

THE DRUIDS

Place, An oak wood in Old Britain.

Time, About 2,000 years ago.

People, Four Druids.

The Druids were the priests of our land many, many years ago. At that time our land was called Britain.

The Britons did not know about the true God. The Druids told them that there were many gods. They taught them to say prayers to the sun and other things.

The Druids thought a great deal of the mistletoe which often grew on oak trees. So they used to say their prayers among the oak trees.

On feast days the priests used to cut pieces of mistletoe with golden sickles. These pieces were given to the people, who thought that they kept them from harm.

The Druids thought their gods

would be pleased if they killed white oxen and burnt them on a stone table or altar.

The Britons had no big towns, and many of their houses were very small and made of clay mixed with branches. They hunted animals for food.

They did not wear many clothes. Many of them fought a great deal with each other.

But not all the Britons were rough and savage. Some of them grew corn and kept cattle; and a few of them had learnt how to make cloth.

Some of the fighters rode in cars or chariots drawn by small rough horses.