

The Passing of Hektor

By Peter Delafosse

Noble Zeus, god of lightning and thunder,
With gods Hêra and grey-eyed Athêna,
Bade fair Akhilleus tear Troy asunder,
Alone, his spear unmatched, his blade keener. 4
Armed as he was he made his attack and,
With the gods' glory bestowed upon him,
Set about destroying the Trojan land,
Starting with Ilion, filled to its brim. 8
But noble Hektor stood outside the gate
And, when each drew steel and prepared for woe,
In complete defiance of his own fate
He swung, only to receive a blow 12
 In his neck, as both blades ran their courses,
 Thus died Hektor, tamer of the horses.