

the rain-bow, among the gorgeously tinted clouds, and are nourished by the fragrance of sweet flowers.

The Dives of the Persians were spirits of the male sex, with habits and dispositions, directly contrary to those of the Peris. They were malevolent, cruel, and fierce, and described as hideous in their appearance. Huge spiral horns sprang from their heads, their eyes were large and staring, their claws sharp and their fangs terrific. Covered with shaggy hair, and having long rough tails, it seemed as if they possessed every deformity. The Dives warred with mankind, and pursued the Peris with unrelenting hatred. Their lives, however, were limited, and they were not incapable of feeling personal violence.

The fancies of the inhabitants of the East, teem with supernatural beings. The Genii, spirits of vast size, were said to have been imprisoned by Solomon, who shut them up in caskets, upon which he placed his seal. Some were thrown into rivers. A fisherman once drew one up from the bottom of the stream in his net, and the vessel being opened, a dense smoke rose from the interior. The smoke gradually assumed the vast figure of a Genius. The whole story is related in the Arabian Nights' Entertainments.

Fairies of a certain class, such as the warlike elves or fays, were believed to exist by all European nations. During times of military enthusiasm, the fancy of warriors saw the procession of fairies, well-armed and mounted, bearing gorgeous banners; their weapons glittering in the moonlight, or gleaming like lightning on the darkness of night. A Bohemian legend says that a certain knight, travelling with a friend, met one of these nocturnal processions, and, disregarding the caution of his companion, spurred his horse forward to attack them. Horse and rider were found dead upon the spot in the morning.

The Swedes asserted that there was a certain class of supernatural beings, pretty much the same as the Brownies of

Scotland, who assisted the miners, labored in the shafts, and were far more ingenious than mortal workmen.

The fairies of England were generally of a harmless disposition. Oberon and Titania, the fairy king and queen, were pleasant little people, with a spice of humanity in their dispositions. Robin Goodfellow was a mischievous little creature, but not very spiteful. He was represented like a rustic, "in a suit of leather, close to his body, his hands and face russet color, with a flail."

The Scottish fairies were certainly guilty of great deviations from the path of honesty. One of their greatest sins was that of stealing fine children from their cradles, and leaving in the place of a healthy infant, a rickety and deformed being. The elves often steal away wives from their husbands, and these women were only to be regained by confronting the fairy procession on a certain night, within a day and a year, after the loss, which time was allowed the bereaved mortals for restitution.

The electrical circles which are sometimes found upon the turf were believed to be fairy rings, within which it was thought dangerous to sleep, or to be found after sunset. The Scotch fairies were of diminutive stature, of a doubtful nature, capricious and very resentful. The Scotch were afraid to speak of them disrespectfully, and even called malicious spirits, "gude people."

These fairies lived in green hills, on which they danced by moonlight. The interior of their habitations is described as presenting a most beautiful appearance, brilliant with glittering gold and gems, and containing every thing which a splendid fancy could contrive. But as "all is not gold that glitters," these fine appearances are said to be a show, put on to conceal a mean or repulsive reality.

These little beings are admirable riders, and the best judge of horses in the world. They go about in large companies by night, when their presence is