

tritons, who, with conch and shell, made the air musical. The Gnome and the Guebre, the giant and the fairy, had quitted their secret haunts to give lustre to the Carnival. Mortal and immortal, deity and demon, sages and warriors of every country and of every age; Cleopatras more beautiful than she who lost Marc Antony the world, and Lesbian maids peerless as Sappho, and like Sappho crowned, were assembled in one glittering mass, Pageant succeeded to pageant; the muses struck their golden lyres, and chaunted a hymn to Apollo, as they moved gracefully before the chariot wherein their tuneful master sat enthroned.— Diana and her buskined nymphs, freshly emerged from greenwood shades and thickets deep, pursued their rapid course with feet which lightly skimmed the earth. A wild troop of Bacchanals, each waving a vine-garlanded thyrsis on high, shouted the praises of the jolly god as his leopard-drawn car shot madly across the plain; and Orestes haunted by furies, Faust and Mephistopheles, and Don Giovanni surrounded by the fiends, joined a brilliant company of armed knights and ladies fair, Amadis of Gaul, Charlemagne, and the court of King Pepin.— The red Arab and the dusky Moor, the swarthy Ethiop and feathered Indian, mingled freely with dainty cavaliers and gorgeous nymphs. Tripping to the merry sound of the castanet, and the tinkling melody of the gay guitar, men and maidens from the banks of the Guadalquivir performed their national bolero, whilst the loud war-hoop of the painted savage, brandishing his fearful tomahawk in close conjunction, disturbed them not.— Belphegor and Lucifer, with their tails twisted over their arms, and their hideous horns erect, trod the sprightly measure with white-robed virgins, the vestal guardians of the sacred fire. Crowned Emperors and fettered slaves, rude pirates and gentle ladies, in this universal jubilee, joined hands and hearts. The gibbering ghost, the bright-eyed star, the tumbling scaramouch and stalking skeleton, entered alike into the joyous pleasures of the hour.— The gazer's eye was dazzled by the vivid and fantastic spectacle which the Venetian carnival presented; the shout of the maddening populace was mingled with the sound of ten thousand