

Stringed Instruments.

a. Harps, Lutes, Guitars, &c.

HARP, Scotch, known as the Clarsach Lumanach, or Lamont Harp. [1464.]

Mr. W. Moir Bryce.

The family tradition of Lude alleges that for several centuries this harp has been known as the Clarsach Lumanach, or Lamont Harp, and that it was brought from Argyleshire by Lilius Lamont on her marriage with Robertson of Lude in 1464. If the probably quiet place in the house of Lude be considered, that it was likely to be valued and cared for, also that the repairs appear to be of very old date, then the Clarsach Lumanach may already before 1464 have been an old, broken and mended instrument with a pre-traditional story we can never hope to hear.—Hipkins's 'Musical Instruments.' 1889.

The Lamont Harp, together with that known as Queen Mary's, was sold by auction in Edinburgh in March, 1904; the former realized £525, and the latter £892.

These ancient harps are identical with the specimen preserved at Trinity College, Dublin, known as the harp of Brian Boiroimhe (Borū).

HARP, Welsh, a small portable instrument with single strings for penillion singing.

17th cent.

Mr. J. G. Morley.

SPITZ-HARP, or Double Psaltery.

17th cent.

Rev. F. W. Galpin.

The Spitz-Harp differs from the ordinary Psaltery in having strings on both sides of the sound-board. On the left hand are the brass accompaniment-strings and on the right the steel melody-strings. In the present specimen there are two sets of melody-strings—the one single, the other double. The sound-board is profusely painted with representations of birds, insects, flowers and amoretti, and the instrument was evidently made as a present for a young bride whose portrait appears on the side.
