OLD TRUAGH

traditional harp tune



One of the many harp tunes collected by Bunting (as "Old Truigha") at the 1792 Belfast harpers' meeting. Unfortunately he provides no further information about its origin. The word "Truaigh" (in several spellings), meaning a division of land, appears in many Irish place names. Lyrics beginning with the words "Arise from thy slumbers, oh, fairest of maids!" were composed to the tune by a Miss Balfour. I have never heard either the tune or the song performed (although harpist Anne Haymann says that the tune was at one time very popular).