

AN ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY  
**BLAKE**

C O N T E N T S

Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly, Volume 21, Issue 2, Fall 1987, pp. 49-51



# On Homers Poetry

Every Poem must necessarily be a perfect Unity, but why Homers is peculiarly so, I cannot tell: he has told the story of Hellenophon & omitted the Judgment of Paris which is not only a part, but a principal part of Homers subject. But when a work has Unity it is as much in a Part as in the Whole, the Torso is as much a Unity as the Lascoon. As Unity is the cloke of folly so Goodness is the cloke of Knavery. Those who will have Unity exclusively in Homer come out with a Moral like a sting in the tail: Aristotle says Characters are either Good or Bad, now Goodness or Badness has nothing to do with Character, an Apple tree a Pear tree a Horse a Lion, are Characters but a Good Apple tree or a Bad, is an Apple tree still: a Horse is not more a Lion for being a Bad Horse, that is its Character: its Goodness or Badness is another consideration. It is the same with the Moral of a whole Poem as with the Moral goodness of its parts. Unity & Morality, are secondary considerations, & belong to Philosophy & not to Poetry to Execution & not to Rule, to Accident & not to Substance, the Ancients call'd it eating of the tree of good & evil.



The Classics, it is the Classics & not Goths nor Monks, that Desolate Europe with Wars.

# On Virgil

Sacred Truth has pronounced that Greece & Rome as Babylon & Egypt: so far from being parents of Arts & Sciences as they pretend: were destroyers of all Art. Homer Virgil & Ovid confirm this opinion & make us reverence The Word of God, the only light of antiquity that remains unperverted, by War. Virgil in the Eneid, Book VI, line 848 says Let others study Art, Rome has somewhat better to do, namely War & Dominion.

Rome & Greece swept Art into their maw & destroyed it, a Warlike State never can produce Art. It will Rob & Plunder & accumulate into one place, & Translate & Copy & Buy & Sell & Criticise, but not Make. Grecian is Mathematic Form, Mathematic Form is Eternal in the Reasoning Memory, Living Form is Eternal Existence, Gothic is Living Form.

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*Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly* is published under the sponsorship of the Department of English, University of Rochester.

**Subscriptions** are \$18 for institutions, \$15 for individuals. All subscriptions are by the volume (1 year, 4 issues) and begin with the summer issue. Subscription payments received after the summer issue will be applied to the 4 issues of the current volume. Foreign addresses (except Canada and Mexico) require a \$3 per volume postal surcharge for surface mail, a \$10 per volume surcharge for air mail delivery. U.S. currency or international money order necessary. Make checks payable to *Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly*. Address all subscription orders and related communications to Patricia Neill, *Blake*, Department of English, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627, USA.

Many back issues are available at a reduced price. Address Patricia Neill for a list of issues and prices.

**Manuscripts** are welcome. Send two copies, typed and documented according to the forms suggested in the MLA Style Sheet, 2nd ed., to either of the editors: Morris Eaves, Dept. of English, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627; Morton D. Paley, Dept. of English, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

**International Standard Serial Number:** 0006-453x. *Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly* is indexed in the Modern Language Association's International Bibliography, the Modern Humanities Research Association's Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature, *English Language Notes'* annual Romantic Bibliography, American Humanities Index, the Arts and Humanities Citation Index, and Current Contents.