THE DESCRIPTION, SPEECHES, AND SONGS, OF
THE LORDS MASKE, PRESENTED IN
the Banqueting-house on the marriage night
of the high and mightie Count Palatine,
and the royally descended the Ladie
ELISABETH.

I have now taken occasion to satisfy many, who
long since were desirous that the Lords maske
should be published, which (but for some private
lets, had in due time come forth. The Scene was
divided into two parts from the roofe to the
floor, the lower part being first discovered (upon the sound of a
double consort, express by severall instruments, plac’d on either
side of the room) there appeared a wood in prospectuie, the in-
nermost part being of releeue, or whole round, the rest painted.
On the left hand from the seat was a Cave, and on the right a
thicket, out of which came Orpheus, who was attired after the
old Greeke manner, his haire curled, and long; a lawrell wreath
on his head; and in his hand hee bare a siluer bird; about him
tamely placed severall wild beasts, and upon the seasing of the
consort Orpheus spake.

ORPHEVS.
A gen, agen, fresh kindle Phebus sounds,
T’exhale Mania from her earthie den;

C Allay
What faire dames wish, should swift as their own thoughts appeare,
To lousing & to longing harts euyer houre seems a yeare.

See how faire: O how faire they shine,
What yeelds more pompe beneath the skies?
Their birth is yet divine,
And such their forme implies.

Large grow their beames, their nere approch afford the so
By nature sights that pleasing are, canot too amply show,
O might these flames in humane shapes descend this place,
How louelie would their presence bee, how full of grace!

Enth. Patron of mankinde, powerfull and bounteous,
Rich in thy flames, reverend Prometheus,
In Hymens place aide vs to solemnize
These royall Nuptials, fill the lookerseyes
With admiration of thy fire and light,
And from thy hand let wonders flow to night.

Prom. Enthues and Orpbus names both deare to me,
In equall ballance I your Thirde will be
In this nights honour, view these heau'n borne Starres,
Who by my stealth are become Sublunars.
How well their natuall beauties fit this place,
Which with a chorall dance they first shall grace;
Then shall their formes to humane figures turne,
And these bright fires within their bosomes burne.
Orpheus apply thy musick for it well
Helps to induce a Courtly miracle.
Orp. Sound best of Musicks, raise yet higher our sprights,
While we admire Prometheus dancing lights.

A Song.

1
A Duance your Chorall motions now
You musick-louing lights,
This night concludes the nuptiall vow,
Make this the best of nights,
So brawely Crowne it with your beames,
That it may live in fame,
As long as Rhenus or the Thames
Are knowne by either name.

2
Once more againe, yet nearer moue
Your formes at willing view,
Such faire effects of joy and loue,
None can expresse but you,
Then recull midst your ayrie Bowres
Till all the clouds doe sweat,
That pleasure may be powr'd in showres
On this triumphant Seat.

3
Long since hath lovely Flora throwne
Her Flowers and Garlands here,
Rich Ceres all her wealth hath shouwne,
Prowde of her dainty cheare.
Chang'd then to humane shape descend,
Clad in familiar weede,
That every eye may here commend
The kinde delights you breede.
of the Lords Maske.

According to the humour of this Song, the Starres moved in an exceeding strange and delightfull manner, and I suppose fewe have ever seen more neat artifice, than Master Innigoe Jones shewed in continuance their Motion, who in all the rest of the workmanship which belonged to the whole invention, shewed extraordinary industry and skill, which if it be not as lively express'd in writing as it appeared in view, robbe not him of his due, but lay the blame on my want of right apprehending his instructions for the adoring of his Arte. But to returne to our purpose, about the end of this Song, the Starres suddenly vanished, as if they had beene drowned amongst the Cloudes, and the eight Maskers appeared in their habitts, which were infinitely rich, desiring States (such as indeede they all were) as also atime so farre heightned the day before, with all the richest shew of solemntricke that could be invented. The ground of their attires was massive Cloth of Siluer, embossed with flames of Embroidery, on their heads, they had Crownes, Flames made all of Gold-plate Enameled, and on the top a Feather of Silke, representing a cloud of smoake. Upon their new transformation, the whole Scene being Cloudes dispersed, and there appeared an Element of artificiall fires, with seuerall circles of lights, in continuall motion, representing the house of Prometheus, who then thus applies his speech to the Maskers.

They are transformed.

Prometh. So, pause awhile, and come yee fierie spirits, Breake forth the earth-like sparks t'attend these Knights.

Sixteene Pages like fierie spirits, all their attires being alike composed of flames, with fierie Wings and Bases, bearing in one hand a Torch of Virgine Waxe, come forth below dauncing a lively measure, and the Daunce being ended, Prometheus speakes to them from above.
The description, speeches, and songs.

The Torch-bearers Dance.

Pro. V V Ait spirits wait, while through the clouds we
And by descending gain a higher place. (pace,

The Pages return toward the Scene, to give their attendance
to the Maskers with their lights: from the side of the Scene ap-
peared a bright and transparent cloud, which reached from the
top of the heavens to the earth: on this cloud the Maskers led
Prometheus, descended with the musicke of a full song; and at
the end of their descent, the cloud brake in twaine, and one part
of it (as with a winde) was blowne overthwart the Scene.

While this cloud was vanishing, the wood being the under-part
of the Scene, was insensibly changed, and in place thereof appeared
four Noble women-statues of siluer, standing in severall ni-
ces, accompanied with ornaments of Architecture, which filled
all the end of the house, and seemed to be all of goldsmithes work.
The first order consisted of Pillasters all of gold, ser with Rubies,
Saphyrs, Emeralds, Opals, and such like. The Capitels were com-
posed, and of a new invention. One this was a bastard order
with Cartousies reversed, comming from the Capitels of every Pil-
laster, which made the upper part rich and full of ornament.
Over every statue was placed a history in gold, which seemed to be
of base releace; the conceits which were figured in them were
these. In the first was Prometheus, embossing in clay the fi-
gure of a woman, in the second he was represented stealing fire
from the chariot-wheele of the Sunne: in the third, he is express-
puting life with this fire into his figure of clay; and in the fourth
square, Jupiter enraged, turns these new made women into sta-
tues. Above all, for finishing, ran a Cornish, which returned o-
er every Pillaster, seeming all of gold and richly carv'd.
The description, speeches, and songs,
Every one fetch out your voice,
Whom chiefly you will honor here,
Sights most pleasure breed,
When their numbers most exceed:
Choose then, for choice to all is free,
Taken or left, none discontent must be.

Chorus:

Now in thy Revels frolick, faire delight,
To heap joy on this ever honored night.

The Maskers during this Dialogue take out others to dance
with them, men women, and women men, and first of all the
Princely Bridegroome and Bride were drawn into these solemn
Revels, which continued a long space, but in the end were broken
off with this short Song.

A Song:

Cease, cease you Revels, rest a space,
New pleasures press into this place,
Full of beautie and of grace.

The whole scene was now againe changed, and became a pro-
spective with Porticoes on each side, which seemed to go in a great
way, in the middle was erected an Obeliske, all of siluer, and in it
lights of several colours, on the side of this Obeliske, standing on
Pedestals, were the statues of the Bridegroome and Bride, all of
gold in gracious postures. This Obeliske was of that height, that
the toppe thereof touched the highest clouds, and yet Sybilla
did draw it forth with a thread of gold. The grave Sage was in
a Robe of gold tuckt up before to her girdle, a Kirtle gathered
full, and of siluer; with a vail on her head, being bare neck, and
bearing in her hand a scrolle of Parchment.

Enthusius.