

(2023 January 20) Fir Bolg

As we approach Imbolc, a peek into pre-Catholic Irish mythology is warranted. The Fir Bolg are not a bad place to start. Like all other aspects of Irish/Celtic myth, there's a great deal of crap about the Fir Bolg caught in the Net (which should more regularly than it is be recognized as the Net of Indra). Again, like so much else, the speculation and imagination, fantasy and straight out lies are rooted in a few very sparse (and maybe thus all the more suggestive) lines in a few medieval Irish documents containing fragments of what scholars call "the Mythological Cycle." But, as we all know, malarkey can be entertaining.

For a deeper understanding (and speculative stimuli) here are some further links, including Jubainville's defining book (1884) on the Mythological Cycle and T.W. Rolleston's once enormously popular and influential *Myths and Legends of the Irish Race* (1910 - in pdf link below), a retelling of some of the Cycle tales (known today in one form or another largely because of Rolleston and his Celtic Twilight proselytizers and fantasists

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fir_Bolg

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fir_Bolg#:~:text=The%20name%20Fir%20Bolg%20is,%2C%20bellows%2C%20and%20so%20forth.

https://archive.org/details/bub_gb_7EPXAAAAMAAJ/mode/1up

And for a related rabbit hole that maybe has more to do with Imbolc, start with this Wiki article on Imbas forosnai

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imbas_forosnai

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