MEDIEVAL LEGENDS. NO. I; DR. JOHANNES FAUSTUS: PUPPET PLAY, IN FOUR ACTS

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Medieval Legends. No. I; Dr. Johannes Faustus: puppet play, in four acts by Anonymous

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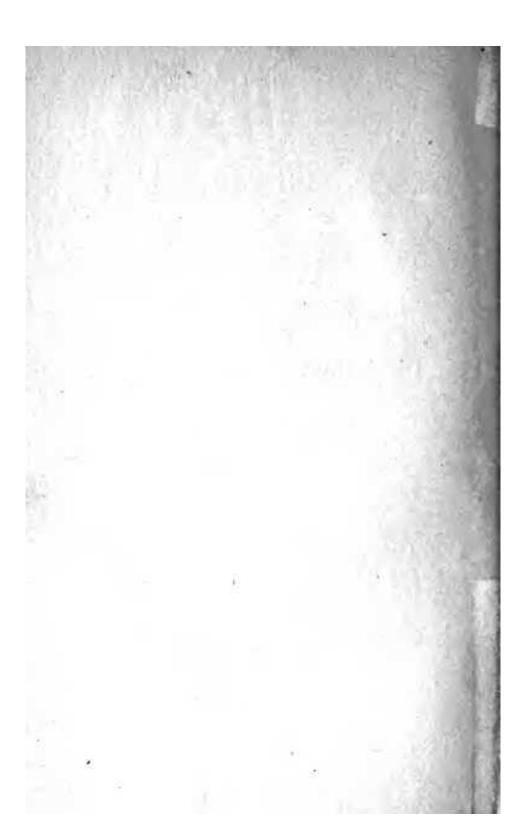
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ANONYMOUS

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Trieste

DR. JOHANNES FAUSTUS



Mediabal Legends. Do. E

DR. JOHANNES FAUSTUS

PUPPET PLAY

NOW FIRST DONE INTO ENGLISH

IN FOUR ACTS

LONDON DAVID NUTT IN THE STRAND 1893

13 . РТ 649911 925 24.1.57 Е.5 1893

PREFACE

DR. JOHANNES FAUSTUS' Puppet Play though last in order of time, takes the first place in this collection of Mediæval Legends on account of the supreme interest attached to it as source and inspiration of Goethe's Tragedy. Let not the reader, however, expect to find Goethe or even Marlowe anticipated in this ancient relic of another spirit and another age. This Faustus is no tragedy, artistically antique or philosophically modern, but a Puppet Play pure and simple, which as popular "Morality" still bears traces of the earlier stage of ecclesiastical "Mystery." Ignorant and careless alike of Art this dramatic version yet obeys many of Art's canons. In marked contrast with the loosely or wholly unconnected incidents of the Prose Legend (Note No. 7 of this collection), from which Marlowe formed his plot, the Puppet Play presents strict unity of design, stern necessity with relentless irony of Fate and unflagging action on the part of characters which, if crudely drawn, are yet well sustained and perhaps gain in colour what they lack in shade, while the

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Preface

essentially Mediæval and Teutonic weird mingling, in familiarity bold but *not* profane, of sublimity and buffeonery, of the super and the cynically natural, so utterly at variance with Grecian harmony, was well calculated to inspire pity and terror in an audience to whom the scene depicted no poet's fancy but the intense reality of life here and hereafter.

Accept then, Reader, in the spirit of their own time and not of ours, these last words of the Middle Ages, as acted so lately as 1844, for the last time in Europe by Schütz and Dreber's Kasperle Company at Berlin.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

DR. JOHANNES FAUST. CHRISTOPH WAGNER, his Famulus. DUKE OF PARMA. DUCHESS OF PARMA. DON CARLOS, Seneschal at Court of Parma CASPERLE, Faust's Servant, afterwards Night-watchman. GRETL, his Wife. MEPHISTOPHELES AUERHAHN ASTAROT MEGÄRA HARIBAX , Evil Spirits. POLUMOR ASMODEUS VITZLIPUTZLI XERXES FAUST'S GUARDIAN ANGEL. Two WOMEN, one young, one old. KING SOLOMON SAMSON AND DELILAH JUDITH AND HOLOFERNES & Apparitions. DAVID AND GOLIATH HELEN OF TROY

SCENE-Alternately MAINZ and PARMA.