

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Now are frolic: not a mouse  
Shall disturb this hallow'd house:  
I am sent with broom before,<sup>1</sup>  
To sweep the dust behind the door.

*Enter OBERON and TITANIA with their train.*<sup>2</sup>

*[Soft music.]*

*Obe. C.* Though the house give glimmering  
light,

By the dead and drowsy fire,<sup>3</sup>  
Every elf and fairy sprite  
Hop as light as bird from brier;  
And this ditty, after me,  
Sing, and dance it trippingly.

*Tita. C.* First, rehearse your song by rote,  
To each word a warbling note:  
Hand in hand, with fairy grace,  
Will we sing, and bless this place.

*[Song and dance.]*

*Obe.* Now, until the break of day,<sup>4</sup>  
Through this house each fairy stray.  
To the best bride-bed will we,  
Which by us shall blessed be;  
And the issue there create  
Ever shall be fortunate.  
With this field-dew consecrate,