

XXI

And nearer fast and nearer
 Doth the red whirlwind come ;
 And louder still and still more loud,
 From underneath that rolling cloud,
 Is heard the trumpet's war-note proud,
 The trampling, and the hum.
 And plainly and more plainly
 Now through the gloom appears,
 Far to left and far to right,
 In broken gleams of dark-blue light,
 The long array of helmets bright,
 The long array of spears.

165
170

XXII

And plainly, and more plainly
 Above that glimmering line,
 Now might ye see the banners
 Of twelve fair cities³² shine ;
 But the banner of proud Clusium
 Was highest of them all,
 The terror of the Umbrian,³³
 The terror of the Gaul.³⁴

175
180

XXIII

And plainly and more plainly
 Now might the burghers know,
 By port and vest,³⁵ by horse and crest,
 Each warlike Lucumo.³⁶

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³² twelve fair cities. The Etruscan confederacy was composed of twelve cities.

³³ Umbrian. Umbria was a division of Italy.

³⁴ the Gaul. The Gauls were beginning to invade Italy from the north.

³⁵ port and vest. Bearing and dress.

³⁶ Lucumo. Etruscan chief.