

## THE COMING OF LUGH

### III

Lugh passed into the dun, while Ogma gazed  
With eager looks upon him, for he thought  
To test the youth in feats. And so he stooped  
And lifting a great stone he cast it far  
Out thro' the open door, and past the fosse —  
The effort of a giant. Then went Lugh  
And cast the mighty stone back to its place,  
Not through the door, but through the dun's  
strong wall!

And Ogma said: — "Your cast has beaten mine;  
Sit in the champion's seat, before the king,  
And let the chess be brought." They played,  
and Lugh

Won every game. Then Nuadha, the king: —  
"Truly you are Ildanach, I would fain  
Hear music of your making, but we have  
No harp to offer you." "I see one here,"  
Said Lugh, "a harp full worthy of my skill."  
And answer made the king: — "That is the harp  
Played by the Dagda, and no hand but his  
Can play upon it, for its magic spell  
Makes all the seasons blossom and decay."  
But Lugh said: — "I will play upon this harp."  
So it was given to him.

And first he played  
Music of life and joy, whereat, outside,  
The birds began to sing a morning song  
As though the sun were rising, and the dew  
Lay light upon the grass. And from the sword