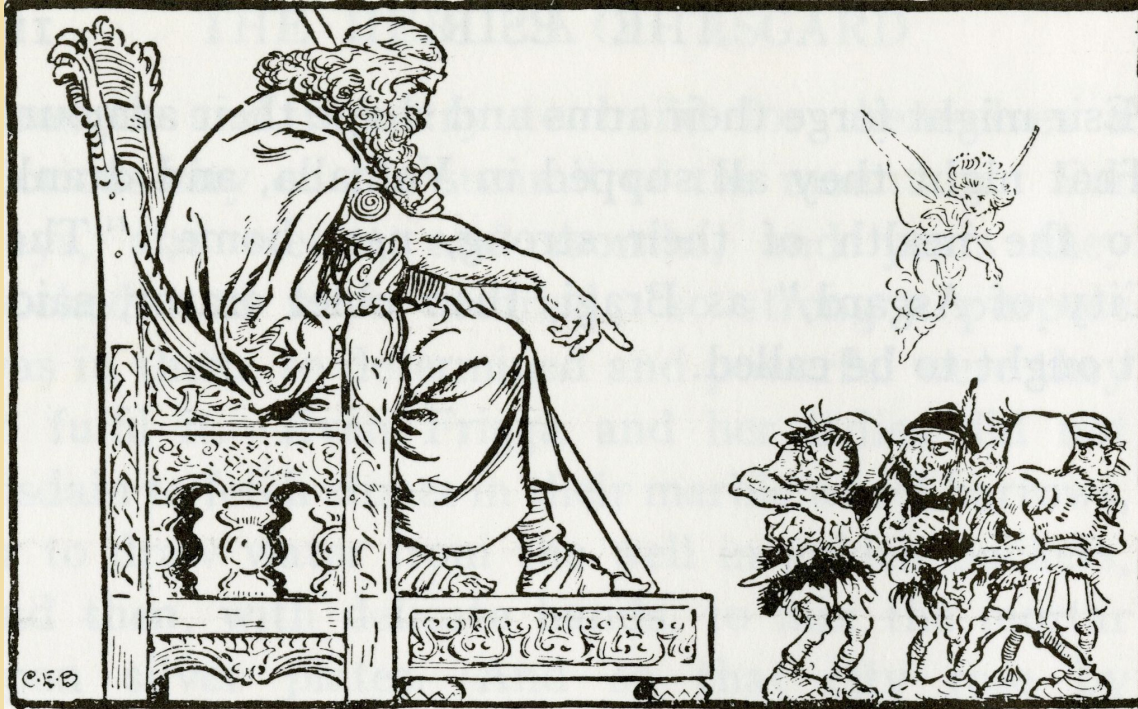


# Reshaping the Shapeshifter: Óðinn's Victorian Makeover



# Primary Sources

1. The Prose *Edda* (1220)
2. *Heimskringla* (1230)
3. The Poetic *Edda* (1270)
4. *Danmarks krønike* (c. 1300)



## Óðinn practicing seiðr

Munthe, Gerhard. Óðinn Practicing Seiðr. From: Sturluson, Snorri. *Kongesagaer*. Translated by Gustav Storm, Kristiania: J. M. Stenersen, 1899. 9. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.



## Óðinn shapeshifting

Munthe, Gerhard. Óðinn Shape-shifting. From: Sturluson, Snorri. *Kongesagaer*. Translated by Gustav Storm, Kristiania: J. M. Stenersen, 1899. 9. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.



# Annie Keary and Liza Keary



**The Heroes of Asgard (1857 ed. - 1870 ed. - 1930 ed.)**

**Two British spinsters wrote *The Heroes of Asgard...* (1857)**

**First edition (1857) - pedagogical apparatus**

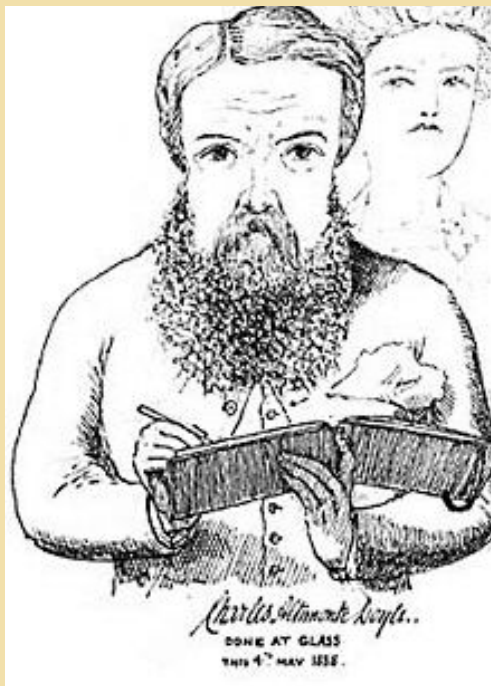
**Golden Age of Children's Literature (1865-1926)**

**Parents' National Educational Union (PNEU) 1867**

**“The Parents' National Educational Union, founded in Bradford, Yorkshire in 1887 as the Parent's Educational Union, was an organisation providing resources and support for teachers and homeschoolers in the United Kingdom in accordance with the educational ideas of Charlotte Mason”. [Wikipedia](#)**

**Annie Keary (1825-1879)**

# *The Heroes of Asgard and the Giants of Jötunheim, Or, The Week and Its Story (1857)*

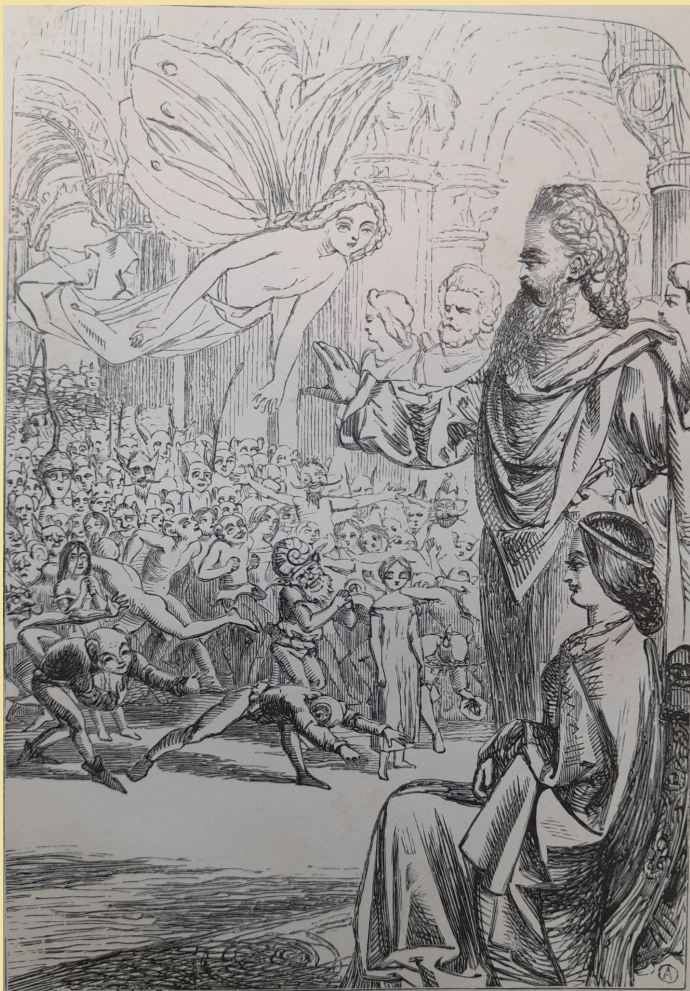


**Charles Altamont Doyle  
(1832-1893)**





# Heroes of Asgard (1857): Hermod's Return With the Dwarfs



**Forthcoming in MyNDR's next  
version update in June 2022.**

Photo: Jón Karl Helgason.

# Reviews: The Heroes of Asgard (1857)

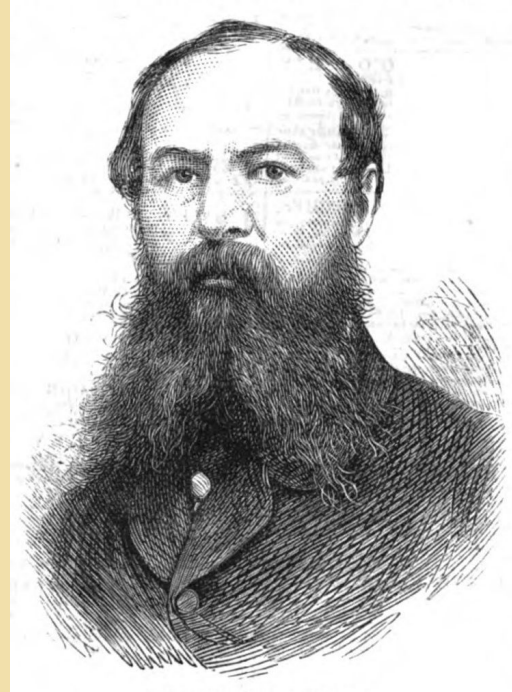
**"The fables of the Northern mythology are here reduced to a form adapted to the intelligence of children. They have been cleverly set to an accompaniment of occasional dialogue, lightening and relieving the narrative of giants' wars and of heroic prowess achieved by dwellers in the immortal city. The book is a good specimen of learning made easy by being made pleasant."**

Review of *The Heroes of Asgard*, by Annie Keary, and Liza Keary. *The Critic*, 16 Mar. 1857: 130. Web July 27, 2021.

**"The Scandinavian mythology converted into a tale told for the edification of children, after the manner of books that have taught the Greek and Roman mythology. But no genius can invest the gods of Asgard with the charms of the gods of Olympus. They have none of the grace or dignity. But the authoress has made the best of an unattractive theme."**

Review of *The Heroes of Asgard*, by Annie Keary, and Liza Keary. *The Athenaeum*, 11 Apr. 1857: 470. Web. 27 July 2021.

# The Second Edition - The Heroes of Asgard. Tales From Scandinavian Mythology (1870)



**Louis Huard (1814-1874)**

<https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q21555912>



# *The Heroes of Asgard* (1870): Týr Feeding Fenrir

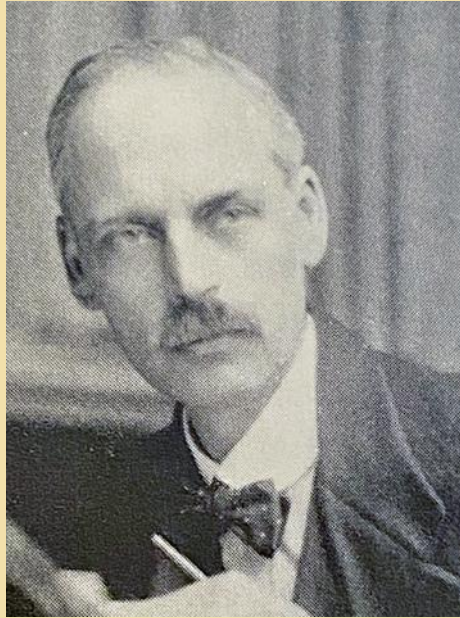


**Detail: Óðinn**

Huard, Louis. Týr Feeding Fenrir. From: Keary, Annie, and Liza Keary. *The Heroes of Asgard*. London: Macmillan and Co. Limited, 1908. 265. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.



# The Third Edition - The Heroes of Asgard: Tales From Scandinavian Mythology (1930)

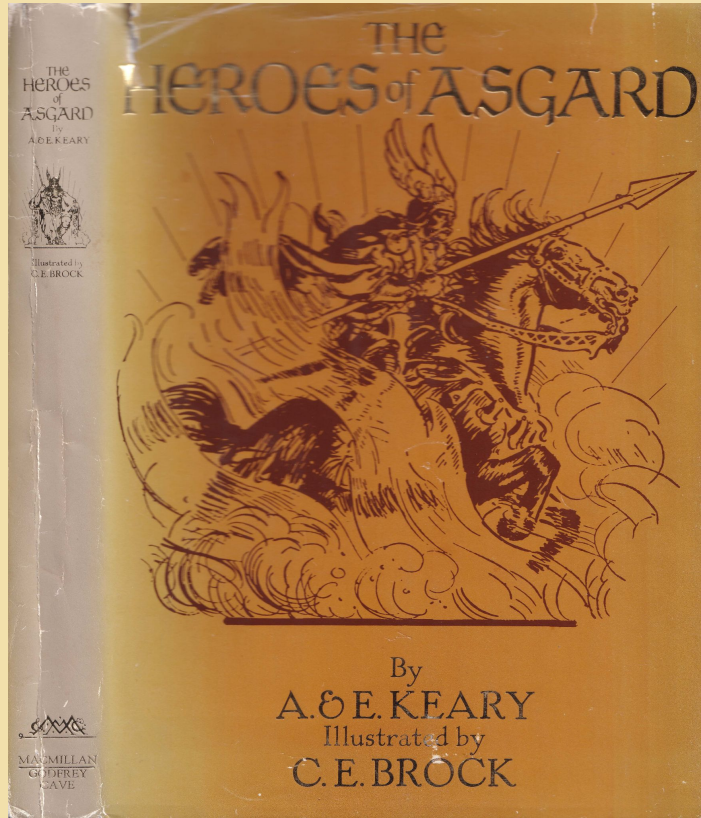


**Charles Edmund Brock (1870-1938)**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Charles\\_Edmund\\_Brock](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Charles_Edmund_Brock)



# The Heroes of Asgard (1930)



**Dust Jacket**



**Detail from the title page (iii)**



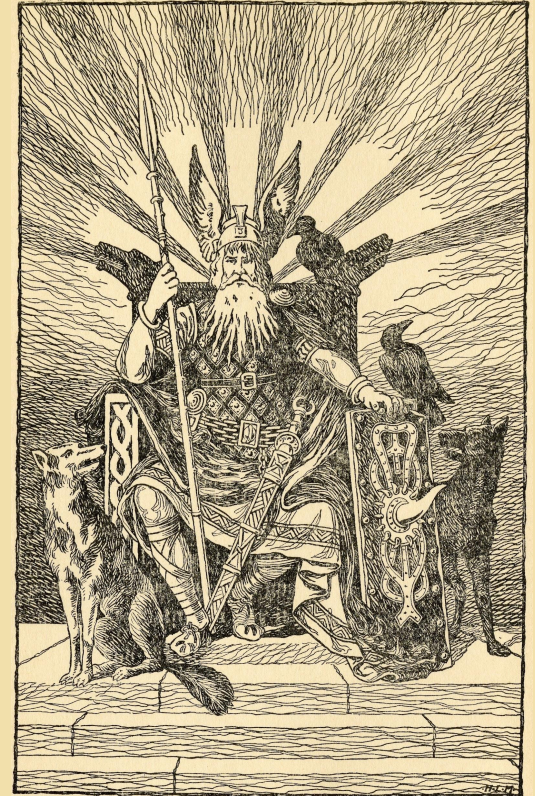
**Detail from the spine**

# The Heroes of Asgard (1930)



Page 1 - Óðinn

# Nordisch-germanische Götter und Helden (1863)



Page 7 - Óðinn

Left:

Brock, C. E.. The Aesir. From: Keary, Annie, and Liza Keary. *The Heroes of Asgard*. London: Macmillan and Co. Limited, 1930. 1. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.

Right:

Wagner, Wilhelm, and Jakob Nover. *Nordisch-germanische Götter und Helden: in Schilderungen für Jugend Und Volk*. Leipzig: O. Spamer, 1882. 7

Illustration: Carl Emil Doepler 'The Elder'.

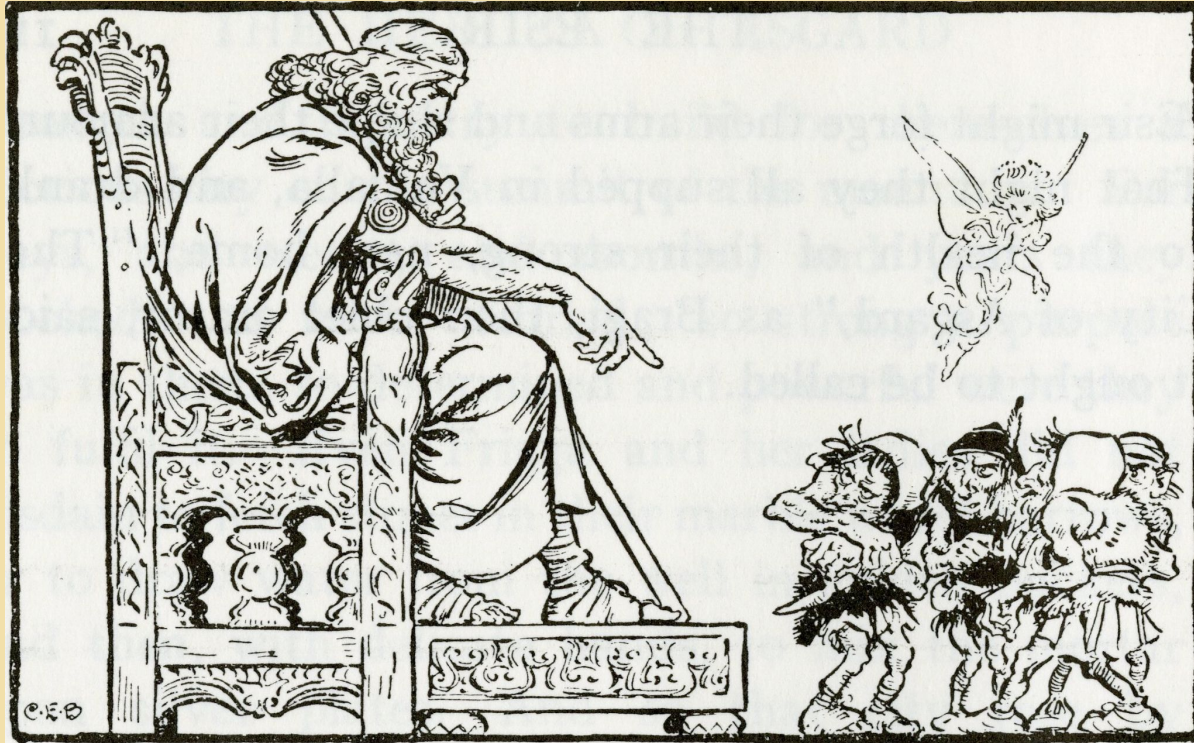


# The Heroes of Asgard (1930): Óðinn in Jötunheim



Brock, C. E.. The Header for "The Children of Loki". From: Keary, Annie, and Liza Keary. *The Heroes of Asgard*. London: Macmillan and Co. Limited, 1930. 26. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.

# The Heroes of Asgard (1930): Óðinn and the Dwarfs



Brock, C. E.. Header for “Air Throne, the Dwarfs and the Light Elves.”. From: Keary, Annie, and Liza Keary. *The Heroes of Asgard*. London: Macmillan and Co. Limited, 1930. 12. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.





# The Heroes of Asgard (1930): Óðinn and the Vanir



**Frontispiece**

**“Cease,  
strange  
Vanir.....  
cease your  
rough play”**



**Detail: The Vanir  
(frontispiece)**

Brock, C. E.. Frontispiece for *The Heroes of Asgard* (1930). From: Keary, Annie, and Liza Keary. *The Heroes of Asgard*. London: Macmillan and Co. Limited, 1930. ii. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.



# The Heroes of Asgard (1930): Garm Attacking Óðinn



Detail: Óðinn



Brock, C. E.. Garm and Óðinn. From: Keary, Annie, and Liza Keary. *The Heroes of Asgard*. London: Macmillan and Co. Limited, 1930. 160. MyNDIR: My Norse Digital Image Repository. Ed. P. A. Baer. 2022. Edition 2.2b . Victoria, B. C.: Humanities Computing and Media Centre, University of Victoria. 2022.







# Charlotte Mason (1842-1923)



The longevity of *The Heroes of Asgard* was assured in 1887 when Charlotte Mason (1842–1923) founded the Parents' National Educational Union (PNEU) and included the Keary sisters' retelling of the Norse myths in “an organized home-school curriculum for families living abroad that promised to solidify an English national identity in their children” (*Neiwe Savages or Citizens? Children, Education, and the British Empire, 1899-1950. 2009 Abstract*).



## You Need A Philosophy. The Charlotte Mason Think Tank Can Help.



If you're going to take education seriously, it's not enough to have a stack of curriculum and a list of things to do. How do you know you chose the right curriculum? How do you know that what is on your to-do list are things worth doing? And how do you know

EST. 2005



**“EST. 2005  
AFTER thoughts  
Because all good thoughts  
First belong to God.”**



## Mythology books — stories about our Gods

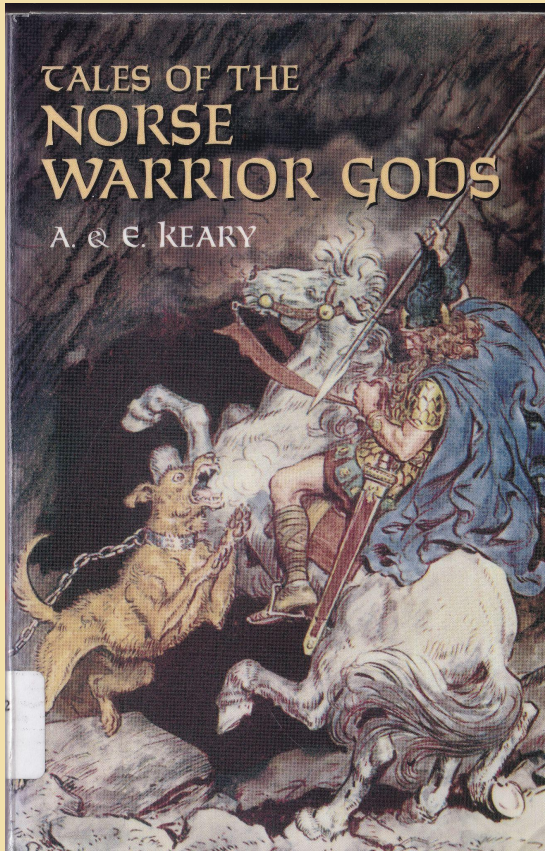
“Bringing our own religious beliefs into a Charlotte Mason education can present a challenge, simply because there is no pre-made format for us to use. As Heathens (Germanic Pagans) we are not “people of the book”, so while Charlotte Mason used the Bible from the time the children first started “school”, we don’t have a similar book to use”

*The Heroes of Asgard* by Kearny (sic) and Keary 

“This is used in the PNEU programmes from the 1920s and 1930s. It is a wonderful introduction to Norse/Germanic mythology written in a literary manner.”

<https://www.juniperpines.com/>





# Concluding Remarks

## [2021 Charlotte Mason Homeschooling Summit Speakers](#)

<https://homeschoolboost.com/2021-charlotte-mason-h...>

Rachel and her husband have always *homeschooled* their two children using...the Wildwood Curriculum, the Stonechats podcast, and blogs at *Juniper Pines*.

Keary, Annie, Eliza Keary, and C E. Brock. *Tales of the Norse Warrior Gods: The Heroes of Asgard*. Newburyport: Dover Publications, **2012**.