

Old Song Series.



Supplement
to
THE
NORTH
AMERICAN
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Sunday.
November 30th
1902
Section
four.

The
Harp
that
Once
through
Tara's
Halls



12831

THE HARP THAT ONCE THROUGH TARA'S HALLS.

AIR - GRAMMACHREE.

Slow

The Harp that once, thro' Ta-ra's halls, The soul of Mu-sic shed, Now

hangs as mute on Ta-ra's walls As if that soul were fled:— So

sleeps the pride of for-mer days. So glo-ry's thrill is o'er: And

hearts. that once beat high for praise, Now feel that pulse no more!

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No more to chiefs and ladies bright
The harp of Tara swells;
The chord, alone, that breaks at night
Its tale of ruin tells:
Thus Freedom now so seldom wakes,
The only throb she gives
's when some heart indignant breaks,
To show that still she lives!

Famous Author of a Famous Song



THOMAS MOORE.

THOMAS MOORE, the author of this long-popular song, "The Harp That Once Through Tara's Halls," was born at Dublin, May 28th. 1779, and entered Trinity College, Dublin, in 1794. He showed early in life a strong desire for a higher education and good reading, and in 1799 he entered the Middle Temple, London, and a year after published his translation of "Anacreon." In 1803-4 he visited America and travelled extensively through the States. A couple of years after his return to Europe, he began the publication of his "Odes and Epistles," shortly following with the "Irish Melodies," which latter continued unbroken for more than a quarter century, and netted him the comfortable income of \$2500 a year.

In 1811 Moore married Bessie Dyke, an actress, and it was in this year that his famous friendship for Lord Byron began. In a few years his fame became so great that when it became known he was to write "Lalla Rookh," Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. immediately offered him \$15,000 for the book without having seen it.

His prose works are "The Life of Sheridan," "The Epicurean," "The Life of Byron," "History of Ireland," etc., besides a number of short humorous papers like "The Fudge Family in Paris." "Moore's Memoirs, Journals and Correspondence" was published in 1853, the year after his death, by Earl Russell.