

**THE DAWN IN
BRITAIN.
VOLUME VI**

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The Dawn in Britain. Volume VI by Charles M. Doughty

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CHARLES M. DOUGHTY

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The Dawn in Britain

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'TRAVELS IN ARABIA DESERTA'

VOLUME VI



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1906



BOOK XXI

And having beene with acorns alwaies fed ;
The Tears of the Muses ; 590.

6—A

320883

ARGUMENT

CARATACUS is led to the Roman *forum* ; where is sitting the emperor Claudius, with Agrippina. Cæsar receives a message from his daughter Octavia. He pronounces, that shall not die Caratacus : he pardons him and all his house. Sudden tumult of Gauls in Rome ; which is appeased, by Briton king Caratacus.

All South Britain is now a Roman Province. Only Silurians remain unsubdued. Chuchid, last son of Moel-mabon, leads forth their warlike youth. He overthrows Roman cohorts. Tidings are brought to Britain, of Claudius' death. Nero rules.

Cuan chants, of the New Life, in Alban. There Amathon hath now tidings, of his son's death. He dies. Herfyrd with their child Rosmerta, was gone forth to minister to Kowain. When might her wains no further pass ; she journeys on, afoot, with the child and her nurse. They hear then a land-cry ; that Maglos, Hælion and prince Kowain are fallen !

By night-time, those come to that burned place ; where newly Kynan buried Britain dukes. Kowain's grave is found. Terror falls upon them, in the next night ; and they hastily remove. The women's weary and deadly march. In that long path Caltra dies, the child's nurse. Herfyrd, at length, descended from Mendip, comes to border of Avalon's mere ; which, for flood, she cannot now pass. Longtime she calls ; but none there hears her bitter crying. She travails in the

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night, and bears a deadly babe. Rosmerta waking, at dawn, finds her mother cold; in whose dead bosom is laid a new-born babe. Dylan, hearing the child's voice, swims to her, from Avalon shore. His sons row over their bark; and laid their lady dead, therein; they ferry again to Alban. Lamentation for Herfyrd.

War-worn Britain now hath rest, three years; whilst unwarlike Nero rules. Deceased is also the duke Ostorius, in his charge. Suetonius, the new legate, marches against Mona. Romans, scattered the defending Britons, cut-down their sacred groves.

Boudicca's great revolt. King Prasutagos dead, the quæstor's servants, entered the royal dune, put all to sack. The queen is beaten with rods; the royal daughters are outraged. Prasutagos' herdfolk, who come in from upland, heard that tidings, overrun and slay those Romans. Queen Boudicca's complaint. The land-cry is raised. A multitude of Britons arrive: which grown to great angry host; Boudicca leads them forth, now the third morrow, driving in her royal chariot. To Camulodunum, is their dread march. There Roman veterans take again their disused arms: but prodigies have amazed their fearful hearts. They flee to temple of Claudius; where soon raging Britons have them enclosed. At midnight, an earthquake shakes those temple-walls.