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THE SONGS OF IRELAND

Thomas Moore's "Irish Melodies" have a lasting hold on the imagination and the affection of his people. Such songs as "The Last Rose of Summer" and "Oft In the Stilly Night," however, have more than a national significance, and appeal to the heart of the world. The love of country, however recklessly displayed, has always been strong in the Irish heart, and this song by Moore, supposed to be the last address of a rash young patriot, shows this passionate affection.

When he who adores thee has left but the name Of his fault and his sorrows behind,
Oh! say wilt thou weep, when they darken the fame Of a life that for thee was resign'd?
Yes, weep, and however my foes may condemn, Thy tears shall efface their decree;
For, Heaven can witness, though guilty to them, I have been but too faithful to thee.

With thee were the dreams of my earliest love; Every thought of my reason was thine; In my last humble prayer to the Spirit above Thy name shall be mingled with mine! Oh! blest are the lovers and friends who shall live The days of the clore to see:

The days of thy glory to see; But the next dearest blessing that Heaven can give, Is the pride of thus dying for thee.