

## SAMSON

### PERSONS REPRESENTED :

SAMSON.

MICAH, *his friend.*

MANOAH, *his father.*

DALILA, *his wife.*

HARAPHA, *a Giant of Gath.*

ISRAELITISH MESSENGER.

ISRAELITISH WOMAN.

PRIESTS OF DAGON.

VIRGINS, *attendant on Dalila.*

ISRAELITES, *friends of Samson.*

ISRAELITISH VIRGINS.

PHILISTINES.

### Part the First

#### OVERTURE.

SCENE.—BEFORE THE PRISON IN GAZA.

SAMSON BLIND AND IN CHAINS. ATTENDANT LEADING HIM.

#### RECITATIVE.

SAMSON.—This day, a solemn feast to Dagon held relieves me from my task of servile toil ; unwillingly their superstition yields this rest, to breathe heav'n's air, fresh blowing, pure, and sweet.

ENTER A TROUP OF THE PRIESTS AND WORSHIPPERS OF DAGON,  
CELEBRATING HIS FESTIVAL.

#### CHORUS.

PRIESTS, ETC.—Awake the trumpet's lofty sound ; the joyful sacred festival comes round, when Dagon, king of all the earth is crown'd.

#### AIR.

PHILISTINE WOMAN.—Ye men of Gaza, hither bring the merry pipe and pleasing string, the solemn hymn, and cheerful song ; be Dagon praised by every tongue.

#### CHORUS.

Awake the trumpet's lofty sound ; the joyful sacred festival comes round, when Dagon, king of all the earth is crown'd.

#### RECITATIVE.

SAMSON.—Why by an Angel was my birth foretold, if I must die betray'd, and captiv'd thus, the scorn and gaze of foes ? O cruel