ii.

32. Hom. *Iliad*. *passim*. Helen, in describing the Græcian heroes to Priam, calls him "the far-commanding Agamemnon; a monarch renowned for justice, a warrior unequalled in arms." (*Iliad*. lib. iii.) "In mien, in stature like Jove, he was conspicuous amid the host." *Iliad*. lib. ii.

PART I.

the port of Aulis³³, on the coast of Bœotia, in *twelve hundred ships*³⁴; carrying from an *hundred and twenty to fifty men each*³⁵, and disembarked about one hundred thousand combatants in the neighbourhood of Troy³⁶.

THUCYDIDES conjectures, that Greece could have furnished a much greater number of men, than embarked in the Trojan expedition³⁷. And the description of the state of the several countries given by Homer, in that valuable piece of antiquity, his *Catalogue* of the Græcian ships and leaders³⁸, fully justifies the opinion of this accurate historian. There we find the various districts of PROPER GREECE abounding in cattle, corn, or wine, as best suited their different soils; the principal maritime and inland towns, distinguished by the epithets *well-built, noble, stately, wealthy, lofty*; and Eubœa, Crete, Rhodes, and other islands in the Ægean and Ionian seas, which sent their quotas to the siege of Troy, filled with populous cities, and flourishing in opulence and plenty³⁹.

HAVING defeated, after an obstinate dispute, the Trojans that attempted to oppose their landing⁴⁰, the Greeks drew their vessels ashore, and pitched their camp near their fleet⁴¹. But many difficulties were still

33. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. Hesiod. *Oper. et Dies*, lib. ii.

34. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. Thucyd. lib. i. cap. x. 35. Id. *ibid*.

36. The mean between *one hundred and twenty*, and *fifty*, is *eighty-five*; and *twelve hundred*, the number of the ships, multiplied by *eighty-five*, yields *one hundred and two thousand men*. But I have chosen to speak moderately.

37. Thucyd. lib. i. cap. x. xi.

38. *Iliad*. lib. ii. 39. Id. *ibid*.

40. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. Thucyd. lib. i. cap. xi.

41. Id. *ibid*. et *Iliad*. lib. viii. Thucydides says, that the Greeks fortified their camp immediately after their landing. (*Hist.* lib. i. cap. xi.) But Homer, on whose authority he builds, informs us that they did

still to be surmounted, before they could hope to make themselves masters of the devoted town. The various nature of these difficulties deserves to be particularly considered.

ALTHOUGH perpetually engaged in hostilities, the Greeks seem yet to have been but little skilled in the military art⁴², and utterly unacquainted with the manner

did not fortify their camp, until they were hard pressed by the Trojans, in consequence of the quarrel between Achilles and Agamemnon, in the ninth year of the war. (*Iliad*. lib. i. vii.) And that Achilles and Telamonian Ajax, confiding in their strength, "dragged their ships on the strand, at either extreme of the camp." *Iliad*. lib. viii.

The authority of Homer, as an *Historian* has been so fully established by some late writers of high reputation, that I need make no apology for quoting him under this character. If he is to be trusted in regard to the remote genealogy of families, and the geography (as Strabo has proved) of every country and district he has occasion to mention, credit may surely be given him for the principal events of the *Trojan War*, which he has wove into an *Historical Poem*.

At what distance of time Homer lived from that war, cannot be fixed with certainty. But he flourished near enough it, to collect all the traditions concerning it both in Greece and Asia Minor, while fresh in the minds of the people of the two countries; and to make use of the songs of the military bards, (the first *Historians*) who attended the several chiefs; rehearsed their exploits to them in their halls, on their return, or to their surviving kindred; who eagerly listened to the heroic tale, and treasured it in their memory. (See Blackwell's *Life of Homer*, et auct. cit.) Homer seems to have written before the conquest of Peloponnesus by the Heraclidæ; for we find in his works no allusion to that great event. And he could not have failed to allude to the expulsion of the Atridæ.

42. If we may credit Homer, the Grecian army was not divided into distinct bodies, in battle, till the ninth year of the Trojan war. Then aged Nestor, on a trying occasion, gave the following advice to Agamemnon. "O king! weigh all in thy soul, and listen to my words. Divide the warriors into tribes: by nations divide the host; that nation its nation may aid, and tribe its tribe sustain. This shouldest thou perform, son of Atreus! and should the Greeks in all obey, to thee will soon be known who of the chiefs from battle shrink, and who of the soldiers is brave; for each, distinct in his place, will engage." (*Hom. Iliad*. lib. ii.) It appears, therefore, that the Greeks had hitherto been accustomed to engage in a tumultuary manner.

EVER

PART I. ner of conducting a regular siege. The city of Troy, beside being strongly fortified, was defended by too numerous and gallant an army to be instantly carried by assault. The native troops of Priam, independent of foreign aid, were numerous and brave ⁴³.

THE place, however, might have been reduced by famine, if all communication with the country had been obstructed. But the Greeks made no such attempt. They took no measures for confining the Trojans within their walls; excluding auxiliaries, cutting off convoys, or breaking down those walls by warlike engines. Having brought with them but a small store of provisions ⁴⁴, and not being sufficiently expert in navigation to convey regular supplies from home, they could not subsist for any length of time in a body. They were, therefore, under the necessity of dispersing themselves, in order to procure provisions by plunder. They even thought it necessary to cultivate the vallies of the Thracian Chersonesus, lest other means of subsistence should fail ⁴⁵.

THESE necessities, the unavoidable consequences of want of political prudence; the ardent temper of

Even after this regulation was established, the ferocious disposition of the Græcian leaders and their followers perpetually hurried them into disorder in battle; (Hom. *Iliad.* passim.) and as they were unacquainted with the use of standards, they had no sure means of restoring their ranks, or recovering their former station. In the practice of war, when they landed on the Trojan shore, they seem to have differed little from savages. Their arms and accoutrements, however, were singularly complete. The chiefs were all cased in armour of brass or steel. (Id. *ibid.*) They carried large shields formed of bulls' hides, with a plate of brass in the middle, or behind the boss. Their principal weapon was a wooden spear, pointed with brass or steel. With this tremendous instrument they sometimes thrust, but generally threw it. (Hom. *Iliad.* passim.) They also wore a sword; and, when lightly armed, carried a small spear and bow. Id. *ibid.*

43. Hom. *Iliad.* passim, but especially lib. viii.

44. Thucyd. lib. i. cap. xi.

45. Id. *ibid.*

the Greeks, better adapted to enterprize than persevering efforts; their predatory disposition, and impatience under military command, made them seemingly neglect the great object of their armament for several years. Having left in the camp (which Agamemnon seems never to have quitted) sufficient force to protect their ships and tents, or temporary habitations, they desolated the country under different leaders; took many towns, scoured the seas, made themselves masters of the islands belonging to the Trojans, and pillaged the coasts of Asia Minor⁴⁶. At last when booty became scarce, and the country was exhausted of provisions, they returned, like animals who have tasted the blood of their prey, to the siege of the Trojan capital; thirsting for spoil and vengeance, and despising danger⁴⁷.

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THE Greeks, in a word, though considerably reduced in numbers, were still a formidable enemy. Inured to toil, trained in peril, and habituated to subordination, they now seemed capable of acting with vigour and concert. They had acquired much military experience, and may be supposed to

⁴⁶ Hom. *Iliad*. lib. i. ii. ix.

⁴⁷ Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. vi. et seq. Of this spirit examples are numerous; but two will suffice to exemplify it. "Agamemnon came forward with speed, and thus upbraided his brother;" who had consented to spare the life of Adrastus, a young Trojan, on the promise of a valuable ransom:—"O soft in temper! What pity hath seized thy soul, Menelaus?—Well have the Trojans deserved of thee!—Their friendship in thy halls has been known!—Let none from destruction escape; none elude the death in our hands. Not the lisping infant in the mother's arms; not he shall escape with life. All her sons must with Ilion fall, and on her ruins unburied remain." (*Iliad*. lib. vi.) "The aged Nestor was near, and thus urged the Argives aloud:—"O friends, O heroes of Greece! fierce followers of Mars in arms, let none stop behind for the spoil; "with rich plunder to return to the ships. Let us first the warriors slay; then strip, at leisure, the dead." Id. *ibid*.

PART I.

have collected a large store of provisions⁴⁸. The hardships they had suffered, the trophies they had won; a desire of revisiting their native country, and of enjoying in their several homes the booty they had gained, all stimulated them to seek a speedy termination to their arduous enterprise; while ambition, honour, revenge, the sense of shame, the love of glory, and the lust of plunder, forbade them to look toward any alternative but death or victory⁴⁹. Troy must be taken or every Greek must perish beneath its walls⁵⁰.

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48. That they had collected such a store appears from the plenty they enjoyed in their camp, after they returned to the siege. (Hom. *Iliad. passim*.) There we find abundance of corn, bullocks slaughtered in profusion, and wine copiously drank. (Id. *ibid.*) The wine of Agamemnon, and no doubt of other Græcian chiefs, was readily brought from Thrace; (Hom. *Iliad. lib. ix.*) and purchased with the spoils of Asia Minor. The Greeks indulged freely in this good liquor, and also in the luxury of the table; (Hom. *Iliad. passim*.) though their feasts, suitable to the service in which they were engaged, were more substantial than delicate. (Id. *ibid.*) Nor did they inconsiderately give way, like many barbarians, to excess in liquor: they were systematically luxurious. We do not find they even went too far, in gratifying a social disposition. "Command the Argives," said the prudent Ulysses, "to take the repast: let them take food and wine; for these are strength and valour in war! He that is filled with wine, whose sinews are strengthened with food, will unceasing through the day urge the fight. Undaunted is his soul in his breast, unfatigued remain his stout limbs." Hom. *Iliad. lib. xix.*

49. Hom. *Iliad. lib. ii.* "Even he," says Ulysses, "who but for a month is detained from his spouse, bears ill his untoward fate. But to us the ninth year is rolling round, since on this shore we lay in arms, yet here so long to remain, and disappointed to return, would cover Greece with lasting disgrace." Id. *ibid.*

50. From the speech of Nestor, in the second book of the *Iliad*, it appears they had taken an oath to this purport. "When the Argive ships assembled in Aulis, bearing destruction to Troy, and the holy altars flamed to the Gods," in consequence of a favourable omen, they mutually bound themselves to accomplish the object of their enterprise. "Just Gods! said the grey-haired king," in the debate on returning home, after Achilles withdrew his forces;—"how have we missed all our vows! Whether fled are the oaths we made?—The

"*scelus*

THE Trojans foresaw their danger, and had prepared themselves to meet it. Like the Greeks, they were become expert soldiers, by the long and constant use of arms. Their numbers were less diminished, by reason of their being more under cover; and they had received strong auxiliary aids from many nations of Asia Minor, and even from Europe ⁵¹.

HECTOR, Priam's eldest son, the Trojan commander in chief, was a brave and warlike prince, adorned with every manly virtue, and distinguished by each heroic quality ⁵². He was seconded by other leaders of tried courage, zealous in the common cause, and burning with resentment against the invaders ⁵³. But the Trojans and their confederates whose ardour prompted them to frequent sallies, must soon have been cooped up within their walls, or have sunk under the steady valour, and collected force of the hardy Greeks, if dis-

"league with solemn rites confirmed?—The plighted faith that binds mankind?—This I affirm, and all must know, That on the day when Greece ascended her ships, full on the right was heard the thunder of Jove; and his auspicious signs came abroad on the winds." Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii.

51. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. et seq. Among the European auxiliaries of Priam were numbered the Hellepontine Thracians, and the Pæonians, a Macedonian tribe. (*Iliad*. lib. ii.) His Asiatic auxiliaries were from so many districts, that Agamemnon says (Id. *ibid.*) the "aids of Troy wielded their spears from an hundred states." And the poetical historian makes Iris, "the messenger of Ægis-bearing Jove," say "many are the aids that wander through the wide city of Priam; varying, each tribe, in their tongue, as they mix in the streets of Troy." (*Iliad*. lib. ii.) The most distinguished of these tribes, or nations, were the Paphlagonians, Halizonians, Mysians, Phrygians, Maonians, Carians, and Lycians. (Id. *ibid.*) I give them in the order in which they are mentioned by Homer, without regard to their eminence.

52. Hom. *Iliad*. *passim*. The character of Hector, as a warrior, is finely marked by Diomedes, the gallant leader of the *Argives*, properly so called: "O friends! not unjustly we Hector admire; matchless at launching the spear, to break the lines of battle bold. Ever near him stands one of the Gods, to turn aside the deadly point!" *Iliad*. lib. v.

53. Id. *ibid.*

cord

PART I.

cord had not found its way into the camp of Agamemnon⁵⁴.

ACHILLES, the most valiant of the Græcian chiefs, who led the Myrmidons and other warlike tribes from Thessaly⁵⁵, and who had been pecuniary successful in reducing the Trojan towns⁵⁶, dissatisfied with the division of the spoil, but more especially irritated at being deprived of a fair captive, named Briseïs, withdrew himself from the army of the besiegers, and carried with him his victorious bands⁵⁷.

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54. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. et seq.

55. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ii. "Myrmidons, Hellenes, Achæans the warriors were called." Id. *ibid*.

56. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. viii. ix. xx. "He drove me," said Æneas, "from Ida of streams, when descended the chief on our herds; when he levelled the high-built Lyrnessus, and Pedasus smoked on the ground." (*Iliad*, lib. xx.) And Achilles himself boldly declared, that with his fleet he destroyed twelve towns; and, "by land, levelled eleven with the dust." (*Iliad*. lib. ix.) "Much spoil I gathered in all," added he;—"but all I brought to the son of Atreus. He, remaining at his ships, remote from danger, received the spoil." (Id. *ibid*.) Here it is worthy of remark, That while the Greeks were dispersed, in collecting provisions and spoil, the Trojans and their allies, it appears, were so fully occupied in defending their property, in their various districts, that no attack was made upon the Græcian camp, though then unfortified.

57. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. i. The speeches of Achilles to Agamemnon, on this occasion, are highly characteristic of the manners of the age, as well as of the haughty spirit of that chieftain, "the bulwark of Greece," and the terror of Troy. "Rolling wrathful eyes on the king, Achilles thus replied: "Ha! lost to shame; who henceforth will obey thy commands?—Who move afar at thy nod?—Who here face thy foes in fight?—I came not to war with Troy; to slay her gallant sons. They never injured Achilles; never drove away his herds, or seized his warlike steeds. They trod not the harvests of fertile Pthia. Thee, O lost to decency and shame! thee we have followed to gladden thy soul; to punish the Trojans for thy brother, and for thee, ingrate!—But on thee our favours are lost; no value thou hast placed on our toil. In being ungrateful, thou art unjust. Thou threatenest to take away my prize; the prize for which I laboured in bloody fields, the prize that applauding Greece bestowed. Nor shared I ever equal with thee, when

THE defection of so great a captain, and the absence of the gallant troops accustomed to conquer under his command, beside infusing discontent into the minds of the Greeks, wonderfully encouraged the Trojans⁵⁸. The patriotic Hector, no longer overawed by superior prowess, led out his countrymen with various success against the besiegers⁵⁹. Æneas his kinsman, leader of the Dardanians; Sarpedon, commander in chief of the Lycians; Glaucias, who commanded under Sarpedon, and other Asiatic chieftains, also greatly distinguished themselves⁶⁰.

To these were opposed the most illustrious Græcian warriors: Idomeneus, king of Crete; Meriones, who commanded under him; Ulysses, king of Ithaca, Cephalonia, Zacynthus, and other islands in the Ionian sea; Menelaus, king of Lacedæmon; Agapenor, king of Arcadia; Diomedes, leader of the Argives; Telamonian Ajax, from Salamis; Tleptolemus, from Rhodes⁶¹; and Agamemnon, commander in chief of the armament; who not only directed the operations of war, but animated the Greeks by his example⁶². Now

"when the populous towns of the Trojans lay smoking beneath our swords. The greater portion of fight is mine: the flock of battle falls on my hands; but *when the division of plunder comes*, the largest portion is thine." (*Iliad*. lib. i.) "Another thing I will tell thee, and thou record it in thy soul; for a woman these hands shall never fight, with thee nor with thy foes. Come, seize Briseis! ye Argives take the prize ye gave; but beware of other spoil which lies stowed in my ships on the shore. I will not be plundered farther!—If otherwise thy thoughts, Atreides! come in arms; a trial make: and these very slaves of thine shall behold thy blood pouring around my spear." *Id. ibid.*

58. They soon discovered that, "nor of stone were the bodies of the Argives formed, nor of steel unknowing to yield; to turn the sharp point of the spear, to strike the shivered sword from the hand!—Nor Achilles lifts the lance: in his ships the hero lies, brooding over the wounds of his pride." *Hom. Iliad*. lib. iv.

59. *Hom. Iliad*. lib. iv—vii.

60. *Id. ibid.*

61. *Hom. Iliad*. lib. ii.

62. *Iliad*. *passim*.

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PART I.

more equally matched, the contending nations struggled hard for mastery; now was seen the shock of armies, the single combats of heroes, and the bloody rencounters of chieftains at the head of their followers⁶³.

A NEW perfidy had inflamed this hostile fury. Menelaus having vanquished Paris in single combat⁶⁴, the Trojans, contrary to solemn treaty, persisted in refusing to deliver up Helen, or fulfil other stipulations⁶⁵. The Greeks accused them of *breach of faith*⁶⁶; and thus prosecuted the war with

63. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iv.—vii.

64. *Iliad*. lib. iii.

65. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii. iv. et seq. What these stipulations were, we are informed in the words of the *treaty*, and also in the *demand* of Agamemnon, after Paris had escaped from the field; in which the words of the treaty are literally repeated, as far as they regard the *stipulations*. I shall for the sake of conciseness, give only the demand, "Hear me, O warriors of Ilion! Dardanians, and allies of Troy," said Agamemnon:—"with victory crowned, Menelaus possesses the field; restore, therefore, Argive Helen, and all the treasure she brought. Pay also a just fine to the Greeks, *memorial for future years*." (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii. sub. fin.) It must however be owned, That the *slaying of one or other of the combatants*, seems always to be implied as a condition of the *treaty*. Yet a compact so solemnly ratified could hardly, in those rude times, have been framed to turn upon a particular expression: victory must have been meant. As a proof of this, we do not find that the Trojans, in answer to the demand of Agamemnon, ever made use of such evasion, as an apology for not fulfilling the treaty. The religious rites, with which the ratification of this treaty was accompanied, afford a curious view of the sacred ceremonies anciently used on such occasions. (*Iliad*. lib. iii.) There we see prayer united with sacrifice: two lambs slain by Agamemnon; "wine poured in libations to Heaven, and *holy words* made to the Gods, *who for ever live*." (Id. *ibid*.) The prayer in which the two armies joined is too remarkable to be omitted. "O Jove most august! thou greatest in power, and ye, the other deathless Gods! let those who first the treaty break, let their blood flow, like this wine upon the ground; their blood, and that of all their race; and may their wives mix in love with their foes." Hom. *Iliad*. lib. iii.

66. *Iliad*. lib. iv. "Nor unpunished their oaths shall pass," said Agamemnon; "nor plighted faith, which binds mankind. Though Jove his wrath may defer, the hour of visitation will come. The great son of
"Saturn,

with fresh vigour, and all the rancour of roused revenge⁶⁷.

LETTER
III.

HECTOR, stung with that reproach, and seeing no end to hostilities, challenged the most redoubted of the Græcian chiefs to meet him in arms⁶⁸. Nine warriors stepped forwards, each willing to encounter the guardian of Troy⁶⁹. By the advice of Nestor, the aged king of Pylos, recourse was had to lots for the choice of a champion. Each of the *nine* warriors marked his lot, and threw it into the helmet of Agamemnon. Nestor shook the whole in the helmet, and forth flew the lot of Telamonian Ajax⁷⁰. The two heroes engaged in fight of the two armies. Each launched his spear twice at his antagonist; each threw at the other a large stone: both unsheathed their swords, and advanced to close fight; when the heralds, "*sacred messengers of men and Jove!* one from the Trojans, "and one from the Greeks, interposed⁷¹."

"Saturn, who sits aloft; the dweller in the highest heavens shall over them
"shake his dreadful Ægis, weakened to rage by their recent crime.
"Their broken faith shall not pass unheeded." Id. *ibid*.

67. *Iliad*. lib. iv—vii.

68. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. vii.

69. Id. *ibid*. "First arose the king of men, the far-commanding
"Agamemnon; next the son of Tydeus, Diomedes in battle renowned.

"The Ajaces then arose, both in matchless valour clothed; the great
"Idomeneus, and Meriones equal to Mars in arms. Eurypylus succeeds
"to these, the gallant son of the great Euxemon. Thoas started up
"with speed, the warlike offspring of Andremon. Last arose divine
"Ulysses. All these stepped forward in arms, bent on godlike Hector
"to lift the spear." Hom. *Iliad*. *ubi sup*. 70. *Iliad*. lib. vii.

71. Id. *ibid*. "But let each some gift exchange," said Hector, on
the interposition of the heralds;—"some fair memorial to future times;
"that the sons of Ilion may say, *These fought for renown alone! then*
"*in friendship departed from war.*" (Hom. *Iliad*. *ubi sup*.) "Thus, as
"he spoke, he gave his sword, distinguished with silver studs. With its
"scabbard, he stretched it forth; with its belt wrought curious with art.
"Ajax his girld gave, bright with Phœnician red." Hom. *Iliad*. lib. vii.

PART I.

IN consequence of this interposition, a truce for burying the dead, took place between the contending nations⁷². And Agamemnon made use of that temporary suspension of hostilities to fortify the Græcian camp—with a wall flanked with towers, and a ditch defended by stakes⁷³.

AT the expiration of the truce, the hostile powers again assumed their arms; and the fight raged more fiercely than ever. "Shield is harshly laid to shield: spears grate on the brazen corslets of the combatants. Boffy buckler with buckler meets: loud tumult rages over all. Groans are mixed with the *boasts* of warriors⁷⁴; the slain and slayers join in the noise: the field floats with blood⁷⁵." From morning till noon, the event of the battle remained doubtful. Then victory began to incline to the Trojans; and, before sun-

72. *Hom. Iliad. lib. vii.* This truce was proposed by the Trojans; who, at the same time, offered to *restore* the *Spartan treasure*. And so that Paris agreed to "add *rich treasures of his own*;" but Helen he still *refused to restore*. The Greeks, therefore, disdainfully rejected the offer. *Id. ibid.*

73. *Id. ibid.*

74. The *boasts* and *insults* of the Greek and Trojan warriors, but especially of the former, (*Iliad. passim.*) favour strongly of barbarism. Not Telamonian Ajax, the most manly and honest-hearted of the Græcian heroes, was free from *boasting*; nor the noble-minded Hector, the pride of Troy. "Ajax came forward near the foe, bearing his shield, like a tower on high; his *brass shield, covered with the hides of seven bulls*: bearing his shield before his breast, the son of Telamon advanced. Standing near the godlike Hector, he *threatening began aloud*." Hector; now *singly engaged*, thou shalt know, what *leaders the Greeks have in war*, beside Achilles the *breaker of lines*, the lion-hearted Achilles!"—"To him great Hector replied," Ajax descended of Jove! son of Telamon, leader of armies, attempt not me like a boy to affright. I know to the right to raise my shield; to wield it to the left, I know. In standing fight to dare I am taught; to set my steps to the clamours of Mars. On the car I have learned to launch the spear; from my steeds to hurl forward the war. But thee by stratagem I will not strike; for brave thou art and great in arms. No course shall be followed by Hector, but open force on such a foe." *Iliad. lib. vii.*

75. *Hom. Iliad. lib. viii.*

set, the Greeks were driven with great slaughter into their camp, in spite of their most vigorous efforts to maintain their ground⁷⁶. Nor did their entrenchments seem sufficient to protect them. Hence "*unwilling Troy saw the falling light; but grateful was shady night to the vanquished Argives*"⁷⁷.

HECTOR, exulting in his decisive victory, called a council of war on the field; and explained to the Trojans and their allies his purpose of remaining under arms all night, in order to prevent the Greeks from putting to sea, and escaping before morning. "For *night*," said he, "has chiefly saved the Argives, and their navy on the shore of the main"⁷⁸. His resolution was applauded, and all the measures he proposed adopted⁷⁹. Heralds were sent to Troy, to order the youths under the military age, the old men, and even the women to keep watch in "the lofty towers," and to *kindle fires*, "lest a hostile band should surprise the city, during the absence of the troops"⁸⁰.

FIRES were also ordered to be kindled on the spot where the Trojans passed the night, "between the river Scamander and the Græcian fleet"⁸¹; and *strict watch* there was kept⁸². "Much elated, the warriors, in arms, sat by their martial tribes. Sheep and beeves are brought from Troy; bread is brought, and generous wine. The wood is gathered round in heaps: the winds bear the smoke to the skies. A thousand were the fires in the field;" and "*round each fifty warriors sat*"⁸³. Their faces bright-
ened

76. Id. *ibid.* 77. *Iliad.* ubi sup. 78. Hom. *Iliad.* lib. viii.

79. Id. *ibid.* 80. *Iliad.* ubi sup.

81. Hom. *Iliad.* lib. viii. 82. Id. *ibid.*

83. *Iliad.* lib. viii. sub fin. The number of the Trojan forces, consequently was fifty thousand. That the allies of Priam were not included

PART I.

"ened to the beam. Their steeds stood near, at their cars; with oats, and yellow barley fed ⁸⁴."

MEANWHILE Agamemnon had assembled in council the chiefs of the terror-struck Greeks ⁸⁵; and as no hope remained of their being able to "take in arms the wide-streeted city of Troy," he proposed that they should "obey the pressure of the times," and "fly, in their ships, to the *loved shore* of their native land ⁸⁶." The motion was opposed by Diomedes, the gallant son of Tydeus, and by the voice of the whole council ⁸⁷. Nestor, king of Pylos, became mediator between the commander in chief, "the King of Men," and the Græcian leaders. By his advice, a nightly guard was appointed to defend the fortifications of the camp, and Agamemnon gave a feast to the chiefs in his tent ⁸⁸. There it was resolved, through the counsel of the same venerable prince, to send an humble deputation to the quarters of Achilles, bear-

in this number, appears from the information given to Ulysses by Dolon, the Trojan spy, whom he had made prisoner. From that information we learn, That "the allies collected afar, gave all the night to repose;" and that, on this occasion, "the native Trojans only kept awake." (Hom. *Iliad* lib. x.) It also appears that the allies lay on the other side of the Scamander. "By the main lie the Carians," said Dolon;—"the Pæonians, skilled at the bow. Near are the Leleges, the Caucones, the Pelasgi. Toward Thymbra lie the Lycian bands. The haughty Mysians stretch their lines by their side. There the Phrygians, breakers of steeds; there the Meonians, who fight in their cars. The Thracians are the *farthest* of all; newly come, apart from the rest. Rhesus, their king, lies in the midst, the gallant son of great Eoneus." (*Iliad*, lib. x.) The Thracians, afterward noted for barbarism, seem at this time to have been a *rich* and *polished* people. "His steeds," said Dolon, in speaking of Rhesus, "are the most beautiful these eyes ever beheld; the best, and the largest in size. His car is adorned with gold; with silver plated, high laboured with art. He came to the field in arms of gold; huge, wondrous, and bright to behold; such as no mortal should wear: they suit only the deathless Gods." *Iliad*. lib. x.

84. Id. *ibid*.85. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix. init.86. Id. *ibid*.87. *Iliad*. ubi sup.88. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix.

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ing the offer of many rich presents, and the restitution of his loved Briseïs⁸⁹; in order to induce him to rejoin the army, in that season of danger and dejection, "when broken, troubled and dark, were the minds of the Græcian powers⁹⁰."

THIS deputation was formed of three of the most respectable Græcian leaders; Phoenix, chief of the Dolopians, Telamonian Ajax, and sage Ulysses⁹¹. The son of Laertes strongly represented the perilous situation of the Greeks, and enumerated the proffered presents⁹². Phoenix endeavoured to soften the offend-

89. Id. *ibid.* "The rich presents to all I will name," said Agamemnon:—"seven tripods, untouched by the flame; ten talents of purest gold; twenty caldrons, of burnished brass. To these twelve steeds I will add, already victors in the race. Seven blameless damsels I also will give; all Lesbians, skilled in female arts. These in peopled Lesbos I chose, when it fell by the Hero's sword. In beauty, in form divine, the damsels the race of women excel. These I will give to the chief; and, leading these, the white bosomed Briseïs, whom by force I have torn from his arms. An awful oath I will add. That I never ascended her bed, nor mixed in love with her glowing charms. All these he shall now receive. Hereafter should the Gods lay in dust the lofty city of noble Priam, with gold, with brass, he his navy may load, when we shall divide the spoil; twenty Trojan dames let him also abuse, next to Argive Helen, in beauty and form." (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix.) Agamemnon farther offered to give to Achilles the choice of his daughters, on the return of the Greeks to their native land; and "without price," with "such presents as father never gave to a child. Seven cities shall call him their lord," said the king, "near the limits of sandy Pylos. Rich are the dwellers in flocks, abounding in lowing herds." And the territory of Pedafus, one of those cities, was also "renowned for its vines." Id. *ibid.*

90. Id. *ibid.* 91. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix. They found Achilles unbending his mind at the Harp; his beautiful, his polished harp: its neck of silver on high; a part of the spoils of Eëtion, when fell his lofty town by the foe. With this his mighty soul he soothed, and sung the actions of chiefs to the sound." Id. *ibid.*

92. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix. "To him the godlike Achilles replied," Noble "son of Laertes! Ulysses for prudence renowned, it behoves me to open my soul, to unveil my heart, to declare my resolves; to put, at once, an end to requells; to remove suits like these from mine

PART I.

ed here by shewing the duty of forgiveness, and urging the example of the Gods⁹³. Ajax to argument added reproach. "Unfeeling chief!" exclaimed he, "*a brother receives the price of a brother's blood. Father's for their slain sons are appeased. The murderer pays the high fine of his crime:—and in his city unmolested lives*"⁹⁴. The heart of the parent relents; the roused rage of his soul subsides. To thee alone son

"ears. A foe to my soul is the man, detested as the regions of death, who hides one design in his mind and produces another in words. Nor Agamemnon will bend my heart, nor all the other Greeks in tears. Defrauded as I am by your king, let him cease, let him despair me to persuade. But let him, Ulysses! with thee, with other chiefs consult, how best he can turn the hostile fire from the ships of Greece. Much already has he done, much performed without my aid!—A mighty wall the king has built: a broad deep ditch is sunk around; with stakes its bottom is lined. But all these fail to repel the foe; to sustain the force of bloody Hector. Whilst I led in battle the Greeks, not remote from his walls, he roused the war!" Id. *ibid*.

93. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix. "Subduc, O chief! thy mighty soul," said Phoenix:—"it becomes thee not to harden thy heart. The Gods themselves are bent with prayer. The deathless Gods, the first in force, in honours first, and the greatest in power, by solemn sacrifice are won, by softly breathing vows are gained. For libation, for the favour of victims, they avert their flaming wrath from mankind. The suppliant indulgent they hear; the repenting they ever forgive. PRAYERS ARE THE DAUGHTERS OF JOVE!—O Achilles, revere the Daughters of Jove; yield to the Goddesses: they have ever bent the souls of the brave!—Had Atreides no gifts proposed, had he named no future reward; had he still his folly retained, nor I would have bid thee thy rage allay, nor aid would for Greece have desired, though broken and distressed in war. But he at present gives thee much; in future he promises more: he sends as suppliants to thy knees the chosen chiefs of the Greeks. Let them not have come hither in vain. Till now thy resentment was just, henceforward thy wrath is a crime." (Id. *ibid*) "To him great Achilles replied," Phoenix, aged chief beloved of Jove! disturb not my soul with these complaints; melt not my heart with tears, to gratify the son of Atreus. "To favour him becomes not thee: it becomes thee to think like thy friend; to make a foe of the man I abhor" *Iliad*. *ubi sup*.

94. From this, and other passages in the *Iliad*, we learn, that in Greece, at the time of the Trojan war, murder was not punished with death.

* of Peleus! the Gods have given an inflexible mind;
 "a heart relentless, unswayed, and unkind!—And
 "whence is this stubborn wrath?—For *one* captive
 "woman, the slave of thy sword, *seven* beauteous in
 "form we propose: and to these add gifts unequalled.
 "Clothe in mildness thy soul; thy dwelling, son of
 "Peleus! revere. Beneath thy roof *we the Greeks*
 "*represent*. Above others, we regard thy renown⁹⁵." The
 haughty chieftain remained inexorable⁹⁶. He
 rejected the presents with disdain⁹⁷, and enjoyed the
 distress of the Greeks⁹⁸.

AGAMEMNON, mortified at the fruitless supplication
 he had made, and anxious for the safety of the army
 under his command, could not enjoy the blessing of
 sleep. "Wild rolled his soul in the breast of the *Shep-*
 "*herd of his people*⁹⁹. Frequent burst the deep sighs
 "of the king: his stout heart greatly heaves with its
 "cares¹⁰⁰. Starting from his bed, round his ample
 "body his vest he drew. The stately buskins he bound
 "on his feet. Over his broad shoulders the shaggy
 "hide of a lion he threw: large and tawny fell the
 "rough spoil to his heels. He grasps the long spear
 "in his hand¹⁰¹."

MENEIAUS was agitated with "equal cares. Sleep
 "weighed not his eyes to repose. Much he dreaded

95. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix.

96. Id. *ibid*. "Son of Telamon, leader of armies!"—Achilles re-
 plied, "all from thy soul thou seemest to have said. But my heart swells
 "with wrath unappeased." *Iliad*. ubi sup.

97. "Hateful are the gifts of Atreides to me," said Achilles, in an-
 swer to the speech of Ulysses;—"not if as many presents he gave, as
 "sands crowd the shores of Troy—not with all should he soothe my
 "wrath, or bend to his purpose my soul." *Iliad*. lib. ix.

98. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. ix. xi.

99. This expression is applied by Homer to all good kings. *Iliad*.
passim.

100. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. x.

101. Id. *ibid*.

PART I.

“new woes to the Greeks, who had crossed the wide
 “main in his cause; who had come in his quarrel to
 “Troy, rolling war to her troubled shores¹⁰².” He
 also rose, and went to wake Agamemnon. Him he
 found, “at his own dark ship,” putting on his ar-
 mour. The two brothers waked the chiefs in
 whom they could most confide: Telamonian Ajax,
 Idomeneus, and Nestor. The aged king of Pylos
 awaked Ulysses and Diomedes. Other chiefs started
 from sleep; and, having found the guards vigilant,
 the “whole body of chieftains passed the ditch, and
 “held a counsel of war on a spot unsoiled by the
 slain,” between the Græcian camp and the Trojan
 army¹⁰³.

THERE it was proposed by Nestor, to send a chief
 to reconnoitre the state of the enemy; and to learn, if
 possible, their designs. The dangerous service was
 undertaken by Diomedes; who, being allowed the
 choice of an associate, prudently requested that Ulysses
 might accompany him¹⁰⁴. The two chiefs accord-
 ingly set forward on their perilous enterprize. And
 fortunately, before they had occasion to exercise their
 sagacity, they met with a Trojan spy, named Dolon,
 whom they made prisoner¹⁰⁵. By him they were in-
 formed that the Trojans only kept watch; and that
 the allies of Priam had consigned themselves to re-
 pose¹⁰⁶. Thus instructed, they slew Dolon, and ad-
 vanced to the quarter where the Thracians lay.
 There they found no warrior awake. Diomedes slew
 Rhesus, the Thracian king, and twelve of his lead-
 ers¹⁰⁷. His famous horses stood unharnessed at his

102. *Iliad*. lib. x.104. *Hom. Iliad*. ubi sup.106. *Iliad*. lib. x.103. *Id.* *ibid.*105. *Id.* *ibid.*107. *Id.* *ibid.*

car. These the compatriot chiefs untied, and carried them unmolested to the Græcian camp¹⁰⁸.

LETTER
III.

ENCOURAGED by the success of this nocturnal adventure, the Greeks resolved to persevere in the war, and boldly to face all its dangers. No longer afraid of the thundering *Hector* "to them more pleasing battle" became, than to return in their *hollow ships*¹⁰⁹ to "the loved shore of their native land"¹¹⁰. Hence the struggle between the contending nations grew fierce even to desperation, and was maintained with a degree of vehemence unparalled in the history of mankind.

"DREADFUL swells the voice of Atreides: his commands to arm ascend the winds. He clothes himself in burnished steel. Before him he reared his all-covering shield; strong, beautiful, of various work. On his head the bright-clasped helmet he placed: four horse-hair crests adorn it, and dreadfully nod aloft. Two spears the king grasps in his hand: pointed were both with steel¹¹¹.

108. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. x. The return of these chiefs affords a lively picture of the manners and accommodations of the Greeks in their camp on the Trojan shore. "When they came to the tent of Tydides, "with thongs they bound the steeds in their place; to the manger "they all are tied, where stand the fleet steeds of the king, with purest "corn in order fed. They bathed their bodies and limbs in the main. "But when the wave had washed off the blood, and cleansed the sweat "and dust away, to their polished baths sprung the heroes; and refreshed "their souls, as they lay. Over their limbs they threw the oil: they all "their sinewy joints anoint. To the joyful repast they sit down. From "the urn, to the brim filled with wine, they pour the rich libation to Pallas." Id. *ibid*.

109. From this, and other expressions of Homer, the Græcian ships, at the Trojan war, appear to have had holds of considerable depth and capacity. In them the chiefs stowed their plunder: in them they had their beds, as well as in their tents; and to them they seem to have retired in seasons of danger, *Iliad*. lib. ix. x. et seq.

110. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. x.

111. Id. *ibid*.

"EACH

PART I.

“EACH Græcian hero to his driver issues forth his commands, *to hold the steeds in order along the trench*. In arms, they rush on foot to the field. Ere yet the morn confirmed her light, wide spread the clamour of arms. First the foot are ranged in their line: the cars arranged, sustain the rear¹¹².

“THE Trojans, on the other side, *form their lines on the rising ground*. Great Hector the battle arrays: Polydamus, blameless in soul; Æneas, who *among the Trojans*¹¹³ was honoured as a deathless God; the three sons of great Antenor; Polybus, the noble Agenor, and youthful Acmas¹¹⁴. Hector, in the front, lifts aloft his broad shield; as a baleful comet, by night, glides red behind the broken clouds: now it bursts forth in full blaze, now it hides in darkness

112. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

113. Here we discover that Æneas, the leader of the *Dardanians*, was considered as a *Trojan*. The distinction between the *Dardanians* and *Trojans* is not easily marked. They were certainly the same people: (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xx.) the *Trojans* were *Dardanians*; (Id. *ibid.*) and the *Dardanians* were the subjects, not the allies of Priam. (Hom. *Iliad*. passim.) From the allies they are always distinctly classed, (Id. *ibid.*) From the *Trojans* they are only distinguished by name: in the same manner as the *Lacedæmonians* were distinguished from the *Spartans*; the latter being the inhabitants of the capital and its territory, from which they proudly took their name; the former the great body of the people of the state, living in different districts. The name of *Dardanians*, however, appears to have been more particularly applied to the people inhabiting mount *Ida*; where Dardanus, the founder of the Trojan kingdom, had built the city of *Dardania*; (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xx.) and where Anchises, the father of Æneas, a branch of the *Dardanian royal family*, seems to have held dominion under Priam, the head of the elder branch of that family, and great-grandson of *Tros*, from whom the city of *Troy* took its name. It was also called *Ilium*, (as I have had occasion to observe) from *Ilus*, the son of *Tros*, by whom it was built. (Strabo, *Geog.* lib. xiii. p. 593, edit. Lutet. Paris, 1620.) *Ilus* removed the seat of government from the mountain to the plain; (Id. *ibid.*) near the mouths of Simois and Scamander, and opposite the island of *Tenedos*.

114. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.

its awful head. Thus Hector appeared, now in the front, now sunk behind, as he formed the dark lines. All over flamed the chief in his steel, like the lightning of father Jove ¹¹⁵.

LETTER
III.

"As reapers, ranged at either end of a field, hasten to meet as they cut down the corn, or wheat, or the golden barley, successive fall behind them the ears—thus the Greeks, thus the Trojan's advance; bounding on, each other they flew. Neither host thinks of shameful flight; equal fell the youths on each side. Like wolves, they rush wildly along ¹¹⁶. While morning beams on the hosts, while encreases the day, shafts fall equal on each side: the combatants tumble in death, on the field. But at the hour when the woodman prepares his light repast, in the mountain groves; when his hands are relaxed with toil, in felling the trunks of lofty trees, a languor pervades his soul: the pleasing thoughts of repast fill his breast. Then with their valour the Argives, rousing each other, broke the line of the foe ¹¹⁷.

"AGAMEMNON bounded forward the first: he slew the shepherd of his people, Bianor. His friend the hero also slew, Oilëus, the ruler of steeds. Through his forehead, as he came, passed the lance. The brazen helmet withstood not the point: through the skull rushed the deadly spear. Subdued he fell in the dust. There the King of Men left the chiefs, "after he had torn their armour from their shoulders;"—right onward he passed in his arms, "and" "slew four youthful warriors; two sons of Priam,

115. Id. *ibid*.

116. *Iliad*, lib. xi.

117. Id. *ibid*. The Trojans, though inferior in prowess to the Greeks, seem to have understood the order of battle better. "They * fell at once into ranks, forming themselves with speed to the charge." *Hom. Iliad*, lib. xii.

"and

PART I. "and two of the warlike *Antimachus*¹¹⁸." These also he left in death on the field, where the thickest engaged, he rushed. Behind him followed the Argives in arms. Foot slew the foot, as they fled; horse on horse advanced in blood. The dust was roused in clouds from the field, by the high sounding feet of the steeds. The king pressed, and slew the flying: loud swelled his urging voice to the Argives¹¹⁹.

"As when devouring fire falls on the withered groves, this way and that it roaring moves, borne wide by the veering winds; the boughs fall in the strength of the flame, the huge trunks are in ruin involved: thus beneath the son of Atreus fell the warriors of Troy, in their flight. Many were the high-manned steeds that bore their empty cars through the lines; their sounding cars they bore along, now deprived of their gallant drivers, who lay prone on the earth¹²⁰."

"The son of Atreus hung forward on Troy. The flying host reached the tomb of Ilus. Half the plain they had passed, with eager speed, in their flight. The king roaring followed the *wild rout*. Dust and blood stained his irresistible hands; for, above measure, he raged at the spear. But, when he approached the town, to the foot of its lofty wall; then Hector," who had *withdrawn* from the *shafts*, from the dust, from the *deaths* of the *field*; "bounds forward in all his arms. Two spears fill the hands of the chief: through the

118. It was through the influence of this chief, bought by Paris, that the Trojans "suffered not the beautiful Helen to be restored to the "great Menelaus." (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.) He even "advised, in "council, the Trojans to slay Menelaus; when he, with Ulysses, bore "to Troy the demands of Greece." *Iliad*. lib. xi.

119. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.

120. *Id.* *ibid.*

army he greatly moves, urging the Trojans to fight. Dreadful havock he wakes-around. From flight they at once turn their face, and stand forward against their pursuers. The Greeks *strengthen their lines restored*: battle is renewed over the field ¹²¹.

LETTER
III.

"IPHIDAMAS, the son of Antenor, great in battle, large in size; bred in the fertile Thrace, the mother of flocks and herds, now advanced on Agamemnon. When near to each other the warriors drew, bending in the martial strife; the spear of Atrides from his antagonist strayed: wide it flew of its aim. Iphidamas struck the king on the belt. Beneath the breast-plate, the lance he urged; hurled with all the force of his powerful arm. But it pierced not the varied belt.

121. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi. Here I shall take occasion to observe, That both the Greeks and Trojans, but especially the Greeks, greatly laboured under the influence of *superstition*; and that both had, by this time, learned to take advantage of it. Before Hector attempted to stop the flight of the Trojans, he saw the lightning beginning to burst from the thunder-cloud on the summit of mount Ida; or, to use the *allegorical language of Homer*, "then the Father of Men and Gods sat on the tops of the *streamy Ida*. Just descended from heaven, he sat: the thunder kindles, as it grows in his hands," (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.) This Hector perceived; hence Jupiter is said to have sent Iris with a message to him. (Id. *ibid*.) The Greeks also saw it; (*Iliad*. *ubi sup*.) and as they knew the Trojans had a temple to Jupiter, their tutelary God, at Gargarus on mount Ida, (*Iliad*. lib. viii.) they thought as usual, that the son of Saturn was warring against them. (*Iliad*. lib. xi.) The thunder on mount Ida seems generally to have broken forth about noon: (*Iliad*. *passim*.) about that time also the sun became too powerful for the Greeks to maintain the fight; hence Apollo, as well as Jupiter, is said to have constantly favoured the Trojans. (Id. *ibid*.) Panic-struck by the voice of the cloud compelling Jove, or smote with the darts of Phœbus, the Greeks during their summer campaign, in the ninth year of the war, were, therefore, generally driven to their ships before sunset; when roaring Neptune, or the waves of the sea, often came to their aid, and repelled the Trojans. (*Iliad*. *passim*.) The army of Priam, however, was less alarmed at the rage of the earth shaking God, than the host of Agamemnon at the wrath of the Thunderer.

The

PART I.

The King of Men seized the spear in his hand; with all his strength he drew forward the lance, and wrenched it from the grasp of the foe. He then struck the neck of Iphidamas with his sword: his limbs at once were unbraced; he slept the iron sleep of death ¹²².

“THE son of Atreus despoiled the slain chief, and bore his beauteous arms through the line. Cöon beheld the mournful deed; Cöon, renowned among men, the eldest born of Antenor. Sudden sorrow overshadowed his eyes, for a brother slain by the foe. *Unseen he stood by the side of the king*: he struck in the middle of his arm. Below the elbow entered the lance: through and through passed the point of steel. The King of Men shrunk with pain at the wound, but he ceased not from battle and blood. On Cöon the hero rushed, holding forward his long spear in his hand; Cöon was dragging his slain brother along, Iphidamas, of the same parents born. He held the dead by the foot, and called aloud for the aid of the brave. Him the king struck, as he drew the slain, below the bossy shield: his limbs are unbraced in death. On Iphidamas, lopped off by the sword, the head of his brother fell in blood ¹²³.

“THUS the two sons of Antenor, beneath the arm of the great Atrides, fulfilled the decrees of fate, and descended to the regions of death. Through the ranks of the foe rushed the king, with spear, with sword, with weighty stones; so long as from the gaping wound gushed forth, in its warmth, the blood. But when the wound grew dry, racking pain pervaded his frame. He bounded into his polished car, and turned his steeds to the fleet of the Argives ¹²⁴.”

122. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.123. Id. *ibid*.124. *Iliad*. lib. xi.

AGAMEMNON, however, before he quitted the field, thus incited the Greeks to fight :—" O friends, chiefs, and leaders of Argos ! turn the foe from the navy of Greece. Oppose the tide of battle in its course ; for prescient Jove to me denies to contend through the day with the foe."—" He spoke, the driver urged the steeds to the hollow ships of the Argive powers. Not unwilling they flew along. They poured the white foam on their breasts ; with dust their sweaty sides were stained, as they bore from the strife of heroes the pain-invaded king ¹²⁵.

" NOT unperceived by Hector the son of Atreus forsook the field. He swelled his loud voice on the winds, and urged *Lycia and Troy* to fight. " O Trojans ! gallant Lycians ! Dardanians, fighting hand to hand ; shew yourselves warriors, O friends ! recall the wonted force of your souls. The *bravest of the foe has retired*. Great *Jove covers me with renown* : right forward urge your steeds on the Argives ; add fresh glory to your fame ¹²⁶."—" He spoke, and roused the soul of each chief. In the front of the battle he himself strode large, exulting in his mighty soul. He descended with fury to the fight ; like a blast that, bursting from Heaven, falls in wrath on the deep. Seven chiefs the hero slew ; unnumbered fell the crowd by his hand ¹²⁷.

" THEN had ruin come apace ; then had the Greeks been rolled back to their hollow ships, had not Ulysses waked to fight the great son of warlike Tydeus. " Son of Tydeus ! " the hero said, " why forget we our wonted strength ?—Advance, O friend ! support my side." To the chief the son of Tydeus replied, " I will remain, and thee support ; but vain is our

125. Id. *ibid*.

126. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

127. Id. *ibid*.
" prowess

PART I.

“prowess in war. The cloud compelling Jove is our foe: he wishes to give Troy success; to cover us with lasting woe.” He spoke, and from his lofty car, threw in death Thymbræus on earth. Ulysses the warlike driver slew, Molion, the friend of the hapless chief. They left the dead in their blood, having stopt their progress in war, and broke the Trojan ranks as they moved ¹²⁸.

“HECTOR perceived the chiefs: he rushed furious on both in his arms; resounding he came along. The Trojan columns tread the path of the king. Tydides shuddered as the hero he beheld, and thus spoke to Ulysses: “Destruction rolls on us apace. All furious “great Hector is near; but let us his rage oppose, “and sustain the storm as it comes.” He said, and threw his quivering lance. Nor strayed the long spear from the foe: on his head, on the helmet it fell. Stopt short is the steel by the steel: the point pierced not through to the skin: the long triple helmet forbade. Staggering the hero fell backward, and mixed with the warrior crowd. On his knees half inclined he fell. His hands robust sustained the chief, while sudden night arose on his eyes ¹²⁹.

“THE son of Tydeus advanced to his spear: through the warriors, as they fought in front, he advanced to where it fixed remained in the ground. The spirit of great Hector returned. His car again the hero mounts, and drives amain amidst the crowd. The son of Tydeus rushing on with his spear, sent before him his voice to the chief:—“From death thou “hast now escaped!—Sure near thee advanced was Fate; “but Apollo stretched over thee his hand. To him thy “vows are paid, when thou issuest to the clangour of

128. *Iliad*. lib. xi.129. *Id. ibid.*

"*spear*. But thou shalt not escape from this lance,
"should we meet hereafter in fight. Others I now
"will pursue, such as Fortune shall bring to my
"arm ¹³⁰."

LETTER
III.

BUT the brave Diomedes, the son of Tydeus, was wounded in the foot with an arrow by Paris, while stripping "the slain son of Paeon," and obliged to quit the field ¹³¹. Ulysses also was wounded, and encircled by the Trojans ¹³². Ajax came to his assistance, and Menelaus led him through the crowd, till the driver approached with his car ¹³³. "Great Ajax issued forth on the foe; slaying steeds, laying warriors in death. Nor heard illustrious Hector; in the left wing of the battle engaged, near the bank of the roaring Scamander. There chiefly fell the heads of the brave: there the loudest tumult arose, round the great Nestor in arms; round Idomeneus, renowned at the spear. Through their lines Hector winds his deadly course. Dreadful

¹³⁰. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.

¹³¹. Id. *ibid*. "His bow the warrior bent on the Shepherd of his people, Tydides: behind a pillar he stood; the tomb of Dardanian Ilius, a hero renowned in former years. Paris (or Alexander) drew the horns of his bow; nor in vain flew the shaft from his hand. He struck the right-foot of the chief: through and through the arrow passed, and sunk its point in the ground below. On the plain the hero sat down, and from his foot drew the barbed shaft. Bitter pains creep through all his joints. The polished car he ascends, and drives amain to the ships." *Iliad*. lib. xi.

¹³². Hom. *Iliad*. *ubi sup*. The situation of Ulysses, on the retreat of Diomedes, was such as demanded the firmest courage. "No Argive remained by his side, for wide spread the panic over all. Deeply fighting, in his distress, the chief thus spoke to his mighty soul:—"Ah me! what course shall I take?—Great the shame, if from numbers I fly; yet worse the peril, if alone I remain. The Argives have left the field: *Jove has turned others to flight!*—But why thus argues his soul with Ulysses?—To stand firm is the part of the brave; whether they fall in their blood, or hurl death on the rushing foe." *Iliad*. lib. xi.

¹³³. Id. *ibid*.

PART I.

were the deeds of his hand; whether he wasted the ranks of the warriors on foot, or threw the beamy lance from his car ¹³⁴.

"NOR yet had the Argives given way, had not Paris removed from the fight the shepherd of his people, Machaon. His right arm he struck with his shaft. *Fear seized the Argives, breathing strength, lest the warrior should fall by the foe.* Straight Idomeneus advanced through the lines, and thus addressed Nestor divine:—"O Nestor! son of Neleus, great glory of Achaia in arms, haste! ascend with speed thy car; let Machaon ascend by thy side; turn thy swift steeds to the navy of Argos. *A Physician equals in value an host*; whether to cut the shaft from the wound, or pain to expel by his art ¹³⁵."—He spoke, nor Nestor

134. *Iliad.* lib. xi.

135. *Id. ibid.* Æsculapius, who acted both as a physician and surgeon, was deified by the pious gratitude of the Greeks. (*Strabo, Géog.* lib. viii. et seq.) He appears to have been a Theffalian by birth, and of the district of Estiacotis; whence his two sons, Podalirius and Machaon, carried their troops in *thirty ships* to the Trojan war. (*Hom. Iliad.* lib. ii.) He grew so famous, in his profession, and performed so many wonderful cures, in cases esteemed desperate, that he was reputed to have *raised many from the dead.* (*Diod. Sicul. Biblioth.* lib. iv.) Hence mythologists say, That Pluto complained to Jupiter of Æsculapius, for weakening his empire in the regions below, by diminishing the number of the dead. At this Jupiter was so much incensed, that he slew Æsculapius with a thunderbolt. (*Id. ibid.*) These circumstances are finely touched by Ovid, in the prophecy of Ochirrœe, relative to the future growth of the infant Æsculapius.

"Hail, great Physician of the world, all hail!

"Hail, mighty infant; who, in years to come,

"Shalt heal the nations, and defraud the tomb;

"Swift be thy growth, thy triumphs unconfined;

"Make kingdoms thicker, and increase mankind.

"Thy daring art shall animate the dead,

"And draw the thunder on thy useless head.

"Then shalt thou die; but from the dark obode

"Rise up victorious, and be twice a God."

disobeyed: he mounted the polished car: Machaon placed himself by his side; the son of the great *Æsculapius*, renowned for the *Healing Arts* ¹³⁶.

LETTER
III.

"CEBRIONES, as he sat in the car, by the side of illustrious Hector, beheld the Trojans on the right broken. To the chief he addressed his words:—"Hector!" the warrior began; "while here we wind through the Argive lines, on the distant edge of re-sounding war, the Trojans afar are dispersed; horse mix with foot in the rout. Ajax dissipates their ranks. Well I know his tremendous shield: let us thither drive the fleet steeds ¹³⁷." He spoke, and struck the high-maned steeds: beneath the lash they drew forward the rapid car. Between the Greeks and Trojans they rushed; treading bodies, treading shields. In blood the whole axle is drenched: the car itself is stained with blood, which flew wide from the feet of the flying steeds. Much the hero wished to advance; to break the solid ranks of men, to bound with death upon the foe. Dreadful tumult he raised on the Argives: nor ceased he to rage with his spear. He winds his course through other lines; with lance, with sword, with weighty stones: yet he shuns the battle of the son of Telamon ¹³⁸.

"BUT Jove, as aloft on Ida he sat, threw terror on the soul of Ajax: astonished he darkly stood. Over his shoulders he placed his seven-fold shield. Shuddering

136. The mild character of *Æsculapius* bore so much resemblance to that of Jesus Christ, that the Gentiles accused the first Christians of having stolen their healing God. (Cyril. Cent. Julian. lib. vi.) And the character of Apollo, the reputed father of *Æsculapius*, (Diod. Sicul. Biblioth. lib. iv.) bore in some respects a still stronger resemblance to that of the Messiah, the great Physician of souls; as he not only healed the body, but illuminated the mind. Hygin. in Fab. cap. l.

137. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xi.

138. Id. *ibid*.

PART I.

the hero retreats : he often bends his wild looks on the foe : he often turns his dreadful face, then slowly lifts his limbs along. Behind him the Trojans pour. Opposed to them all was the chief ; and he stopt their progress to the navy of Argos ¹³⁹." The Greeks came to his assistance ; and the hostile nations, " mixed in crowds, fought with the rage of devouring flames ¹⁴⁰." But many of the Græcian chiefs having been wounded in the former part of the day ¹⁴¹, and obliged to quit the field, victory finally declared for the Trojans. And the Greeks were forced to seek shelter in their camp ¹⁴².

" NOR now the foss sustains the charge, nor lofty wall protects the Argives. The bulwark of the navy fails ; the wide trench, which around was drawn to *save the swift ships from the foe ; to save the mighty spoil within* ¹⁴³." The Greeks, however, made a gallant defence, though *subdued by the scourge of Jove*. " Around the firm-built wall fierce battle and clamour arose. Mighty Hector, the fierce awaker of flight, fights with a whirlwind's rage. *To pass the foss, loud swelled his lofty voice to his friends* ¹⁴⁴."

139. *Iliad*. lib. xi.140. *Id. ibid.* et lib. xii. init.

141. Beside those already mentioned, Eurypylus " the gallant son of " the great Euxemon," who carried his troops from the neighbourhood of mount Pelion, in " *twice twenty* dark ships," to the Trojan war, (*Hom. Iliad*. lib. ii.) was wounded in the thigh by Paris, with an arrow, " as he *spoiled the dead*." (*Hom. Iliad*. lib. xi.) And here I can not help remarking, That this *rage of spoiling the dead* afforded opportunity for most of the wounds the Græcian chiefs received ; and that it was neither restrained by the most pressing danger, nor regulated by the maxims of military prudence. Like hungry savages, the most illustrious Greeks rushed upon their prey, regardless of consequences ; and in the exposed situation, into which their rapacity threw them, they were often slain. *Iliad. passim.*

142. *Hom. Iliad*. lib. xii.143. *Id. ibid.*144. *Iliad*. lib. xii.

THE Trojans crowded around their illustrious commander: the bravest of their allies also came forward; and the Græcian camp was regularly stormed. By the advice of the wise Polydamas, who "of all the host alone *foresaw the future by weighing the past*," the chiefs descended from their cars. Hector shewed the example. "On the bank of the fofs profound, they fell at once into ranks; forming themselves, with speed, to the charge. Into five bodies the warriors divide; before each strode its leader in arms ¹⁴⁵."

THE bravest, fiercest Trojan youths; those who longed most to engage, to ascend the walls in assault; to slay before their ships the foe, formed behind Hector. The second band was led by Paris; the third by the hero Asius, the son of Hyrtacus, who Sestos and Abydos possessed; the fourth was led by Æneas, the dauntless son of great Anchises. The *renowned allies* were led by Sarpedon, by Glaucus, by great Astero-pæus. *These*, to the godlike Sarpedon, *seemed* of all others the *bravest* and *best*, next to the hero himself; for all the allied chiefs he in all excelled ¹⁴⁶.

"THESE covered with their arms, raising aloft the solid orbs of their shields, rushed on the Greeks in their valour. Nor long they deemed the foe would stand: they already saw them slain at their ships. The other warriors of Ilion—the allies, who came from afar, obeyed in all the prudent Polydamas ¹⁴⁷. The Argives stood aloft in the well-built towers: huge stones flew in showers from their hands. For *themselves*, for their *tents they fought*; for the *ships*, which should bear them away ¹⁴⁸. As falls the snow on the ground, borne along by the boisterous winds; when

145. Id. *ibid*.147. Id. *ibid*.146. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.148. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xii.

PART I.

the hero retreats : he often bends his wild looks on the foe : he often turns his dreadful face, then slowly lifts his limbs along. Behind him the Trojans pour. Opposed to them all was the chief ; and he stopt their progress to the navy of Argos¹³⁹." The Greeks came to his assistance ; and the hostile nations, "mixed in crowds, fought with the rage of devouring flames¹⁴⁰." But many of the Græcian chiefs having been wounded in the former part of the day¹⁴¹, and obliged to quit the field, victory finally declared for the Trojans. And the Greeks were forced to seek shelter in their camp¹⁴².

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145. Id. *ibid*.147. Id. *ibid*.146. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.148. Hom. *Iliad*, lib. xii.

PART I.

the blast bursts the laden clouds, and pours the thick-flying flakes on the world; so thick flew the darts from each side; from the hands of the Argives, from the Trojans renowned in arms ¹⁴⁹."

WHILE thus the battle raged, Polydamas foreseeing that the forcing of the Græcian entrenchments would be attended with difficulty and danger, went to Hector, and told him that he had seen an *unlucky omen*: "the high-flying *Eagle of Jove* dividing the *host* to the *left*." He, therefore, sagely observed, "though the gates we should force, and break through this wall in our strength; though the Greeks should give way in the fight, not victorious shall we return, or tread back the same path to our friends. Many Trojans we shall leave in their blood, many will fall by the *spears of the foe*; when, in fury, *they fight for their ships* ¹⁵⁰. Thus, "added he, "the *augurs* will explain the *portent*, thus the *skilled* in each *omen divine*. Let them *speak*, and the *host* will obey ¹⁵¹."

"TURNING sternly on the chief, the various helmeted Hector replied, "Polydamas, not grateful are thy words to mine ear. Well thou knowest better counsel to give; some advice more happy to frame. "Wouldest thou bid me to forget father Jove?—The "high thunderer's promise confirmed?—Wouldst thou "bid me the god forget, to follow birds that wander "on the winds? *These* nor sway my thoughts nor my deeds: "I care not to what quarter they fly; whether they sail "to the right, to the sun, to rising morn, or spread their "broad wings to the left; to the west, all in darkness "involved, Let us follow what great Jove decrees: he

149. Id. *ibid*.150. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

151. *Iliad*. lib. xii. Here we find divination by augury prevailing in early ages; and the operation of armies regulated by augurs among the ancient Trojans, nearly in the same manner as among the Romans, their reputed descendants,

"who reigns over mortal men, whom all the death-
"less Gods obey. *One augury is ever the best: it is* LETTER
III.
"for our country to fight ¹⁵²."

"Thus saying, the hero advanced: with loud clamour the Trojans followed amain. *Darkly came forth from above the thunder delighted Jove. On the summits of streamy Ida he waked a gust of squally wind: it bore forward the dust on the ships. He broke the yielding souls of the Argives: he gave glory to Hector and Troy* ¹⁵³. Confiding in the omens of Jove, and much confiding in their strength; the Trojans strove to burst the walls of the Argives; they strove to break into the camp. The towers they struck with their hands, the battlements they tore away: they sapped with bars the projecting piles, which the Argives had driven in the earth; the stable stays of their lofty towers. *These they wrenched with force in their hands; they hoped to draw in ruins the wall. Nor yet did the Argives give way: their battlements they lined with their shields, and poured death on the foe from above* ¹⁵⁴.

"Nor had the Trojans broke open the gates, nor great Hector broke asunder the bars, if prescient Jove had not roused on the Argives his son beloved, the mighty Sarpedon. Like a lion the hero rushed forth: he held aloft the wide orb of his shield; beauteous, brazen plated over; which the artist had finished with care, and placed the thick hides between its plates. This before him the hero held; two spears shine aloft in his hands. Forward the hero strides in his strength; to the wall, to the bulwarks of Argos ¹⁵⁵.

THE

152. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xii.

153. Id. *ibid*.

154. *Iliad*. lib. xii.

155. Id. *ibid*. The speech of Sarpedon to Glaucus his associate, on this occasion, is highly characteristic of the manners of early times.

PART I.

"THE battlement is seized by Sarpedon. He wrenched it with his hand robust: it followed his force; down it fell. Bare is the wall above; wide open is the way for the foe. Ajax, Teucer, both assail the chief with their pointed steel: *this* with the barbed arrow, *that* with the spear. On the splendid thong, by which hung his broad shield, fell with force the eager shaft. Ajax struck Sarpedon's shield in his might. Through and through passed the lance, and harshly drove him back in his course¹⁵⁶. A small space from the wall he fell back; yet not wholly retreats the chief. Urged by his own great soul, by his ardent desire of renown, loud swelled the voice of the king, as to his Lycians he turned:—"O sons of Lycia!" he said; "why abates the wonted force of my friends?—Hard is the task for me alone, though the wall be broken down by my hand,—hard is the task for your king to open wide a path to the ships. Advance! follow me, all in arms: the work demands the hands of all¹⁵⁷."

"HE spoke: they revered the voice of the king; around their illustrious leader they crowd, and bear forward on the foe with their might. The Argives, on the other side, strengthen their lines within the wall. Within its huge shade they form; for great was the safety they derived from their works. Nor could the

"Glaucus," the hero began, "why are we the most honoured by all? why with the *chief seat* at the *feast*? with the *seats*, with the *flowing bowl*?—Why in Lycia look all on our steps, as on the tread of heaven-descended Gods?—Why possess we *sacred portions of land* on the banks of the gulphy Xanthus?—Beautiful fields that bear the vine, over which waves the golden grain!—It becomes us for these, O Glaucus! amid our Lycians conspicuous to stand: to be the first to urge the fight; to *equal* our *honours* with *deeds*." (Hom. *Iliad*, lib. xii.) Glaucus, in obedience to the request of his friend, advanced to the wall of the Græcian camp; but was instantly wounded in the arm by Teucer, the brother of Telamonian Ajax, and obliged to retire. Id. *ibid*.

156. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xii.157. Id. *ibid*.

Lycians burst the wall, and force their way to the ships; nor could the Argives drive the foe from the lofty wall. Death passes from side to side. The broad shields are torn on each breast: through and through the light bucklers are pierced. Many are the mutual wounds. Wild rushes the steel from the combatants: dark fate in every form appears; the *flying*, the *standing* are slain. The *former* through their *backs* are pierced; the *latter* receive death through their shields. The towers are all distained with gore; the battlements are drenched in blood: on each side horrid slaughter is seen. The Argives fall, the Lycians are slain. Nor could the foe force the Greeks to fly: in equal scales the battle hung ¹⁵⁸,

“THUS victory inclined to neither side, till Jove with superior renown had clothed Hector, the great son of Priam. Loud swelled the voice of the king, as he urged the Trojans to fight:—“Assail with fury the foe; car-ruling Trojans, advance! burst the falling wall of the Argives; on the ships throw devouring flame ¹⁵⁹.”—“All heard the loud voice of the king: right forward they rushed on the wall; the battlements they seized in their hands, stretching before them their pointed spears. Hector raised from the ground a stone, which lay before the spacious gate; heavy, vast, rugged, He bore it forward in all his strength to the well-compacted portal. Double-leaved and high was the gate: behind were passed two solid bars, which stretched from side to side; fitted both with a lock within. Near this gate stood the dreadful chief. Firmly spreading his limbs, he urged forward the stone with all his force. In the centre it struck the wide door: both the hinges it broke in twain. Within fell the stone, with horrid crash. Shrilly creaks the bursting gate: the bars, the

158. *Iliad*, lib. xii.

159. *Id. ibid.*

boards give way at once; and wide fly the splinters in
air ¹⁶⁰.

" GREAT Hector bounded forward with rage. Dark as night seemed the rushing chief: frightful blazed, over his body, his arms. Two spears he grasps firm in his hands. None but the Gods could then oppose the wrathful king, as he bursts through the gate. Awful blazed the living flame from his eyes: loud swelled to his people his voice. He bade the Trojans to rush, to follow his steps; and they, with eager speed, obeyed. Some clamber over the lofty wall, others crowd in arms through the gate. The Argives fly amain to their ships. Horrid tumult rebounds over the shore ¹⁶¹."

HAVING thus forcibly entered the Græcian camp, the Trojans "hoped to take the navy of Argos," and "to slay all the Greeks at their hollow ships ¹⁶²." But "the world-surrounding Neptune, emerging from the depth of his main, urged the Argives to battle and blood. He filled with valour their rising souls, and made their limbs light in the fight ¹⁶³. They formed deep around the two Ajaces:" the great son of Telamon and the swiftfooted son of Oïleus, renowned at the spear; the elder and younger Ajax:—"firm rose their warlike ranks to the foe. Nor Mars descending to the fight, nor Minerva could the martial form of the lines despise. For the bravest, the chosen of Greece, all skilled in each movement of war, waited the coming of Hector ¹⁶⁴. Spears crowd on spears, as they rise; shield to shield is closed; buckler its buckler supports, helmet its helmet, and man his man. Crowded the

¹⁶⁰. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xii.

¹⁶². Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xii. init.

¹⁶⁴. *Iliad*. lib. xii.

¹⁶¹. Id. *ibid*.

¹⁶³. Id. *ibid*.

horse-hair crests arise: the plumes mix, as they wave in the wind; so thick stand the warriors in arms. The lances vibrate in their hands, touching as they stretch them to blood. Right-forward they move to the foe; their souls burn for the fight ¹⁶⁵.

LETTER

III.

"THE gathered Trojans pour, in force, on the Greeks. All-furious great Hector precedes; like the wasteful force of a falling rock, which the *torrent rolls large from the mountain's brow*, when the rugged steep is fapped by the *ceaseless showers of high-thundering Jove*. He deemed that he could reach the tents, and *wade in blood* to the ships of the Argives. But when to the phalanx he came, he stopt; leaning forward with all his strength. Thick rattle the spears on his mail; the swords fall crashing on every side. The Greeks shove him away with force: with blows staggering the chief retreats. Loud swells his voice to his troops, urging them to fight:—"O Trojans, and Lycians renowned; "O Dardanians, fighting hand to hand, stand firm to "your arms!—Not long, O friends! shall the Greeks "sustain this spear, though firm the phalanx they "present ¹⁶⁶. Even now, I judge, they will yield to "my arm; if I am, in truth, urged to the fight by "the most powerful of all the Gods, the *high-thunder-* "ing husband of Juno ¹⁶⁷."

THIS speech kindled valour in the souls of the Trojans and their renowned allies, who charged in the centre. But there they were vigorously opposed by the

165. *Id. ibid.*

166. *Hom. Iliad. ubi sup.* Of all the engagements described by Homer, this at the ships is the most regular. Here we see both the Greeks and Trojans display a considerable share of military skill in forming their troops; and, subduing their rage for spoil and blood, steadily preserve the order of battle.

167. *Iliad. lib. xiii.*

PART I. Greeks under the Ajaces; and under Teucer, "skilled at once to bend the bow, and to launch the spear in standing fight." These employed the force of Hector. In vain did he attempt "to overpower their strength, or to cut through their invincible bands his wasteful path to the navy of Argos¹⁶⁸." Meanwhile Idomeneus and Meriones bent their course with the Cretans to the left wing; where the Greeks were sorely pressed by the Trojans under Deiphobus, one of the younger sons of Priam. On the approach of the king of Crete, Deiphobus called to his assistance Æneas, his kinsman. Other chiefs, on both sides, joined battle: the fight raged with fury, in all quarters; and the Trojans, *widely* dispersed over the field, were in danger of being broken and routed, when Hector by the advice of Polydamas, agreed to call a council of war¹⁶⁹. Before the council was assembled, however, he moved along the front of the line; and finding Paris hotly engaged in the left wing, the two brothers "took their rapid way where most flamed the fight" in the centre; where "*successive* the Trojans, *troop after troop*, gleaming in steel advanced. Before each squadron strode its chief. Hector first came on. From side to side the hero ranged. He *sought* for a *breach* in the *deep formed phalanx*, as tall he stalked behind his shield. But he disturbed not the souls of the Argives; and great Ajax defied him to arms¹⁷⁰."

By this time Polydamas had collected the Trojans and their allies into one great body; and it seems to have been resolved by their chiefs, in council, to make a last effort to break the Græcian phalanx, and destroy the ships¹⁷¹. About the same time it was resolved by the *wounded* Græcian chiefs, to whom Nestor had

168. Id. *ibid*.170. Id. *ibid*.169. *Iliad*. lib. xiii.171. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

communicated the danger of the navy, "to move to the field. "Let our words," said Diomedes, "give the aid our arms deny. They who stand apart let us urge, and push onward the sluggish in war ¹⁷²."

Now the thunder having ceased to roar, and the lightning to flash on the summits of mount Ida, a delightful calm succeeded the storm. The air became mild, and the sky serene; but the rolling of the waves increased. Hence Jupiter is allegorically said to have sunk to sleep in the arms of Juno ¹⁷³, while Neptune roused the Greeks to bolder exertions ¹⁷⁴.

172. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xiv.

173. The mythology of Homer contains such a mixture of *physical* and *moral allegory*, mixed with *traditional fable*, that it is impossible, in every particular, to reconcile it to reason; though the general meaning is commonly obvious. The present instance will serve as an example. Juno having borrowed the cestus of Venus, and conscious of the power of her charms, artfully pretended, that she was going to visit the utmost bounds of the habitable earth. To her the *High Ruler of Storms*: "O Juno! some other time urge thither thy rapid way; but let us now dissolve in love: give all our souls to its joys. Never did such a fierce desire, for goddess or for mortal dame, pour its lambent flame through my heart, as that which now subdues my soul; not when I mixed with the charms of Ixion's glowing spouse, who bore the valiant Perithous, equal in council to the Gods; not when Danaë I pressed, the fair-limbed daughter of great Acrisius; the mother of godlike Perseus, the most renowned of mortal men; not thus I burned for the beautiful daughter of Phoenix, who brought forth the prudent Minos and Rhadamanthus, equal to Gods. Nor felt I thus in my soul for the Theban Alcmena, the mother of magnanimous Hercules; nor for Semele, who bore Bacchus divine, the joy of mortal men. Nor burned I thus for stately Ceres, graceful queen! with golden locks; nor for the splendid charms of Latona, nor even for thy majestic self; as now I feel love in my soul, and soft desire pervading my frame." (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xiv.) Juno yielded to his wishes. "The eager son of Saturn threw his arm round his glowing consort. They lay on their fragrant bed. Around them poured their cloud of gold; their beauteous cloud, from which distilled the lucid drops of the dew of heaven. Thus Jove sunk in repose on the summit of his own dark bill. With love, with sleep he lay subdued, and held his heaving spouse in his arms." Id *ibid*.

174. *Iliad*. lib. xiv.

3

"THEY

PART I.

"THEY all obeyed the voice of the God. The wounded kings restored the martial ranks; the son of Tydeus, the great Ulysses, and Atrides, the sovereign of men. Moving through the forming lines, they changed, with their commands, the arms; the strong are bestowed on the strong, and the light assigned to the feeble in fight¹⁷⁵. Now cloaked in all their burnished steel, gleaming moves the army along. The earth-shaking Neptune precedes the line¹⁷⁶.

"OPPOSED to the God was mighty Hector: he also formed his own firm lines. Then dark swelled the war on each side. Both poured it forward; the blue-haired King of the Ocean, and Hector illustrious in arms. This aided the Trojans in fight, that urged the Argives to blood. Behind the tents and hollow ships high-swelled the boarfe waves of the main. The hosts plunge in dreadful conflict; horrid clamour ascends the sky. Not so loud resounds the wind in the leafy tops of the lofty oaks, when the storm over the echoing hills wings its course, as the shouts of the Trojans and Argives; when roaring they rushed to battle, and poured their whole strength in the shock¹⁷⁷.

"ILLUSTRIOUS Hector the combat renewed: he first threw his spear on Telamonian Ajax. Right-forward stood the face of the chief; nor from his body strayed the lance. It fell where the two thick belts each other crossed on his manly breast: one sustained his broad shield, the other his deadly sword. These now saved his body from wounds. When Hector saw that the rapid spear flew in vain from his hand, back he turned to the troop of his friends; avoiding death from the hands of the foe¹⁷⁸.

175. Id. *ibid*.177. Id. *ibid*.176. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xiv.178. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

"GREAT Ajax perceived the warrior, as he retired, and raised a huge stone from the earth; for many lay where the foes engaged, to prop the hollow ships on the sounding shore. One of these the chief heaved from the ground. It struck Hector above the orb of his shield: on his neck fell the forceful weight: he fell, he lay along the ground. From his hand, he dropt the brazen lance; from his arm, the wide orb of his shield; the helmet from his head ¹⁷⁹.

LETTER
III.

"WITH dreadful clamour advance the Greeks: they hope to drag the chief to their line. Thick fly the shafts from their hands; but none, at a distance or hand to hand, could touch the shepherd of his people with steel. His valiant friends stood formed around; Polydamas, the godlike Æneas, Agenor the divine, Sarpedon the great leader of the Lycians, and Glaucus blameless in soul. Nor any warrior neglected the chief: all held before him the wide orbs of their shields. His friends bore him in their arms from the fight, till they came to his bounding steeds. Behind the war they stood remote, with their driver and various car. They slowly took their way to Troy. Deep groaned the king as they moved ¹⁸⁰."

"WHEN the Argives saw Hector subdued, with rising spirit they rushed on the Trojans. They remembered the dismal fight ¹⁸¹." After a hot contest, in which many warriors were slain on both sides, "pale terror wandered over the lines of the Trojans. Each looked around in his fear, and searched where flight could bear him away from death ¹⁸²." The routed Trojans repassed "the lofty wall and the trench profound. Many fell beneath the hands of the Argive powers; by

¹⁷⁹. Id. *ibid*.

¹⁸¹. Id. *ibid*.

¹⁸⁰. *Iliad*. lib. xiv.

¹⁸². *Hom. Iliad*. lib. xiv.

PART I. the hand of Ajax, the *swift son* of the great Oileus. None could equal the chief in speed, when he hung on the flying foe¹⁸³."

BUT the sea retired, and Hector recovered his strength before morning. The sun rose with portentous aspect; which threw terror into the souls of the Greeks, and inspired the Trojans with fresh courage¹⁸⁴. Hector, having roused his warriors, led them again to the fight; "gleaming bright, as he winds through the lines; when each Argive had hoped, that *slain he lay beneath the strength of Telamonian Ajax*. Their hearts sunk in sudden dismay¹⁸⁵."

WHILE the Greeks, who so lately hung forward on the flight of the Trojans, stood thus panic-struck, Thoas, the valiant leader of the Ætolians, offered prudent counsel to his brother chiefs. "O Argives!" said he, "attend to my words; listen to the thoughts of "my soul: *dismiss the crowd to the hollow ships*; command the main body to quit the field; and let us, "who surpass others in valour and fame, stand "forth, in a band, raising high our pointed spears, and "try to repress the rage of the foe. Though burning "for fight, *Hector will dread to enter the phalanx* of "Argos¹⁸⁶."

HIS advice was approved. The Græcian chiefs "formed their deep ranks in the front. Round the strength of godlike Ajax, round Idomeneus, king of Crete; round Teucer and great Meriones; round Meges, equal to Mars in arms, they formed the bravest warriors. From wing to wing the chiefs were convened. Opposed to daring Hector they stood; to all

183. Id. *ibid.*185. Id. *ibid.*184. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xv.186. *Iliad*. lib. xv.

his Trojans tried in arms, while backward the crowd retired to the ships of the Argive powers ¹⁸⁷.

LETTER
III.

"THE *thick-formed* Trojans advance. They first pour their strength on the foe. Before moved Hector, with mighty strides; but before *him* rushed Phoebus Apollo, with *his shoulders wrapt in a cloud*. He held aloft the *Ægis of Jove*, wildly tossing its orb in the sky; the dreadful *Ægis*, *rough* and *shaggy* on every side ¹⁸⁸:"—or, in plain language, a thick and frightful halo or haze surrounded the sun, and obscured his rays. "Yet the Argives, deep-formed in their arms, sustained the shock: as long as Phoebus Apollo held the *Ægis* unmoved, so long fell the mutual spears; and equal fell the foes on each side. But when, right in the face of the Argives, he shook the broad *Ægis* on high, and *waked above them his tremendous voice*," some unusual noise in the air;—"their souls were unmanned: they forgot their wonted valour in fight ¹⁸⁹."

IN consequence of this portentous appearance, and alarming sound, "over the wall fled the Argive powers; over the stakes, and the trench profound, they urged their scattered flight. Hector roused the Trojans to battle; loud swelled his voice in their ears: he bade them rush on the ships, and leave the bloody spoils on the field. "Him whom I shall find apart," said he, "whom these eyes shall loitering behold, I shall instantly send to the shades. Nor brother, nor sister in tears, shall procure him at death the funeral pile ¹⁹⁰. "Dogs shall tear his wretched corse; before our city,

187. Id. *ibid.*

188. Hom. *Iliad.* *ubi sup.*

189. Id. *ibid.*

190. *Iliad.* lib. xv. From this and other passages in Homer, (*Iliad*, lib. vii.) we find, that the Trojans, as well as the Greeks, had in this early period adopted the custom of burning their dead; a custom which also prevailed among the Romans, the reputed descendants of the Trojans.

PART I. "he shall bleach in the winds¹⁹¹."—"He spoke; over the shoulders of his steeds the high-raised lash re-founded amain. He urged the Trojans, through all their lines. With *threatening clamour* they advanced with the chief; with dreadful tumult they drove their cars. *Before them moved Phoebus Apollo*¹⁹²."

BUT the Greeks, though "driven over their works, stood firm near the ships. They urged each other to fight. Their hands they raised to all the Gods: each poured, with loud voice, his prayer; but chief arose the voice of Nestor, the guardian of Achaia in arms. The aged prayed to the *first of the Gods, stretching forth his hands to the heavens*¹⁹³. Loud *thundered prescient Jove*; to his ears on high came the prayer of the son of Neleus. The Trojans *heard the awful sound*: they deemed it the *heavenly sign* of Jove's *saered will to their arms*. With growing fury they rushed on the foe: battle raged over all their line. Their steeds they drove amain to the ships: at their stern burned the dreadful fight¹⁹⁴.

"HAND to hand both parties urged their spears. The Argives their dark vessels ascend: with *long poles* they gall the foe; poles, which *lay stowed in their ships, formed to wage the naval war*¹⁹⁵; *sheathed at the point with steel*. With firmness they sustained the rushing

191. Id. *ibid*.

192. *Iliad*. lib. xv.

193. Id. *ibid*. "O Father Jove!" the aged said, "if in Argos, 'abounding in corn, any warrior departing for Troy, burning the 'thighs of a sacred bull, or offering the first fruits of his field, prayed 'to thee for his safe return; if thou heardest, if thou promised to grant 'his request, remember these in their sore distress. Turn, awful Lord 'Olympus! turn away the evil day; suffer not the Argives to fall: 'repress thou the hands of the sons of Troy.'" *Iliad*. lib. xv.

194. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xv.

195. Id. *ibid*. Here we find that naval engagements were in use before the Trojan war, and that the Græcian vessels were not merely transports, but also ships of war.

force of Troy." But, after a furious conflict, in which many warriors fell, *thundering Jove again interposed*: "he roused the Trojans to battle and blood. They advanced on the ships, like lions that tear their prey; and the Greeks yielded to *heaven-sent flight*"¹⁹⁶.

LETTER
III.

"WITHIN the *first line of the ships*, the routed Argives convey their flight. The *farthest ships*, on the *shore of the main*, walled them in from behind to their tents. With loud tumult pursued the foe. At their tents behind the *first line*, the Greeks stood gathered. Shame and terror confine them to war. Loud exclaiming they each other exhort, but chiefly the voice of Nestor arose; the ardent voice of the guardian of Argos. "O friends! be men," he said; "let each recal to his mind his children, his spouse beloved: his wide possessions at home, the parents whom much he re-
veres; whether living, they breathe the air, or dead, they reside in the tomb. By them I adjure you all! though absent they speak in my voice: they bid you stand"¹⁹⁷.

"THUS Nestor speaking, roused to strength, and awakened the souls of all. Minerva dispersed from their eyes the *thick cloud that had hovered around*; the *heaven-sent darkness*, which had shrouded their sight. *Bright bursts upon them the day*; from the ships, from the field rushed the light. They beheld Hector, so great in the fight; the warring friends of the chief they beheld: they saw the troops that behind stood from war; they saw those engaged at the ships. The *whole field rose at once to their view*. No longer it pleased the stout heart of magnanimous Ajax to stand still in his arms, where the other warriors of Achaia stood. From deck to deck the hero rushed, stretching

¹⁹⁶. *Iliad*. lib. xv.

¹⁹⁷. *Id. ibid.*

PART I. wide his mighty strides. He *wielded the huge pole in his hands*; a *weapon of death* in the *naval fight*, twenty-two cubits in length, bright studded with steel around. His loud voice ascended the sky: unceasing he exclaimed to the Greeks, and urged them to defend their camp ¹⁹⁸.

“AGAIN burned the dreadful battle: death flew from side to side. Unfatigued wouldst thou have thought the foes; unbroken, and new in the field: so fierce they met in the shock. With fury they urged the fight; but *different was the state of their souls*. The Argives apprehended they could not escape: they provoked the death, which they saw no means of eluding. The minds of the Trojans were *roused with hope*: they *thought they could burn the fleet*, and drench with the blood of heroes the shore ¹⁹⁹.

“HECTOR seized with his daring hand the dark stern of a hollow ship; the beauteous ship, which over the main brought the hapless Protefilaus. For this, hand to hand, the hostile nations contended. Now they nor dreaded the flight of shafts from afar, nor darts coming down from the winds. Hand to hand, and face to face, with one mind they waged the war. With axes, with pikes they fought; with mighty swords, with steel-pointed spears. Many bright swords fell on the earth; with *dark handles*, with *large polished hilts*; and glittered as they lay in the dust. Confusion spread with tumult around: the earth floated with blood ²⁰⁰.”

BUT Hector never quitted his hold of the ship, “On the stern are spread his broad hands, while thus he eagerly swells his voice:—“Haste! *bring the fire*,

198. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

199. Id. *ibid*.

200. *Iliad*. lib. xv.

"urge the fight; pour at once your gathered force
"on the foe. This is the day, the happy hour, in
"which Jove delivers us all. Let us seize the hateful
"fleet, hither come against the will of the Gods.
"The fleet which has covered us with woes, *through*
"the cowardly counsels of age. Me the Elders thus long
"have kept back, though burning to fight at the ships:
"they restrained the whole army from war²⁰¹."—"He
spoke, and with fiercer rage the Trojans rushed on
the Argive powers.

"No longer Ajax himself sustains the fight: over-
whelmed with darts he retires. He left the *deck* of the
equal ship: to the *banks of the rowers* he retreated.
There stood the chief and eyed the foe; with his spear
he turned the Trojans away: he drove away *whoever*
came with the flame. Ceaseless swelled his dreadful voice
on the winds; ceaseless he urged the Argives to battle.
"O friends, O heroes of Argos!" he said, "once
"followers of Mars in arms, shew yourselves men;
"recal your wonted valour of soul. Deem ye that
"aids are behind, that a bulwark ascends in the rear?
"Have you any other protecting trench, any wall to
"turn destruction away? No city of ours is near;
"no lofty towers, to annoy the foe. We have no
"place of defence; no town, in succession, to guard:
"on the shores of the *bright-mailed* Trojans we stand,
"inclosed by the main. Between the wave and the
"foe we are hemmed. Distant far is our native land:
"our safety is placed in our hands. Certain ruin
"must attend on our flight²⁰²."

"He spoke, and furious exalted his spear. Who-
ever of Troy's hapless sons rushed forward on the
ships with the flame, to gain the favour of Hector, on

201. Id. *ibid*.

202. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. *iv*.

PART I. his spear Ajax received: hand to hand, he pierced them with his lance. Twelve Trojans, thus advancing with fire, lay slain at the stern of the ship²⁰³." But the strength of Ajax was at length exhausted. "Dreadful sounds the bright brass on his head, smote on every side by the foe. His left shoulder is relaxed with toil, in holding high his firm shield to the war. Yet could they not drive him along, though leaning forward with all their spears. High heaves with short-breathing his breast; sweat wanders over all his limbs. Nor rest nor respite he finds, on every side assailed²⁰⁴."

STILL, however, the dauntless chief maintained his station, until deprived of his deathful weapon. "Hector struck with his wide-beaming sword the *ashen spear* of the godlike Ajax, *where joined the wood with the steel*. Through and through passed the eager blade. The son of Telamon wielded in vain the pointless staff in his mighty hand. Wide flew the bright head of the spear, resounding as it fell to the ground. Then the hero shuddered in his soul: he retreated beyond the darts. The *foe threw the devouring fire: wide over the ship spreads the flame*²⁰⁵."

BEFORE the Greeks were pushed to this extremity, the gallant but mild Patroclus, who commanded under Achilles, had resolved to use his influence to rouse the hero to fight. "Who knows," said he, "but I may move his relentless soul?—For *powerful is the voice of a friend*²⁰⁶." Embarrassed, however, in what manner to disclose his purpose, he "*flood before Achilles: wide rushed the warm tears down his cheek*."

203. Id. *ibid.*205. Id. *ibid.*204. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.206. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xv.

The great son of Peleus saw his grief. Pity rose in his mighty soul; and thus, with winged words, he began:
 "Why fall thy tears, O Patroclus? Bringest thou tidings
 "of dire import to the Myrmidons or to their king?
 "Hast thou heard aught of sorrow from Phthia?—
 "or mournest thou the fate of the Argives, because
 "they fall at their hollow ships for their injustice to
 "me? Speak! conceal not thy soul; *let us both*
 "*know the cause of thy grief*²⁰⁷."

"DEEPLY} sighing, the car-borne Patroclus said,
 "O Achilles! thou first of the Argives in arms,
 "reproach me not for these tears; for deep the woes
 "that overshadow the host. All the bravest have re-
 "tired from the fight: their hands unwilling have
 "ceased from the strife of spears. Wounded they
 "lie sad in the ships. Them the *skilled* in the *healing*
 "*arts* attend, and *dress* their *deep wounds*. But
 "thou, O Achilles! relentless remainest: *nothing heals*
 "*the wounds of thy pride*!—If still thou refusest to
 "turn certain ruin from thy country and friends, me
 "at least send forth to fight; submit thy forces to my
 "command. Let the Myrmidons take their spears,
 "and light may perhaps arise on our friends. Give
 "me to wear thine arms; to cloath myself in thy
 "wonted steel. The Trojans, by the likeness de-
 "ceived, will in terror desist from the fight, and the
 "Argives will breath from their toil²⁰⁸."

"AH, Patroclus!" the godlike son of Peleus replied, "heavy woe sits deep on my heart: still wrath
 "wraps in tempest my breast. Much have I suffered
 "in soul. But let the past be forgot: it *becomes not*
 "*man for ever to rage, to cherish endless strife*. Assume

207 *Iliad*. lib. xvi.208 *Id. ibid.*

PART I.

“ then my splendid arms, be thou the leader of my
 “ troops to the fight. Conduct my Myrmidons
 “ along, as the dark cloud of the Trojan powers has
 “ girt the ships with all their strength. Hemmed in
 “ to the shore of the main, small the space which
 “ the Argives possess. The whole city pours on them
 “ amain: full of confidence the Trojans fight. No
 “ longer rages the spear in the hands of the mighty
 “ son of Tydeus; no longer the hateful voice of Aga-
 “ memnon comes with force on mine ear. But I hear
 “ the voice of Hector; his urging voice ascends the
 “ winds: the Trojans hear it over their lines; they
 “ possess the whole field, and slay in battle the war-
 “ riors of Argos. Rush forth in thy valour, O Pa-
 “ troclus! and turn destruction away from our ships.
 “ Prevent, O friend! the hostile flame, lest our hopes
 “ of return should be lost ²⁰⁹.”

WHILE Achilles was giving instructions to Patro-
 clus, “ not to urge the strife too far; not to push the
 “ war to Ilion,” he saw the *whole stern* of the contested
 ship *involved in flames*. He *smote his manly thigh* and
 thus exclaimed, “ Arise in thy strength, O Patroclus!
 “ valiant ruler of steeds, arise! I see at the fleet of
 “ the Argives the *rapid force of resistless fire*. Hasten!
 “ assume the bright arms: I myself will convene the
 “ troops ²¹⁰.” He spoke, and Patroclus obeyed: he
 armed himself in burnished steel ²¹¹. He took two

209. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.210. Id. *ibid*.

211. “ First the beauteous greaves on his legs he drew, with silver
 “ clasps fastened before; then he placed on his manly breast the cuirass
 “ of the noble Achilles; various, starry, bright flaming with gold.
 “ Round his shoulders he suspended the sword, distinguished with
 “ silver studs. On his arm he raised the shield; a wide, and solid,
 “ bossy orb. On his gallant head he placed the dazzling helmet: the
 “ horse-hair waved on high in the wind; and dreadful above nodded
 “ the crest,” *Iliad*. lib. xvi.

strong spears in his hands, which fitted well his manly grasp; but he took not the long, heavy, strong spear of Achilles, which *none of all the Argives but he could wield in fight*: the *Pelian Ash*, cut from the brows of Pelion, a destruction to heroes in war²¹².

LETTER
III.

“THE hero ordered Automedon to join the steeds to the car; Automedon, *next to Achilles the breaker of armies*, and whom he honoured most. Firm in fight was the chief, to *sustain the assault of the foe*. The warrior obeyed the high behest; whilst Achilles, rushing tall through his troops, roused them *all over the tents* to their arms. They issued forth like devouring wolves, in whose breasts dwelt resistless force. In the midst stood the son of Peleus, urging forward the *deep ranks of his bright-shielded men*. FIFTY were his *hollow ships* on the shore, which he brought over the ocean to Troy. *In each fifty warriors came*, skilled all at the oar as in arms. FIVE were the leaders in fight²¹³; chiefs trusted by their daring lord. He himself was the first in command, as the first in the bloody field²¹⁴.”

212. Hom. *Iliad*. ubi sup.

213. Id. *ibid*. It is not a little remarkable, That *two of these five* leaders were *bastards* and the reputed sons of Gods. (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.) Achilles himself was the *reputed son of a Goddess*: (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. i. et seq.) And his mother, the *bright-moving Thetis*, was probably the daughter of some Phœnician merchant, who had come to trade on the coast of Phthiotis; and whom Peleus had carried off, or purchased from her father. For to use her own words, “*Me only of the daughters of Ocean Saturnian Jove submitted to the arms of a man!*—“He gave me, much unwilling, to Peleus. I sustained a mortal’s hated embrace!” (Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xviii.) Or, in vulgar language, she was *compelled to marry a man she did not like*, and who was *so far inferior to her in accomplishments*, that she is represented by Homer as a Goddess, and he as a mere mortal, though a renowned warrior.

214 *Iliad*. lib. xvi.

“WHEN

PART I.

WHEN Achilles had formed his warlike troops behind their leaders, he thus issued his commands:—"Forget not, Myrmidons! the threats ye
 "oft poured in mine ears; your threats, in these
 "hollow ships against the sons of lofty Troy, in
 "*the safe season of the wrath of your lord.* Now
 "the huge work of battle appears: the season which
 "you love is arrived. Let each follow his own daring heart, and turn on the Trojans the war²¹⁵"
 "He spoke and awakened their strength: he kindled valour over all their souls. More thick became their lines, when they heard the awful voice of their king. Buckler its buckler supports, helmet its helmet, and man his man. Crouded the horse-hair crests arise, the plumes mix as they wave in the winds; so thick stand the warriors in arms. But before the rest stood two heroes unmatched in their force; Patroclus and warlike Automedon, having both but one soul in their breasts. Tall they stood in the front of the line. Great Achilles entered his tent; he opened a beautiful chest, the *high-wrought gift of the bright moving Thetis.* Within was a laboured bowl, as it came from the artist's hands, never touched with the lips of man; never stained with the dark-red wine: nor yet in libations used to the Gods, unless to Father Jove. This from the coffer he took: he purged it with sulphur: in clear water he washed it: he *cleansed his hands, and drew the dark wine.* In the sacred circle he stood: steadfast *tying the broad face of the sky,* he poured the libation with prayer.

"JOVE, awful king of Dodona!" he said;—"Percipience, O far-dwelling Jove!—O thou that presidest on high, heretofore thou hast heard my

" prayer; thou hast opened thine ears to my voice :
 " grant again success to my vows!—Here in my
 " ships I remain, but my friend I send forth to war;
 " to battle I send him forth, amid many warriors in
 " arms. With him send victory, O Jove! ruler of
 " tempests: confirm his stout heart in his breast.
 " Grant, after he drives from the ships the dreadful
 " strife and the clamour of fight, that to me he may
 " safe return; that the *chief may return in all his*
 " *arms, with his close-fighting friends in the war* ^{216.}"
 " Thus praying the hero spoke. Jove heard him on
 Ida of streams: the Father of gods granted half his
 request, and half he gave to the winds.

" RIGHT forward moved the troops in their arms,
 with Patroclus undaunted in soul. Close-compacted
 in order they move, and rush with mighty force on
 the foe. Patroclus raised his manly voice, and thus
 urged his friends to fight:—" O Myrmidons! daunt-
 " less in war; gallant friends of the great son of
 " Peleus, show yourselves men. Recal the wonted
 " force of your souls; let us honour the mighty
 " Achilles; by far the bravest of the Greeks, and
 " who over the bravest extends his command. Let
 " the son of Atreus his errors learn; let all-com-
 " manding Agamemnon repent, that he has not
 " honoured in aught the first of the Argives in
 " arms ^{217.}" He spoke, he awaked their strength;
 he kindled valour over all their souls. Deep-formed,
 they rushed on the foe: loud echoed the navy around,
 as the Argives shouted for joy. But when the Tro-
 jans saw the gallant son of the brave Menætiæus, and
 his partner in war rushing on, the souls of all within
 them sunk. They deemed that the *swift son of Peleus*

216. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.217. *Id. ibid.*

PART I. had *thrown from his soul his wrath*: wildly staring
 they turned their eyes, each searching a quarter for
 flight ²¹⁸.

“ THEN first Patroclus threw his bright lance
 through the air: in the midst of the Trojans it fell,
 where amain raged the tumult of arms; near the
 stern of the beauteous ship, that bore Proteusilaus to
 Troy. He drove from the navy the foe, and extin-
 guished the raging flame. Half-burnt the ship is left
 on the sand; to flight the Trojans are turned: with
 dreadful tumult they scowr away. The Argives pour
 wide from their ships; loud clamour ascends the sky.
 As when Jove from the lofty summit of a mountain,
 that rears its dark brow to the skies, dispels with his
 bolt the thick cloud that had settled on high; bright
 rise all the rocks to the view, the broken ridges of the
 hills appear, the forests wave their heads in the light;
clear opens wide heaven to the eye: thus the Argives
distinct appeared, when the flame they repelled from
 the ships, and *rolled the hostile smoke away*. A short
 space they all breathed from their toils. Nor yet
 ceased wholly the fight; nor yet, over the length of
 their lines, the foes turned their back on the ships be-
 fore the rushing force of the warlike Argives. Some
 resisted the turning war, and unwillingly quitted the
 fleet ²¹⁹.

“ BUT suddenly dispersed is the battle: each leader
 a leader slays, and man pursues man with his spear.
 Patroclus urged forward his steeds, where thickest
 over the field fled the foe: beneath the axles the
 the heroes fell; prone they lay on the earth, pressed
 by the wheels. The crashing cars are overturned as
 they fly. From bank to bank of the trench bound the

218. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.219. *Id. ibid.*

courfers of the mighty Peleus, the *splendid gift of the Gods!* eager to urge all their speed. His soul roused the hero on Hector: he wished to strike the chief with his spear; but his steeds bore him away. As when beneath the rain-laden winds, the whole world is wrapt in thick gloom; when, in the season of autumn, Jove shrouded in impetuous showers descends in his rage on the earth, and pours his dreadful wrath on mankind; when the *laws are perverted by force*; when *justice is expelled from her seat*; when judges unjustly decide regardless of the vengeance of Heaven, the rivers swell beyond their fixed bounds, and spread the dark deluge amain²²⁰; the torrents bear away, in their course, the falling sides of the echoing hills; red-rushing from the sounding mountains the streams roar wide to the deep, and levelled are the works of men: so impetuous, so noisy, so dark, is poured the flight of the Trojans. The steeds groan, as they rush along: the whole field is tumult²²¹."

PATROCLUS having thus broken the Trojans in battle, drove back his eager steeds toward the ships; nor permitted the remains of the hostile army to return to the town, though bent on flight. "Between the navy, the river, and the wall, he hemmed them in with furious force. Wildly flew many deaths from his hand: he took on many revenge. Heaps on heaps they crowded the ground. When Sarpedon beheld his friends laid low in death, subdued by the mighty hands of the gallant son of Menætiüs, he raised his urging voice in the fight, and thus chid his Lycians:—"Whither fly the renowned in arms?—Now your

220. From these allusions we discover, That in the days of Homer regular forms of jurisprudence were established; and that the unjust decisions of judges, and the forcible obstruction of the operation of laws, were thought worthy of divine vengeance.

221. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.

LETTER

II.

"valour show: I will meet this warrior in fight, that

"I may learn why he thus prevails in the strife.

"Many woes has he laid on the Trojans; many stout

"limbs has the hero unbraced ²²²."

"HE spoke, and bounded to earth from his car, in the harsh sound of all his arms. Patroclus, on the other side, beheld the king, and leaped from his car. As two vultures on a high-towering rock, with clenching talons and crooked beaks, *screaming aloud* engage in fight; so the heroes *with clamour* advanced, rushing forward to mutual wounds. Sarpedon strayed wide from the foe: his shining lance flew guiltless through the air; over the left shoulder of his antagonist it passed. Patroclus then urged his steel; nor in vain flew the shaft from his hand. He struck the king on his manly breast, where the fibres involved the strong heart: he fell like some stately oak, or poplar, or lofty pine; which the woodmen cut down on the hills, to form the dark ship for the main ²²³.

"THUS, slain by the spear of Patroclus, lay the leader of the Lycians in arms. He groaned from his indignant soul, and called his loved friend by his name. "O Glaucus!" he said, "O warrior among warriors renowned, now it behoves thee to fight; to urge the battle with daring hand. Now must the war be thy care, if undaunted in war is thy heart. Urge, Glaucus! my people to fight; urge the leaders of the Lycians in arms: send thy voice through the lines; O bid them *for Sarpedon to fight!*—Nor only bid but act, O friend! *stretch over me thy gleaming steel.* To thee hereafter I shall be a disgrace, a dire reproach to my friend: *shame shall cover all thy future days,* should the Argives possess my arms;

222. Id. ibid.

223. *Iliad.* ubi sup.

" should

"should they *strip me* before the hollow ships²²⁴.
 "Boldly urge the dreadful fight, rouse all my people
 "to arms²²⁵." As groaning he spoke, shadowy death
 arose on his eyes; the *foe placed his foot on his breast*:
 he withdrew from his body the spear. The bloody
 fibres followed the point; with the lance issued forth
 his great soul. The Myrmidons detained his steeds,
 as they snorted, and wished to fly²²⁶.

"GLAUCUS straight roused to the fight the Lycian
 leaders over all their lines. Furious he rushed through
 the ranks: he bade them contend for the mighty Sar-
 pedon; then moving forward, with majestic strides,
 he called the Trojans to defend his friend. He called
 the godlike Polydamas, he called Agenor divine; he
 rushed to the dauntless Æneas, to Hector clad in
 mail. "Approach, O my gallant friends!" he said;—
 "throw resentment, throw rage in your souls; pre-
 vent the foe from dishonouring the dead. The
 "Myrmidons *the slain will disgrace*, enraged for the
 "Argives who fell; who sunk in blood, beneath our
 "spears at the ships²²⁷." The Trojans are invaded
 with grief. The pillar of their city Sarpedon was,
 though born in a foreign land. Many and brave were
 the hero's troops, but he himself was the bravest of

224. Thus we find, that it was considered as a great indignity for
 the body of a hero to be stripped of his arms, and dishonourable for his
 friends to suffer such disgrace. Hence the obstinacy with which the
 Greeks and Trojans fought, not only to preserve the bodies, but the
 arms of their fallen friends; and the avidity of the victors, to seize them.
 For to carry off the arms of a fallen hero was regarded as matter of
 triumph, independent of their value. (*Iliad. passim.*) But the rap-
 acity of the Greeks for spoil hurried them far beyond what glory re-
 quired; and proved, as I have already had occasion to observe, the
 cause of many of their misfortunes. Hector was also obliged to re-
 press, at times, the rapacity of the Trojans. *Iliad. passim.*

225. Hom. *Iliad. lib. xvi.*

226. Id. *ibid.*

227. *Iliad. lib. xvi.*

LETTER

II.

all. Right-forward they rushed on the foe. Hector led, in wrath, the fierce attack ²²⁸."

MEANWHILE "the stout heart of Patroclus urged the warlike Argives to arms. He first spoke to the Ajaces, already prompt in their souls to fight. "O Ajaces!" he said, "now place the fight in your souls: stand forth to repel the foe; be what in war you have been; even add to your former fame. "The man lies slain in his blood, *who first scaled the wall of the Argives*; Sarpedon lies in death. Now let us *disgrace the slain, by stripping his corpse of his arms*. And O that with steel we could lay some gallant friend of the hero on earth ²²⁹!" He roused them thus, already prompt. The firm ranks are formed on each side, the Trojan and the Lycian powers; the Myrmidons and warlike Argives. Fierce they met in fight over the dead. Dreadful the clamour ascended the winds; as heard afar is the sound of the woodmen, felling the forest amain, on the lofty tops of the echoing hills: so spread the horrid crashings of war over all the wide-resounding plain; the sound of steel, of battered shields, struck with swords, pierced with spears. The whole field is one tumult, one noise. Death darkly bounds from line to line. Nor could the skilful eye of a discerning man now distinguish the noble Sarpedon. With darts, with blood, with dust overspread, the hero lay. Ceaseless crowd around him the foe ²³⁰.

"The breast of Hector was filled with dismay. He ascended his car in his flight; he exhorted the Trojans to fly. Nor even the gallant Lycians now sustained the fight. All turned their backs to the foe. Their king they saw pierced through the heart, lying beneath

228. Id. *ibid.*229. Hom. *Iliad*, *ubi sup.*230. Id. *ibid.*

the heaps of slain. Many had fallen on his corse. The Greeks stript of his arms the great Sarpedon; his *brazen, his bright-beaming arms*. The gallant son of Menæti^{us} gave the splendid spoils to his friends, to be borne to the navy of Argos²³¹.

“PATROCLUS, urging his deathless steeds; urging Automedon to arms, pursued the Lycians and Trojans. Above measure raged the chief with his spear. First he slew Adrastus; then Autonöus, and gallant Echeclus. Perimus fell by his spear; Epistor, and brave Melenippus. Elafus he also slew; Mulius, and god-like Pylartes. These he *transfixed*, as they *fled*. The whole hostile army is poured over the plain. Then had the sons of the Argives taken Troy with *lofty-gates*, beneath the hands of Patroclus; but *Phœbus stood in the high Tower:*” or, in other words, the sun was too hot for such an arduous enterprize, after the fatigues which the Greeks had sustained. “The God aided Troy, and entertained dreadful mischief against the son of Menæti^{us}. Thrice he strove to ascend the wall, thrice Apollo threw him back to the ground.” After a fourth attempt “Patroclus retired: he dreaded the wrath of Apollo, who shoots from afar²³².”

Now Hector, who had hitherto stood at the Scæan gate, in doubtful suspense, whether to renew the fight or to command his troops “to defend the wall,” ordered brave Cebriones “to drive his car right on the foe. Apollo entered the line of the Argives: he roused destructive panic; he gave glory to Troy. Hector neglected the rest of the Greeks: he *slew them* not with his deadly spear; but on the warlike Patroclus drove forward his bounding steeds. Patroclus, on the other side, bounded from his car to the ground.

231. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.232. Id. *ibid*.

PART I. In his left-hand is his beamy spear: in his right he wields aloft a stone; white, rugged, of enormous size. He grasped it in his hand robust: he threw it forward with all his might; nor strayed he far from the chief. The weight flew not in vain from his hand: he struck the driver of Hector's car; Cebriones the son of illustrious Priam, his offspring by a secret bed. He struck him as he held the reins: on his forehead fell the sharp stone; both his brows were crushed by the weight: the skull yielded; like a diver, he tumbled to earth, and his soul left his corse on the plain ²³³.

"PATROCLUS rushed, in his might, on the hero slain by his hand. He bore along a lion's force; a lion, whom his own courage destroys. Hector, on the other side, leaped from his car to the ground. Like two lions, they fought for the slain; two lions, who on the mountain's bleak brow, both raging with hunger, each other assail for some slaughtered hind in her flowing blood. Thus for the fallen Cebriones fought the two authors of dreadful sight; Patroclus, the son of Menætiæus, and the illustrious Hector. Each wishes from his inmost soul to pierce the other with ruthless steel ²³⁴.

"HECTOR seized the slain by the head, nor quitted the hero his hold. Patroclus, on the other side, dragged the fallen chief by the foot. The hostile armies meantime engaged in fight. The Trojans and Argives are drenched in blood. Death darkly bounds from line to line: loud tumult rolls together the field; as when the east and southern winds, descending from the heavens, contend in the leafy groves of the echoing hills; bending the thick woods in their rage. Over the mountain the forest resounds: harshly crash

233. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.234. *Id. ibid.*

the trunks of trees, as they break. Thus the Trojans and warlike Argives; fiercely bounding on each other, engage. Mutual were the deaths and the wounds: neither side thought of shameful flight. Many sharp spears are fixed in the earth round the slain offspring of aged Priam; many winged arrows came sounding along, rushing from the nerves of the bows; many huge stones flew through the air, and crashing fell on the bossy shields, as wildly raging fought the foes round Cebriones laid in his blood. But he lay largely, extended in dust, unmindful of his bounding steeds²³⁵!

“WHILST the sun rolled his bright orb over half the heavens, mutual were the wounds of the foes: the people fell equally on each side; but when he veered his slant beams to the west, then the Argives victorious remained: they rose superior to fate. They drew the hero Cebriones from the heaps of dead and of darts, from the tumult of Troy in fight: they stripped the fallen chief of his arms²³⁶. Patroclus then, with hostile soul, rushed forward on the foe with his spear. Thrice he rushed, like brazen Mars: dreadful swelled his voice on the winds: thrice he nine warriors flew. But when he made the fourth assault, bounding on with the force of a God, then Phoebus met him in dismal fight: dreadful was the course of the God!—Behind the hero he stood: his broad shoulders he struck with his hand: a dizziness seized his bright eyes. Phoebus threw his helmet to the ground; bright rolled the sounding brass on the earth, through the feet of the bounding steeds. His spear hang loose in his nerveless hand; his heavy, huge, long spear he scarce could drag along the dust. His shield fell from its thong on the ground: the cuirass on his breast was loosened, by the hand of the son of Jove. A sudden stupor invaded his mind. His limbs

235. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.236. *Id. ibid.*

PART I.

were unbraced: dizzy and astonished he stood. Between his shoulders a Dardan warrior, approaching behind, drove his spear; Euphorbus, the son of Panthus. He struck, but he could not subdue: he withdrew his ashen spear from the wound; he retreated, and mixed with his friends ²³⁷.

“HE could not sustain Patroclus, though exposed he stood in the fight. But the hero subdued by the stroke of the God, by the sharp-pointed javelin subdued, retreated to the troop of his friends; avoiding death from the hands of the foe. And when Hector perceived the great Patroclus thus retreating, wounded, he rushed upon him through the ranks of the foe. Hand to hand he urged the spear: through his nether belly it passed: resounding he fell to the earth. Dreadful sorrow shades the host of the Argives. Hector withdrew from the wound the bright spear, placing his foot on the slain. He threw the corse supine from his lance: he rushed on the great Automedon, the godlike friend of the swift son of Peleus. Much he wished to slay the chief. Him his bright steeds bore away; the deathless steeds of the warlike Peleus, the splendid gift of the Gods ²³⁸.

“NOT unseen by the son of Atreus, by Menelaus renowned in arms, Patroclus lay subdued in the dismal fight. He moved through the front of the line, bright-sheathed in his burnished steel; round the corse, in defence, he moved, like a heifer around her young. He stretched his bright spear before him; he raised the bright orb of his shield, ready to consign to death the foe that should dare to approach the dead ²³⁹.” In this defensive situation he stood, when Euphorbus, who first smote the fallen hero, advanced and struck

237. *Iliad*. lib. xvi.238. *Id.* *ibid.*239. *Hom. Iliad*. lib. xvii.

the wide round of his shield. "But he penetrated not the solid brass; bent back is the point on the orb. The son of Atreus urged next his bright spear, addressing a prayer to Jove. He struck the throat of Euphorbus, as he turned away. With all his force he urged the point: through and through he pierced his neck. The steel appeared in blood behind. Resounding he fell to the earth: on his body crashed harshly his arms²⁴⁰.

LETTER
III.

"THEN had the son of warlike Atreus stript the slain of his beauteous arms; but *Phoebus Apollo* envied the spoils to the king. He roused on him Hector divine, in force equal to impetuous Mars. The deep ranks of the Trojans advanced. Hector preceded in all his might. Unwilling the king retired; often turning, as he quitted the slain, his manly face to the foe. When he came to the line of his friends, over the ranks he rolled his eyes in search of the great Telamonian Ajax. The hero he soon descried; far in the left of the line, confirming his warriors in fight, and turning their force on the foe. *Over them had spread a panic divine, raised by Phoebus Apollo in wrath*²⁴¹.

"FORWARD to the chief strode the king; near the hero he stood, and began: "Hither, Ajax! come hither, O friend! let us haste, let us fight for the fallen Patroclus! let us bear his corse to Achilles. His naked corse! for his martial arms, I deem, are possessed by Hector."—"He moved the soul of the chief. Ajax stood across the front of the fight: Menelaus attended his steps." Meantime Hector, having stript Patroclus of his arms, "dragged the slain hero along, resolved to lop the head from the trunk; to give the mangled corse a prey to the dogs of Troy. But Ajax

240. Id. *ibid.*

241. *Iliad*. lib. xvii.

PART I.

came near, raising his shield aloft like a tower: Hector retreated again, and mixed himself with the ranks of his host. He ascended with a bound his car: he gave the beauteous arms to his friends; to bear them to the high-walled Ilion, to add to his mighty renown²⁴².

“MEANWHILE Ajax stretched forth his broad shield over the slain son of Menætiüs. He stood like a long-maned lion, who stalks around defending his young; a lion, when bearing his whelps along, surrounded by the hunters within the woods. He rolls his flaming eye-balls in strength; dark sink his dreadful brows on their glare, and half-cover their fire as they burn; so stalking round the hero Patroclus, Ajax covered his bleeding corse. On the other side the warlike Menelaus stood in arms, indulging his grief for his friend, and encreasing the cloud on his soul²⁴³.” But Hector, having urged his troops to battle, “retired from the flaming strife. Bounding forward with eager speed, he soon overtook his friends: he came along on the steps of those, who bore to lofty Troy, the burnished arms of the great son of Peleus. Standing apart from the mournful fight, the awful hero changed his arms. He gave his own to the warlike Trojans, to be borne to sacred Ilion; and he assumed the immortal arms of great Achilles, the son of Peleus; the arms, which the deathless Gods gave to his father beloved²⁴⁴.

“THE armour fitted Hector divine. Dreadful Mars breathed on him his force. His limbs with fresh vigour are braced; new strength pervades his frame. To his gallant friends, in battle, he rushed, *Like Achilles, he seemed to them all*; as flaming he

242. Id. *ibid.*243. Hom. *Iliad.* ubi *sup.*244. Id. *ibid.*

strode over the field, in the arms of the great son of Pelcus. Winding his course, through all the line, he roused the chiefs of the people to fight. "Hear me!" he said, "ye *hundred tribes*, who border on sacred Troy: nor I, in want of numbers at home, nor to cover our fields with an idle crowd, have roused you from your distant homes, or called you to the walls of Ilion. To defend the Trojans ye came, to shield their wives and infant sons; to enter battle with willing hearts, to chase a valiant foe from the land. Let each therefore turn his face to the Greeks, whether safety or death presents ²⁴⁵!"—"Right forward they rushed, with all their gathered force, on the Argives. They raised before them their spears. Much they hoped to force the dead from the mighty grasp of the great Telamonian Ajax. Fools that they were!—Many pierced by his dreadful spear, poured forth their souls on the corse ²⁴⁶." But as Hector had collected the storm of war, and poured it dark over the field, Menelaus "swelled his loud voice on the winds; he thus called the bright-mailed Argives:—"O friends! O leaders of Argos! O princes of the nations in arms! Ye who, with the sons of Atreus, quaff at large the public wine; ye who command your tribes, who derive your sacred honours from Jove, let some issue forth of their own accord; let them feel rage in their souls, that the great, but fallen Patroclus, should become a sport to the dogs of Troy ²⁴⁷."

"HE spoke—and the son of Oileus, the swift-footed Ajax heard. He first came forward in steel, resounding as he rushed through the fight. Idomeneus followed the chief, and the friend of the great Idomeneus; Meriones equal to Mars the destroyer of armies.

245. Hom. *Iliad*. lib. xvii.

246. Id. *ibid*.

247. *Iliad*. lib. xvii.

PART I.

But who can name all the chiefs, all the warriors that came in their arms, when the Argives renewed the fight round the corse of the fallen Patroclus?—The gathered Trojans rushed first to battle. Hector preceded in arms. As when, in the echoing mouth of a river, descending from father Jove, huge tumbles the roaring wave, and rolls back in its channel the stream; *so loud was the clamour of Troy.* But *silent stood the Argives arrayed:* they stood around the son of Menæti^{us}, having but *one* soul in their breasts; walled round with their shields, they stood²⁴⁸. Yet the Trojans shook “the ranks of the deep-formed Argives; they removed them from the slain: they dragged the bloody corse over the field. But not long remained distant the Greeks; straight Ajax turned their face to the foe: Ajax in figure, in deeds, in arms, the first of the Greeks in fight, next to the blameless son of Peleus. He broke the firm front of the Trojans.

“In his strength like a mountain-boar, who disperses with ease, on his hills, the youthful hunters with all their hounds; so illustrious Ajax dispersed the Trojans, when he poured upon them his force²⁴⁹. Already they had surrounded Patroclus: they hoped to drag to their city the slain, to cover their arms with renown. Him Hippothous seized by the foot, the illustrious son of Pelasgian Lethus: he dragged the dead through the burning-fight, *binding round the ankle a thong.* He pleased Hector and Troy by the deed; but sudden fate hovered over his life. None could turn death from the chief, though eager to ward it away. The son of Telamon, bounding amain, struck the hero hand to hand with his spear. On the brazen helmet fell the lance. Split is the cask in twain. The point passed near the horse-hair cone, forceful driven

248. *Id.* *ibid.*249. Hom. *Iliad.* ubi sup.