THE DAWN IN BRITAIN, VOLUME I

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The Dawn in Britain, Volume I by Charles M. Doughty

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The Dawn in Britain

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'TRAVELS IN ARABIA DESERTA'

VOLUME I

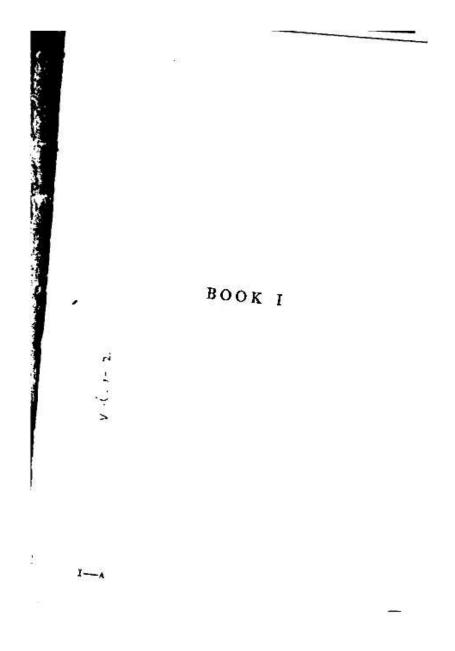


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ARGUMENT

THE SUBJECT OF THIS POEM

THE ISLE lies empty and desolate. A people of the Gaulish Main, chosen out, by lot, overfare to Britain. SAMOTH is duke and father of the new Island-nation. Sarron, the Star, succeeds him. Marriage of father Sarron's daughters; and that sire's death. After him his ten sons-in-law rule the Britons. After their time, and being now strife among the island tribes, Dunwallon is chosen royal warden of the nation, as Samoth, erewhile, was. Ditnwallon gives his people laws. That great and good king is slain. Belinus then and Brennus, his twin sons, contend for the sovereignty.

Brennus, passed the seas, is received by his uncle Correus, king of Sénones Gauls. Brennus, in Arden forest, fights with ethling Heremod, duke of an inroad of neighbour Almains; wherein they both, in a manner, being conquerors, Brennus and Heremod make covenant together, and swear oathbrotherhood.

King Belinus passes the sea, with an army, to go against Brennus. Their mother Corwen passes over, in another vessel. Reconciliation of those royal brethren. Word, then, is brought, from Britain; that the tribes' princes have banished them from the Isle.

Belinus and Brennus fare forth, with new gathered armies, to Gaulish wars; and joined, to theirs, is an Almain power, with ethling Heremod. After many marches, Gauls, gone forth, in arms, avenge the Aquitainians of their enemies, Iberians. Gauls, thus, conquer, to themselves, new seats in far-off Spain; Celtiberia,

THE DAWN IN BRITAIN

BOOK I

I CHANT new day-spring, in the MUSES' ISLES, Of Christ's eternal Kingdom. Men of the East, Of hew and raiment strange, and uncouth speech, Behold, in storm-beat ship, cast nigh our Land !

New Light is risen upon the World, from whence The dawn doth rise. In Canaan of the East, These days, was heard, of men, as Voice divine; Which in Thy mouth, JESUA, our Prince of Peace!

But thou, dear Foster, Britain's MUSE, record, What antique wights dwelled ere in this sweet soil; Who kings, of sacred seed, bare o'er them rule; What gods adored then the blue-pictured Britons. Sith tumults, great war-deeds of Britain's sons; And erst of glorious BRENNUS in Mainland. Who conquered Rome, and Italy did burn; And arms of his great seed, still turned gainst Rome.

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