

BULLETIN of the North American Manx Association



Vol. 19, No. 4

"To preserve whate'er is left to us of ancient heritage"

June, 1946

MANXLAND 100 YEARS AGO

Recently we published in the Bulletin some passages from a book entitled "The Isle of Man," owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Faragher of Lakewood, Ohio. This book is one hundred years old, and presents some interesting glimpses of Mona's Isle as it appeared in those days.

Speaking of Douglas, the author, Rev. J. G. Cumming, is impressed by the beauty of the bay. He says: "What a magnificent bay is this of Douglas! how deep the azure which rests upon its water! Few scenes can be more impressive than that presented to the stranger on his arrival by steamer on a clear calm summer's eve." He goes on to describe the appearance of the town, mentioning the old part lying around the Harbour, the newer part on the rising ground beyond. Even at that date (1848) lodging houses for visitors or "strangers" as the reverend gentleman calls them, quite in the Manx style, were among the newer houses. The most striking objects in the view of the town from the sea, he says, were St. Barnabas Church, the Odd Fellow's Hall, St. George's Church and the House of Industry. Falcon Cliff, too, dominated the sea front as it does today. Castle Mona, former

residence of the Duke of Atholl, had already in 1848 been converted into a hotel. The writer also mentions Derby Castle, which at that time was a private residence, not a place of amusement. Of course the Promenade as we now know it did not exist, but it is interesting to note that some of the familiar features of the sea front were there.

In describing the village of Ballasalla, the author devotes most of his space to the history of Rushen Abbey. The following remarks relate to the ancient Crossag Bridge: "Just above the Abbey of Rushen is a very old bridge, how old it would be hard to tell; it appears in the earliest maps of the Island. It is impassable by any vehicle except a wheelbarrow, and indicates a time when packhorses alone were used for the transport of men and their chattels. The neighbors know it by the name of Crossag." Anyone who has visited Rushen Abbey remembers this quaint and beautiful stone bridge.

In connection with Peel, the author gives his attention to the Castle—a detailed description of its structure and a great deal of history. Speaking of the various famous personages

who were imprisoned in Peel Castle in ancient times, he feels that their confinement need not have been very miserable if they were permitted to walk around within the limits of the little island on which the Castle stands, as the surrounding scenery was so lovely! "There to the south rises the noble Horse Hill with its notable landmark (Corrin's Folly); a bold coast sweeps onward to Contrary Head; the eastern side of the hill has a fine rounded swell forming a choice sheepwalk; then at its base comes the silvery river Neb rippling over its gravelly bed, adown a verdant valley, where grassy slopes are here and there interrupted by clumps of trees and studded with neat villas. However, he tells us very little of Peel town itself, except that it is "ancient looking," and would remind some people of Highland seaside towns. He might have gone on to describe the view looking north to Jurby, which many of us have admired so much, but he does mention the White Strand, where he says, beautiful pebbles can be picked up on the beach.

Going to the north of the Island, Rev. Cumming speaks of rambling up the Ballure glen, to obtain at its highest point, a view of Ramsey. "The metropolis of the north lies at our feet," he says. "It is a busy, active town. Its chief foreign dependence is on Glasgow rather than Liverpool, the steamers from the former place touching at Ramsey, wind and weather permitting. The ruined church which we see above the town was erected not a hundred years ago and consecrated by Bishop Wilson himself in the 93rd year of his life." The writer then goes on to describe Albert Tower, which at that time had only just been erected, in commemoration of the visit of Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria.

And so, through these old pages, we get enlightening glimpses of that well known little Isle of ours through the eyes that saw it one hundred years ago. In some places we are surprised at the vast changes that have taken place—and then again, are surprised that the scene has changed so very little. After all, some things are unchangeable, and we can say with T. E. Brown:

"But there are rocks and waves at Scarlett still,

And gorse runs riot in Glen Chass—
thank God!"

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDED THIS YEAR

To keep the North American Manx Association financially sound, we are calling upon the members this year to support the officers of the Association and its Ladies' Auxiliary who are sponsoring a Grand Prize Distribution this summer. The support of every member to the extent of one dollar would relieve the N.A.M.A. of anxiety over finances for the new year which will commence in August.

The Prize Distribution tickets will sell at \$1.00 for book of 12, three tickets for 25c or 10c for one ticket. Money and ticket stubs should be in the hands of the Treasurer, Miss Gertrude Cannell, 1492 Robinwood Avenue, Lakewood 7, Ohio, not later than August 1, 1946. To save expense, no acknowledgments will be sent. When you read the list of prizes you will agree they are most attractive. Members should have no difficulty selling tickets to their friends besides purchasing for themselves. The Prize Distribution will be held at the Picnic of the combined Manx Societies of Cleveland, at Euclid Beach Park on August 3rd.

Subscribers will be many and prize winners but few, but all will be partakers in the honor of having contributed toward keeping our Association going forward in good financial condition.

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MANX ASSOCIATION AND ITS LADIES' AUXILIARY.

THE NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

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The President's Message

Dear Manx Friends:

In this issue, you will read that we are again putting on a Prize Distribution, with a view to boosting our finances to enable us to carry on our work.

Up to the present, we have not missed an issue of the BULLETIN and so now with the prospect of the Toronto Convention next year, we are going to appeal again for your support, so that our efforts will not be hampered by lack of funds.

The Bulletin Committee appreciates help received from readers supplying data on Manx activities, past and present. I would like to ask any of our members having historical records or other material in their possession to get in touch with this Committee, with a view to providing good reading by its reproduction in these columns. The main object of our Bulletin is to convey to our members and friends items of interest, fraternal greetings, kindly thoughts of relatives perhaps separated for various reasons on this North American Continent, and last, but not least, to try to persuade the present generation and the ones to follow that in giving their support, they are in their turn carrying on the traditions and pride of their ancestry that we and preceding generations have tried to uphold in the different lands of our adoption.

I point out to you that all of us can be good Americans or Canadians, as the case may be, but we can probably be above average if we have been good Manx people first and then we can justly be proud of our slogan upon which this Association was founded—"To preserve whatever is

NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

TORONTO

The Toronto Manx will travel by bus to Niagara Falls on Sunday, July 7th, where their annual picnic is being held. They will leave Toronto at 9:00 A.M., arriving at the Falls around noon. The place of meeting will be the Victoria Park picnic pavilion, where they will partake of their picnic lunches at 1:00 o'clock. They request those planning to attend to bring their own lunches, as food conditions at the Falls are somewhat uncertain. The Toronto Manx already are becoming enthusiastic over the prospects of this picnic and are looking forward to meeting there some of their Manx friends from across the border.

SAN FRANCISCO

The members of the San Francisco Manx Society held their April meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Stokes and had a good representation of members from the "Bay Area." They welcomed home their former Vice President, Dr. Maeth, who had been on active duty in Europe and whose greatest regret was that he had not had the opportunity of visiting the Isle of Man while over there. A visitor at this meeting was Douglas Miller of Cleveland, who is in the Navy. He had just returned to San Francisco after a "home leave" and so, conveyed to the San Francisco Manx the greetings of many Manx friends in Ohio.

Their next meeting will be their annual trek to Berkeley, where they will meet at the home of the Fred Callows. They expect a large attendance at this meeting, as many of their East Bay friends take this occasion of saying "hello, kyns-tashiu."

NEBRASKA

The most recent meeting of the Nebraska Manx Association was their Christmas party. However, they are now making plans for their summer picnic, to be held in Antelope Park, Lincoln on the Second Sunday in June.

left to us of ancient heritage."

In bringing these thoughts to your notice, I have no hesitation in making a personal appeal to all of you to come forward and help us in our efforts to make good the promises we make when we accept the honor of our office.

Faternally yours,
JAMES Y. MANN, President.

PEORIA

Members of the Peoria Manx Society met on Saturday evening, March 9th, at the home of President and Mrs. Frank L. Shimmmin for a pot-luck supper in honor of Mrs. James A. Kelly and Miss Eleanor Kelly, who were leaving Peoria to make their home in Chillicothe, Illinois. Attendance was somewhat curtailed on account of bad weather, but all those who managed to attend had a most enjoyable evening.

VANCOUVER

The annual spring concert of the Vancouver Manx Society, held in Maccabees Hall, Vancouver on April 26th provided a delightful evening of first-class entertainment. The program included vocal solos by J. W. Clucas, Margaret Davies, Joe Hornall, William Mudie, and Betty Coe; violin solos by Miss Hunter; readings by Bobbie McKenzie; vocal quartettes by Ted Costain, J. W. Clucas, J. E. Costain and Fred Killip; and a short play by the Vagabond Players of New Westminster, B.C. Accompanists were Miss Dorothy Wright and the Mesdames Jarvis, Kewley, J. Hornall and T. L. Killip. Refreshments were served to the large audience at the close of the entertainment.

LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles Manx Society is holding its annual picnic at Fern Dell, Griffith Park on Sunday, June 16th. Their annual election of officers was held on May 24th and will be covered in the next issue of the Bulletin.

DETROIT-WINDSOR

The April meeting of the Detroit-Windsor Manx Society was held at the home of Mrs. L. Campbell in Detroit and was a birthday party for her father, Edward Kenna, who was celebrating his 94th birthday anniversary.

In May, this society met at the Upham home, 2438 Townsend Avenue, Detroit for a white elephant and keno party.

Has anyone noticed that the new, revised Episcopal Hymnal includes a tune entitled "Peel Castle—Traditional Manx Melody?" It is Hymn 208, second tune—the words, "Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face." The tune is familiar to all of us—"The Manx Fishermen's Evening Hymn."

THE STORY OF "THE DIAMOND KING"

JOSEPH MYLCHREEST, OF PEEL

In the pages of the Bulletin we have been telling of the lives of Manx men and women who left their native Isle to pioneer in the development of various parts of the United States and Canada. Now, here is the colorful story of a Manxman who made a name in another country. Joseph Mylchreest of Peel is known, and well remembered, as "The Diamond King," who made a fortune in South Africa. This account of Mr. Mylchreest's life is taken from an article in the Isle of Man Times and General Advertiser of January 2, 1897, loaned by Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Collins of 150 East 219th St., Cleveland to Mr. Fred Brew, who in turn has passed it along so that the story can be made available to Bulletin readers.

It will be of interest to recall here, that Cleveland Manx will remember meeting Miss Ada Mylchreest, a talented singer and a daughter of "The Diamond King" when she visited Cleveland in the summer of 1930 and sang for them at a Manx gathering.

Joseph Mylchreest was one of the most remarkable men the Island has ever produced, and his career is marked by all the changes of fortune that could be imagined. The son of a Peel skipper, Captain John Mylchreest, he was born in 1837 in a cottage facing the sea. His father was the well-to-do skipper of the smack Peveril; his mother's name was Christian Moore. Joseph was one of seven children, and was educated at Gawne's School, in Peel. He had not the reputation of being an attentive scholar but was a lively lad, fond of outdoor life and fun. After leaving school he was apprenticed as a carpenter at Graves' shipbuilding yard, where he spent five years, but the narrow routine of this kind of life was not to be tolerated by a spirit as ardent as young Mylchreest. With a physical frame of extraordinary strength and activity, he combined limitless ambition and restless longing for adventure. It was this spirit of pluck and enterprise that led him to every quarter of the globe, and made him defiant in face of the severest blows that fortune could deal.

At this period, wondrous tales were

told in Peel of rich fortunes made in the goldfields of California and Australia. These excited Joseph's youthful ambition and determined him to emigrate. He went first of all to the West Coast of Africa, where for a time he worked at his trade. In 1860 he went to Australia—New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria—and engaged in mining operations. Later he went to New Zealand, then found his way to California and from there to British Columbia; then he wandered to Bolivia, Peru and Chile, in South America. In Callao, Peru, he read an article in the "New York World" which first directed his attention to the diamond fields of South Africa. However, before going to that country, he revisited Australia where in Melbourne he was joined by his brother Thomas and a Mr. John Quayle, and the three Manxmen worked at the goldfields at a wage of about eight pounds a week. This did not satisfy the ambitious spirit of Joseph Mylchreest, and in 1876 he departed for South Africa, arriving at Port Elizabeth whence he journeyed by coach to Kimberley, the centre of the diamond district. Here began the spectacular career which won for him the name of "The Diamond King."

With funds reduced to a two-shilling piece—but with superabundance of energy and enterprise, he went to work—but after six month's heavy toil had netted only a 12-carat diamond worth about seventy-two pounds, which he considered a scanty reward. He went back to Kimberley and opened a carpenter's shop there, and for some time worked at his trade and earned a fairly good living. But the changes and chances of a mining life had an irresistible fascination for him, and we find him next at Bulfontein, working on hired ground and paying ten per cent of the yield for the privilege. Subsequently he took the Royal Mining Company's works on lease at a rental of three hundred pounds a month, payable in advance, and this was the turning point of his fortunes. The owners of the mine were sharp men, and finding that the concern was turning out richly they tried to overreach Mr. Mylchreest, but he was at least as shrewd as they, and quite

able to hold his own. He raised large quantities of diamond-bearing material that yielded a handsome return. Although he had many reverses and difficulties to contend with, he stuck manfully to his work, and gradually began to work his way into clear water, acquired further claims and soon became recognized as one of the most prosperous and progressive men in South Africa.

Mr. Mylchreest was on most friendly terms with that great man whose name is bound up with the development of South Africa—Cecil Rhodes. At this time the Manx immigrant, who had landed in the district penniless some years before, had become the largest individual owner of mines in South Africa, and possessed the largest pair of diamonds ever cleaved from the same stone. Cecil Rhodes was planning the amalgamation of individual claims under one concern, and he and Joseph Mylchreest readily came to terms by which the Manxman transferred his holdings—some 115 claims—to the new firm, the De Beers Consolidated Company, for the sum of about one hundred and twenty thousand pounds with the stipulation that Mr. Mylchreest should have six month's raisings from the claims he was parting with. With characteristic acuteness and energy he made the most of his opportunity, and working tremendous gangs night and day, raised a fabulous amount of material which went to increase and build up for him a colossal fortune.

In the comparatively short space of about fifteen years he had raised himself from a poor and friendless man to a position of great wealth, and had done so by the legitimate exercise of his own energy, persistence and pluck. But although his position and prospects had so materially changed, he remained the same blunt, honest and open-hearted man that he was to begin with. Above all, he was a Manxman to the heart's core, and as soon as his fortune was realized he made his way back to Ellan Vannin.

In 1886 he paid a preliminary visit and was warmly received by the

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OUR OWN PEOPLE

T/Sgt. Mark Henry Looney, whose home is at 1102 Flynn Avenue, Alva, Oklahoma, was married in England on February 27th to Blanche Edna Redhead, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Redhead, 47 Prince Street, Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire, England. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Looney, Alva, Oklahoma, formerly of Kirk Maughold, Isle of Man. After a wedding reception, held at the Dalton Cricket Pavilion, the young couple left to spend their honeymoon in the Isle of Man and expect to come to the United States next year. T/Sgt. Looney went overseas in October, 1944 and was in action in France, Austria and Germany, having taken part in the invasion of Munich. He now is stationed at Hdqts. 14th Major Port, Southampton, England.

We are happy to report that R. E. Fick of Winnipeg, who has been listed in our Honor Roll as a prisoner of war, has been repatriated. He and his wife are now living in Vancouver, B.C. It is indeed gratifying to note that, with this news, all of the boys formerly included in the "prisoner" list of our Honor Roll have been returned to their homes.

Chris Kennaugh of Glenrock, Wyoming visited his son, Dr. George Q. Kennaugh, and family on his way to Kansas City on a business trip, and again on his way home. He also was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Clarke of Exeter, Nebraska.

Recent visitors to Montreal were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Swarts and daughter Ruth of Albany, New York. They spent a week with their cousin, Mr. Ted Brayden, President of the Montreal Manx Society.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Sloan of Montreal are happy to have their son Bill home after five years of service overseas. They now are looking forward to welcoming their new daughter-in-law and little grandson, who are expected to arrive shortly.

Word has been received in Cleveland that Mr. Dan Minay of Douglas, has again won the Cleveland Gold Medal in the Manx Music Guild held in Douglas, Isle of Man, May 6-9. Mr. Minay also won the competition in 1940.

A birthday dinner was given at the Oscar Ward home in Los Angeles on April 10th. It was in honor of the natal days of Mrs. Tillie Gawne Lamm, April 9th; Mr. Oscar Ward, April 10th; and Mr. James Barnes, April 11th. Six families, including Bob Barnes who recently returned from the Pacific, participated in the celebration.

Good luck to Mr. S. H. Corlett of San Francisco, who is endeavoring to organize a Manx choir in San Francisco. He has sent to England for copies of old traditional airs and the Comish Christmas Carols.

Congratulations to these proud parents!

Mr. and Mrs. Ahlmrud (nee Olive Cregeen) of Winnipeg, to whom a daughter was born in March.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Middleton (nee Millie Fick) of Selkirk, Manitoba, to whom a son, John Edward, named after grandfather Fick, was born in November.

The Arthur Goughs of Detroit, Michigan have been enjoying a visit in Los Angeles with Mr. Gough's parents, the Fred Williamsons, and other Manx friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ward of Los Angeles had a pleasant visit in San Diego over the Easter week-end with Iris Corkill, Tom Howland and William Vondy Kelly. They also enjoyed their lovely trip through the lush back country in the mountains bordering Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Daugherty of Toronto are leaving there on July 22nd for Owen Sound, Ontario, where they will board a cruise ship bound for Sault Ste. Marie. Joe is Regional Director of the N.A.M.A. in Toronto and would like to meet any Manx people who want to contact him during his one-day stay at the Sault.

An interesting photograph of the Galva Manx Society taken at one of their picnics was received from their president, Mr. Tirus T. Kelly. Galva is to be congratulated on the large membership they can show in a scattered community.

About thirty of the Chicago Manx held a surprise party in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Kerruish on Sunday, May 5th. They met at the home of Mrs. F. Petersen and Mrs. T. Cashin. The reason for the occasion was to bid farewell and good luck to the Kerruishes, who are leaving Chicago after Mr. Kerruish retires in June, to live near their daughter, Mrs. James Robison, in Elk Creek, Nebraska.

Three of the Vancouver Manx boys recently returned on the Ile de France from service overseas. They are:

Frank Kewley, originally attached to the Medical Corps. After the war ended, he was "Bandsman Kewley" engaged in providing musical entertainment in Belgium, Holland, Germany and England. Frank is a grandson of William Kewley, who was tenor soloist in St. Thomas' Church, Douglas. He plays the piano, violin, saxophone and clarinet and is a valuable asset to the Vancouver Manx Society.

F/Sgt. A. C. Killip, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Killip, 1020 Harwood Street, was in Germany for one year. On his last leave while overseas, he visited relatives in various parts of the Isle of Man, in Manchester and in Birmingham. He also spent a short time in Holland, Copenhagen and Paris.

QMS., WO2 Gordon Gell, son of Mrs. C. Gell, 545 East 22nd Avenue, Vancouver, spent two years as Lab. Technician in the South of England. During that time, he visited the Isle of Man three times. He married Nursing Sister Isabel Solvason of Vancouver while in England, and their honeymoon was spent in the Island.

Mrs. William Peake and daughter Viola recently spent a day with Ethel Shimmin in Chicago enroute to their home in Buffalo from Los Angeles, where the Peakes had been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Trueba (nee Betty Caine). While in California, they, along with Mrs. Trueba, spent an evening with Lily Harrison and her aunt who were in Los Angeles for a short while. Lily and her family were former residents of Cleveland and are now living in Phoenix, Arizona.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shimmin of Monmouth, Illinois, who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on April 22.

A new member is Mr. J. F. Cowell, 3182—8th Avenue W., Vancouver, B. C., formerly of Ballaugh, Isle of Man. He has a son, Donald, who is a talented violinist and plays in the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Cowell was introduced to the N.A.M.A. by Mr. Walter Stevenson of Chicago.

Mrs. James Fitzgerald of Victoria, B.C., has been visiting in Winnipeg recently, staying with her son, Alan Shore. She enjoyed renewing acquaintances with many Winnipeg friends.

John Robert Brew, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Brew of Midland Country Club, Kewanee, Illinois, was married in Chicago on May 4th to Miss Elsie Martha Golland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Golland, Chicago. Robert Quayle of Kewanee was best man and the bride was attended by her sister, Lillian Golland. A wedding dinner was served at the home of the bride's parents, and the bridegroom's cake was baked by Mrs. Thomas Quayle of Galva, Illinois, aunt of Mr. Brew. Attending the wedding from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. John Brew, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Quayle, Mr. and Mrs. James Quayle and Eleanor Quayle, Kewanee, Illinois.

Pfc. Wm. A. Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Moore, 30-82—33rd St., Long Island City, N. Y. has recuperated from a long illness contracted while in Germany. He has an enviable war record including Good Conduct medal, several campaign medals, combat infantryman's badge and two battle stars. His father is from Onchan, Isle of Man.

At a dog show held recently in Santa Monica, California for all breeds, as usual, Mrs. Winnie Killip of Burbank, California won high honors on the Pacific Coast for her pug "Derby of Man" and lacked only one point of winning the championship. Mrs. Killip's "Manx" dogs continue to be great favorites with the public and this new honor adds another trophy to her already overcrowded case.

Billy Fargher, son of Mrs. John Fargher of Tacoma, Wash., last March visited Vancouver, B. C., spending several days with Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Killip, 1020 Harwood Street.

Eunice Eleanor, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Quirk of Winnipeg, was married on April 3rd to Mr. Albert Auger of Boston, Massachusetts, where the young couple will reside.

Another wedding was that of Lois Campbell, daughter of Mrs. L. Campbell of Detroit, who was married to Mr. A. Church in New York in April.

Congratulations and best wishes to these newlyweds!

Steve Quinney of Cleveland, who recently visited his mother in Douglas, Isle of Man, met several Manxmen when crossing on the QUEEN ELIZABETH in March. Among them were L. E. Carine, Chief Purser, and Captain Gill, nephew of Miss Florence Gill, secretary of the Manx Society of Greater New York.

A new member is Mrs. R. E. Torley, 169 Mason St., Greenwich, Conn., whose grandparents came from the Isle of Man. She is a niece of Miss Jessie Cannell of Monmouth, Ill.

Commander Theo Kelly of Cleveland, who returned not so long ago from Japan, has crossed the Atlantic and is now spending a short time in the Isle of Man.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Cannell, 1306 Summit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, announce the arrival of a new daughter, Elizabeth, on May 20.

Robert Fick, 270 Oak Park Avenue, Toronto, expects to visit the Island soon, crossing by SS. WASHINGTON from New York about June 15.

A distinguished lady whom Manx people will be proud to claim is Mary Quayle Bradley, wife of General Omar Bradley, U. S. Army. Mrs. Bradley's grandfather, Colonel William Quayle, was born at Kirk Michael, Isle of Man, and, like so many Manxmen, went to sea as a boy and was just a youth when he became skipper of a whaling vessel sailing the North Atlantic. About 1860, while still a young man, he gave up the sea to try his luck in the new territory of Texas—another example of Manx pioneer spirit. He had an adventurous career in the Southwest, and eventually, with his wife and two children journeyed from Mexico to Missouri by covered wagon. At Moberly, Missouri, his granddaughter Mrs. Bradley was born. The article from which these notes are taken describes Colonel William Quayle as "a tall, erect young soldier whose clear, direct blue eyes held no hint of compromise with stormy sea or military foe."

I SEE BY THE PAPER . . .

If you had been one of the handful of Manx people who came to Cleveland in the year 1825, you would have found cause for excitement in a news item which appeared in the CLEVELAND HERALD on May 25, 1827—"There arrived here by lake steamboats during the past week, 200 emigrants from the Isle of Man..." That's the first press mention we find of the Manx in Cleveland—and it's 119 years ago!

In the CLEVELAND LEADER of December 19, 1854, the infant Mona's Relief Society (three years old at that time) inserted a modest advertisement:

"Manx Fair and Supper
at
Ballou's Hall, December 28
In behalf of the Manx Relief Society
Leland's Band is engaged
Tickets, 75 cents."

This Manx party was reported in the paper on December 30. It seems that in those days, too, the weather was of the kind we have learned to describe as "a regular Manx night," but read on: "The stormy night on December 28 did not keep away the Manx from Mona's fair. Ballou's large hall was crowded. Everything went off well . . . the sale of articles was rapid and the supper good. Manxmen make good citizens everywhere. They are lovers of home and of freedom and possess manly characters. It is seldom that we find a beggar among them. May success and happiness be with our Manx friends." With that nice little pat on the back the reporter concludes his story of the Manx Fair in 1854.

In this connection it is interesting to note that they held a sale of articles in connection with the festival, and when we consider that the Manx ladies also cooked and served the supper and that the men had to carry water from the town pump in the Public Square, there is no doubt at all that in those days the Manx Supper meant plenty of work.

In the year 1858 the Manx "annual ball and supper" was held on December 14. "The Hecker band discoursed most excellent music, and a bounteous supper abundantly satisfied the inner man. Giddy mazes of dance were by no means neglected and the whole affair passed off finely" . . . says the CLEVELAND LEADER.

On December 18, 1863, the Mona's Relief Society celebrated its eleventh annual festival, the LEADER tells us. At the supper tables "the Divine blessing was first invoked, in his native Manx language, by John Kelly of Warrensville" — an interesting detail which we learn from this newspaper account. It is also noteworthy that Mr. William Sheldon Kerruish, well-known Cleveland lawyer and

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OBITUARIES

BROWN, Major Harold, died April 15 at his home in Victoria, B. C. He was a leading business executive of Vancouver, a former president and managing director of Union Steamships Ltd. and a past president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, and was well known as a popular and distinguished public speaker. Major Brown was born in Douglas, Isle of Man, attending King Williams College and at the age of 27 became manager of the Manx Electric Railway. He came to Canada in 1909. Surviving are his wife Pamela, a sister Miss A. Brown of Victoria, and relatives in London, England.

CANNELL, John A., 40, of Rockford, Illinois, passed on recently in Hollywood, Florida, where he has lived for the past four years. Interment was in Rockford. Surviving are his widow, Josephine; a daughter, June; and his mother, Mrs. George Cannell of Rockford.

CLARKE, Philip, passed away at Selkirk, Manitoba in April. He was one of the oldest Manxmen in that section of Canada and was a member of the First Manx Homecoming Party in 1927, as well as of the Third Party in 1937.

COLLISTER, Beulah, of Willoughby, Ohio, passed away on April 22nd after a prolonged illness. Miss Collister was 61 years of age and had been Clerk of Willoughby Township since 1934. She was a member of the Northeastern Ohio Manx Society and of the North American Manx Association. Her parents were the late John and Mary Twing Collister, and her uncle was the late Mayor Will Collister of Willoughby.

COLLISTER, Mrs. W. R., passed on suddenly at Broadview, Saskatchewan on February 27th. She is survived by her husband and a daughter Ella. Mr. Collister is a brother of Sgt. Collister of the R.C.M.P., Brandon, Manitoba.

KNEALE, Jack, of Chicago, Illinois, who was reported to be missing in action early in 1945, has been declared officially dead by the War Department, according to word received last month by his sister, Mrs. Wils, Chicago.

DENZLER, Mrs. Mary Eliza (nee Collister), of Cleveland, passed away on March 29th. She was born in 1859, the daughter of James and Eliza Collister, who came to Cleveland from the Isle of Man, and was one of the city's early school teachers. Her husband, Frederick John Denzler, was a former federal court clerk and died in 1936. Her brothers and sisters, Clucas W. Collister, John Collister, Miss Kate Collister and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Gehrung, preceded her in death.

KNEALE, John, Treasurer of the Montreal Manx Society, passed away on April 14th, after a brief illness. He was born in Kirk Bride, Isle of Man 59 years ago, was a cousin of Mr. Tom Corlett and a nephew of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Jackson of Montreal.

LACE, James, a former member of the Los Angeles Manx Society, passed on recently at Oakland, California. Interment was in Los Angeles, where a son and daughter reside. Mr. Lace came to the United States from Kirk Andreas, Isle of Man.

LEWTHWAITE, Douglas Victor, of Plateau Drive, Capilano, B. C., passed away on April 6th at the age of 78 years. He is survived by one son in England.

MOORE, Signalman W. D., 1st Canadian Division Signals, Canadian Army Overseas, was reported in our October, 1943, issue as missing in action in Sicily. Word now has been received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Moore, 1000 Ogilvy Avenue, Park Extension, Montreal, that he has been officially declared "Killed by enemy action."

MORSE, Mrs. Nellie Murray, of 248 Liberty Street, Painesville, Ohio passed away on May 9th. She was 84 years of age and the widow of the late George Morse, who died in 1937. Surviving are a son, Murray B. Morse; and several nieces and nephews.

RHODES, Ernest, of San Francisco passed on suddenly on March 2nd. He was a faithful worker for the San Francisco Manx Society and will be greatly missed by the members of that organization.

ROBSON, Mrs. Alice, of Detroit, Michigan passed away suddenly on April 20th. She was the mother of Mrs. Charles Richey of Detroit.

TEARE, Allen Clarke, passed away May 10 in Oakland, Calif. He was formerly in the lumber business in Cleveland, and was a son of the late Thomas R. Teare. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Eliza Shimmin Teare.

TEARE, D. Laurence, passed away May 5 at his residence, 16589 Broadway, Maple Heights, Ohio. He is survived by his wife Maude E. (nee Buettner) and three sons, Paul L., Charles H. and Donald D. Mr. Teare was a nephew of Mrs. Eliza Shimmin Teare of Cleveland.

WOODS, Mrs., of Montreal, passed away on March 27th, following a prolonged illness. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Walter Dugan of Montreal.

To the relatives and friends of the above, we extend heartfelt sympathy.

AN INTERESTING QUESTION

"Does the Bishop of Sodor and Man have a seat and a vote—or a seat and no vote, in the House of Lords?" This question brought forward a number of letters published some time ago in the London Times, sent to us by Captain J. F. Corlett, 47 Nathans Road, North Wembley, London.

It seems that the Bishop of Sodor and Man comes in the category of those who may neither sit nor vote in the House of Lords unless summoned there by a writ issued from the crown Office. The docket books of the Crown Office show that at least since the year 1810 no such writ has been issued to a Bishop of Sodor and Man.

The reason for this situation becomes evident when we read that as long ago as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a committee resolved "That the Isle of Man was an ancient kingdom of it selfe, and no part of the kingdom of England." Further it was stated—"This Isle hath a Bishop . . . and he is under the archbishop of York, but hath neither place nor voice in the parliament of England."

Students of Manx history will recall that the official title of the Earls of Derby who owned the Island for several centuries was "King of Man," although they seldom or never used that title. Also, as the Isle of Man has had its own "Tynwald" or parliament in continuous session for more than eleven hundred years, it is not surprising that the Elizabethan authorities decided that "it was an ancient kingdom of it selfe." The Bishop of Sodor and Man is a member of the Legislative Council or Upper House of the Tynwald.

"THE DIAMOND KING"

Continued from Page 3

inhabitants of his native town. There was a disposition everywhere to idolize him, and he was forthwith christened "The Diamond King." But good fortune and the flattery that followed never spoiled him nor puffed him up. He was even more anxious to make friends with the poor than with the rich in his native Island. A certain brusqueness and roughness of manner that marked Mr. Mylchreest was merely the husk that concealed a tender and sympathetic nature. All deserving charities received generous gifts from him, and he gave a helping hand to all his old friends.

After his first visit to the Island. Mr. Mylchreest went back to South Africa to settle up his affairs. He took with him several Peel young men whom he had induced to go there to push their way in the world. In November, 1888, "The Diamond King" returned permanently to his native Island. A grand banquet celebrated his return, the High Bailiff of Peel presiding, and a warm address of welcome was presented him. Shortly after his return he purchased the property known as "Whitehouse" in Michael, the historic seat of the Gell family. He set about improving the mansion house and the surrounding acres until it became a model estate. It was one of his greatest ambitions to see the position of Manx farmers improved and his own farm was a striking example for others to follow.

Within the mansion itself, comfort and good taste prevailed, and Mr. and Mrs. Mylchreest had the most happy home imaginable. All who partook of their hospitality spoke of Mr. Mylchreest as a genial, good-hearted host, always glad and even eager to tell the story of his life in far-off lands. Mrs. Mylchreest was a kindly hostess, who took great pride in her home and children. Among their many trophies from abroad was an interesting collection of diamonds, both polished and rough.

Although Mr. Mylchreest's residence was in Kirk Michael, his interest in Peel his birthplace was as keen as ever. His charities and benefactions to the town were too numerous to describe here, and ranged all the way from large contributions for public benefit, to a five-pound note left behind in many a little home where he knew it would prove acceptable.

However, to give an idea of the nature and scope of Mr. Mylchreest's generosity toward projects for public benefit, it might be mentioned that he subscribed handsomely toward the extension of Peel promenade, toward improvements in the Centenary Hall and Wesleyan Chapel in Peel, and to the parish church of German, while the Kirk Michael church room was greatly assisted by his contributions and interest. While

he himself belonged to the Wesleyan denomination, his outlook was broad and he gave generously to other sects as well. Among the poor people of Peel he showed a good deal of quiet and unobtrusive kindness; distribution of beef, bread and coal at Christmas was one of the evidences of his unfailing sympathy.

He would shake hands as heartily with a coal-heaver on the quay as with the Bishop or the Deemster. On one occasion he visited a poor old woman whom he had known in the old times, and sat for a long time chatting with her in his usual hearty manner. When he was going, Mr. Mylchreest said: "Here, get yourself a good cup of tea." The woman, expecting to receive a shilling or so, looked at the five shining sovereigns which Mr. Mylchreest had pushed into her hand, and almost fainted with surprise, and before she had time to recover, the generous visitor had gone. Another anecdote which illustrates his sympathy toward those less prosperous than himself, tells how he saw an old schoolfellow driving a coal cart through the streets of Peel. The man was too shy to notice "The Diamond King," but Mr. Mylchreest strode up to him and said—"Hullo, surely you're not going to turn your back on an old chum because he's made some money." The man responded with a broad smile, laid his grimy hand in "The Diamond King's," and said—"Well, Joe, how are you?" "Joe" then held the horse while his old friend of former days departed in search of some refreshment. Scores of similar stories could be told, which show that there was something very genuine and unaffected in Mr. Mylchreest's manner that won its way to the heart.

In April, 1891, Mr. Mylchreest was elected to represent his native town in the House of Keys, and as member for Peel took great interest and pleasure in discharging his duties. Also, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace. At all times he busied himself with projects for the welfare and advancement of the Island.

It is sad to have to state that Mr. Mylchreest's busy and useful life was not as long as might reasonably have been expected. Following an attack of influenza, he died rather suddenly from a heart attack at his residence, Whitehouse, on December 28, 1896, at the age of fifty-nine. The whole Island mourned his death. In paying tribute to this great Manxman, the late Hall Caine said: "The Isle of Man is mourning today for the loss of one of her best and truest sons. But death cannot rob us altogether. The memory of such a man cannot die. His cheery, sunny and winsome humanity cannot die, and in this sense Joseph Mylchreest lives among us still, and it is only his tired and toil-worn body that we have committed to the grave."

That was the spirit of the Island's tribute to a great son, and to this it is fitting to add a tribute paid by a South African newspaper at the

time Mr. Mylchreest left Kimberley for home: "The fidelity and charity of a man like the champion Manxman of the Diamond Fields are, after all, the diamonds that hold good in the world's markets."

In that sense, too, we recall with pride and affection the memory of "The Diamond King," Joseph Mylchreest, of Peel.

In a book entitled "The War Illustrated," belonging to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kelly, 21009 Clare Avenue, Maple Heights, Ohio, appears a photo with the description, "Captain Tom Woods, the indomitable Manxman." Captain Woods resides in Douglas and is the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company's commodore skipper, commanding the "LADY OF MANN" which he guided successfully through the Dunkirk evacuation in May, 1940. Since D-Day he has taken the "Lady" on countless cross-channel runs as a troopship, traveling between Dover and Calais in weather which "would have left prewar shipmasters agast." Captain Woods has just been awarded the Order of the British Empire for his war services. The same honor was conferred upon High-Bailiff and Vicar-General Ramsey Johnson, who was chairman of the Isle of Man Civil Defense Commission, also chairman of the Local Military Service Tribunal. Many will remember High-Bailiff Johnson in connection with the First Manx Homecoming.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

"Isle of Man for Happy Holidays" is a slogan we have all heard. Aside from the beauty of the scenery, how much do you know or remember about Manxland's attraction for visitors. Try answering these questions:

1. How many golf courses are there in the Isle of Man?
2. Where are they?
3. How about fresh-water fishing?
4. What amusement house is described as "the prettiest theatre out of London?"
5. Where are there open-air swimming baths?
6. What is meant by the Marine Drive?
7. Name one or more Manx glens which offer open-air dancing?
8. What glen includes a miniature railway and performing sea lions among its attractions?
9. Where are there "smugglers' caves?"
10. What means of transportation will you find in the Island?

I SEE BY THE PAPERS

Continued from Page 5

Manx scholar, was speaker of the evening and described a visit to the Isle of Man, expressing regrets that his stay there had to be too brief. "At the request of the audience, and very much to their amusement, he read several pieces of a humorous character in the original Gaelic," says the paper. Where today would we find speakers conversant with the Manx language, or an audience able to understand it? When it is remembered that Mr. Kerruish was a Cleveland-born Manxman, his knowledge becomes all the more remarkable.

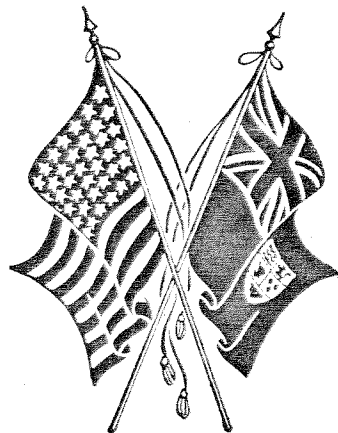
In these days of many and varied interests, we Manx sometimes find it hard to "get the people out" to attend a Manx affair, but at the Mona's Relief Festival of December 16, 1869, a nearby restaurant had to take care of the overflow! "Garrett's Hall was crowded," says the LEADER, "and though tables were set wherever there was a place for them, a large number of persons were compelled to repair to Ingersoll's for their supper. As soon as the excellent supper was dispatched, toasts were offered and speeches made . . . Music was furnished by a band. After the toasts and music, the tables were cleared and dancing was begun."

So, in glancing over newspaper accounts of a bygone day, we get delightfully intimate glimpses of our Manx predecessors in Cleveland. We feel that we know them, that we do the same things, try to carry on in the same spirit as they did. Only—when we read about that crowd at Garrett's Hall when "a large number" had to overflow into Ingersoll's restaurant for their supper—we sigh and say to ourselves—"Those were the good old days."

ANSWERS TO GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

1. Nine.
2. Three at Douglas; two at Port Erin; one each at Castletown, Peel, Ramsey and Port St. Mary.
3. Excellent trout fishing in most of the Manx streams.
4. The Gaiety Theatre in Douglas.
5. At Peel, and at Port Skillicion in Douglas.
6. An electric railway between Douglas and Port Soderick—a four-mile run along the edge of the cliffs, at one point bridging an inlet of the sea.
7. Laxey, Groudle.
8. Groudle.
9. Port Soderick, Garwick.
10. Train, electric railway, bus.

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"These Honored Dead"

"... that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—"



William W. Beddow, Toronto, Ontario
 William A. Butts, Cleveland, Ohio
 Douglas Callow, Virginia, Minnesota
 William H. Castell, Cleveland, Ohio
 Dudley Sidney Champion, Dorval, P. Q.
 Donald L. Chase, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
 C. Christian, Toronto, Ontario.
 John C. Christian, Kamloops, B. C.
 Richard O. Christian, Los Angeles, California
 Edward H. Collister, Shaker Heights, Ohio.
 Jack Collister, Brandon, Manitoba
 Thomas Collister, Rochester, New York.
 Thomas Cottier, Winnipeg, Manitoba
 Thomas Currie, Akron, Ohio
 Alan Downward, Toronto, Ontario
 Charles Murray Edwards, Windsor, Ontario.
 Douglas Fick, Toronto, Ontario.
 Jerry Hall, Butte, Montana
 John F. Harrison, Painesville, Ohio
 William F. Hood, Jr., Cleveland, Ohio
 Ros. Kee, London, Ontario
 John Robert Lee Keig, II, Beaumont, Texas
 Jack Kneale, Chicago, Illinois
 Alfred J. Looney, Rochester, N. Y.
 James Edward Moore, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
 W. D. Moore, Montreal, P. Q.
 Jack Quiggin, Bedford, Ohio.
 Raymond Perry Ruhling, Painesville, Ohio
 George Wm. Smith, Jr., Painesville, Ohio
 William J. Sutton, Jr., Cleveland, Ohio
 William G. A. Vick, Winnipeg, Manitoba
 Warren Watts, Hedrick, Iowa

MISSING

Kenneth C. Christian, Vancouver, B. C.
 Thomas George Curphey, Winnipeg, Manitoba
 John Stanley Kelly, Revelstoke, B. C.
 Milton Kelly, San Francisco, Cal.
 Donald K. Skillicorn, Sacramento, California
 Sydney James Smith, Kirkland Lake, Ontario

PRISONER

R. E. Fick, Winnipeg, Manitoba (Repatriated)