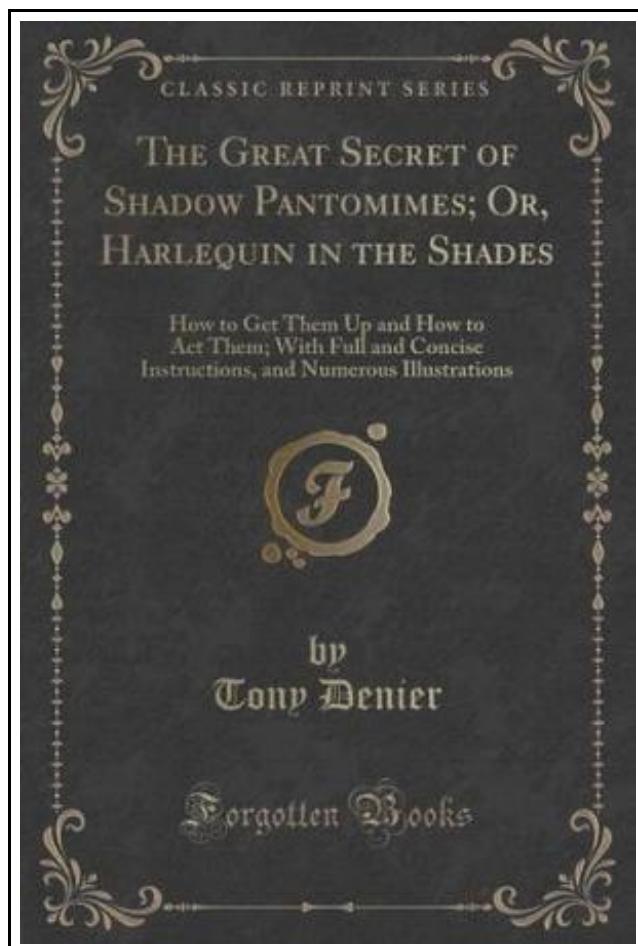


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The Great Secret of Shadow Pantomimes; Or, Harlequin in the Shades: How to Get Them Up and How to Act Them; With Full and Concise Instructions, and Numerous Illustrations Here in 1803 and 1804 one Winsor exhibited and explained his propositions to light the public streets with gas; but as Winsor s statements were considered at that time extravagant and Baron-Munchausenish, Winsor did not win sir many converts to his scheme; and although an enlarged experiment was made by lighting up a portion of Pall Mall and the colonnade in front of Carlton Palace, it did not meet with favor, and the project was abandoned. The practice of gas lighting did not come into operation till the year 1813, when the first chartered gas company erected their works in Peter street, Westminster, London, and enlightened the darkness of the inhabitants of one of the leading cities of the world, which has been improved upon and increased from time to time, until, at the present day, the principal streets and crowded thoroughfares of all large cities are occasionally, as the play bills say, an unparalleled blaze of resplendent light. But to return to the shadows, which, as we have before intimated, were first exhibited at the Old Lyceum, and as the modus operandi and manner of carrying it out was entirely in the heads, hands, and heels of the Frenchman s own family, and as all strangers were rigidly excluded from being behind the scenes, the secret was safely kept, and public excitement and curiosity consequently greatly increased. Monsieur realized a very handsome sum of money, and with this increased his substance, but it would appear...



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