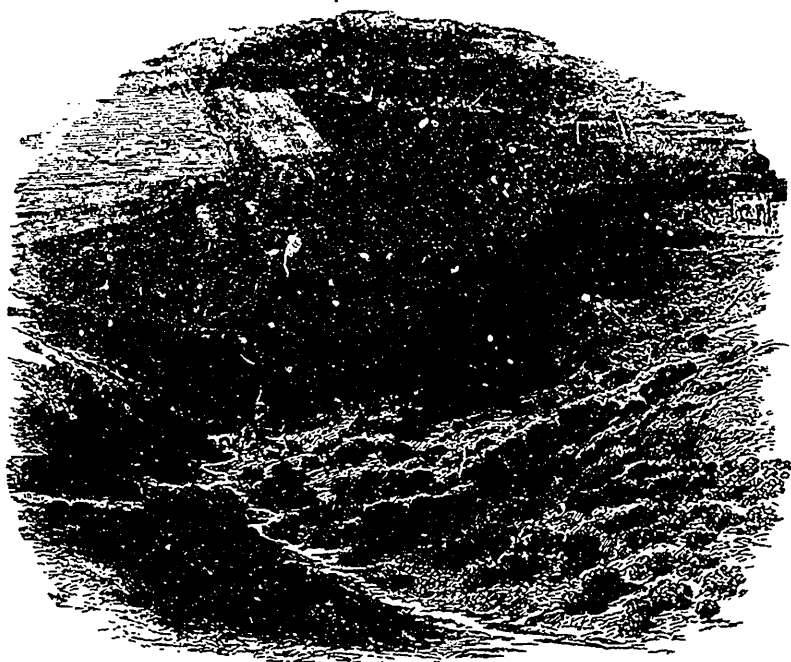




VALLEY OF JEHOSEPHAT.

field, which still bears the name *Aceldama*, the *Field of Blood*. A ruined charnel-house marks this traditional spot. "The crimson flowers," says a recent writer, "that dot the eminence seem like drops of blood springing to life again every Paschal season, to cry out against the wretch who sold his Lord to murderers." A solitary blasted and withered tree still bears the name, "The tree of Judas."

We now enter the sombre and dreadful Vale of Hinnom, or Tophet, the "Place of Fire," 2 Kings, xxxiii., 10—the scene of the cruel worship of *Moloch*, described by the prophet *Jeremiah*, Jer. vii., 31, 32. The classic lines of *Milton* describe this worship:

"Moloch, horrid king, besmeared with blood
Of human sacrifice and parents' tears,
Though, for the noise of drums and timbrels loud,
Their children's cries unheard, that passed through fire
To his grim idol—in the pleasant Vale of Hinnom,
Tophet thence,
And Black Gehenna called, the type of hell."

The Jews, cured of their idolatry by their seventy years' captivity, abhorred this spot, and made it their *Gehenna*, where,