

BULLETIN *of the* North American Manx Association



VOL. 44 NO. 4

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

JUNE 1971

"OUR MANX HERITAGE"

by Walter J. Stevenson

Little seems to be known of the early history of the people called Manx. When did the name first originate, and when was it first applied to the people of the Isle of Man?

We are told that early inhabitants of The Isle of Man were a race of people known as "Picts". They came from Spain or the Iberian Peninsular.

Following the "Picts" came the race of people known as "Celts" or "Kelts", and it is possible they may have lived on the Isle of Man for a thousand years or more, prior to the advent of the Norsemen who came in the eighth century A.D.

Large numbers of Celts occupied Eastern and Central Europe during the 6th. and 5th. centuries B.C. They were gradually driven westward by the Romans and the Germans. The Celtic race was divided into two main divisions — the Gauls or Goidels — commonly known as the Gaelic branch, including peoples of Scotland, Ireland, and the Isle of Man, each having different languages, tho somewhat similar; On the other branch are the Cymric or Cymry — the people of Wales, the Cornish people of Cornwall, and the Britthons of Brittany of Northern France, these peoples also having different languages tho somewhat similar, but different to the Gaelic.

The Cornish language is now extinct, but the Manx language is still on the printed page, tho gradually falling into disuse, and it is seldom if ever heard in conversation today. One hundred years ago the Manx language was commonly heard in churches, schools, and law courts of the Isle of Man.

In 1077 A.D. Godred Croven of Norway conquered the Isle of Man with an army of 300 men at the Battle of Sky Hill, near Ramsey. The popula-

tion of the Island then probably only numbered a few thousand and altho the Norse ruled it for almost 200 years — (1077 to 1266 A.D.), they did not change the language of the Manx people.

The Norse and Celtic people intermarried, and this union is said to have formed the basic stock of the present Manx Nation. There was an early Celtic religion under the Druid Priests. Evidences of their religious ceremonies are still to be found in the Isle of Man, in the ruins of the old Druid stone Circles. The oak was their sacred tree, the mistletoe, their sacred flower, and the Wren the sacred bird. One of the old Manx folk songs is called "We'll hunt the wren". It is found in the book of "Manx National Songs".

According to some writers there were a number of Druid Colleges or Universities in the British Isles in the time of Christ, and some go so far as to suggest that he may have been a student in one of them during part of the eighteen years of his life — age 12 to 30 — of which there is no record in the bible.

Historians and Bible scholars say that the Celtic people are modern descendents of some of the old Hebrew tribes known as "The ten lost tribes of Israel". In the tenth century B.C. the twelve tribes of Jacob — Israel were divided into two separate Kingdoms, — "The Kingdom of Israel" or the "Northern Kingdom", consisting of ten tribes, and referred to as "The Lost ten tribes of Israel", and the other was known as the "Kingdom of Judah" or the "Southern Kingdom" which consisted of the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and part of Levi, with Jerusalem as their capital city. To this Kingdom, the Jews belonged.

In 734 B.C. the Assyrians carried away all of North Israel as captives, into the land of Armenia, — to the

south of Russia and lying between the Black and Caspian seas. This is where Mt. Ararat is located and the place where Noah's ark is said to have landed after the flood. Thirteen years later, — in 721 B.C., Samaria, the capital, was taken by Sargon, and the rest of Israel was carried away captive. The distance to their new home was about 700 miles, and it took about a year and a half to make the journey. For about 120 years Israel remained here as captives, until their captors, the Assyrians, were defeated by the Medes at the battle of Carchemish, in the year 605 B.C.

Thereafter, Assyria ceased to be a wold power. The Assyrian defeat provided an opportunity for the ten tribes to make their escape, and for several centuries they wandered westward until they arrived at the western shores of Europe. They entered the British Isles as Saxons and Normans. Later, they reached the shores of North America. Most of the early American settlers were of Anglo-Saxon stock.

Other tribes wandered northward into the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Sweden and Denmark. During these many centuries, the ten tribes lost their identity as Hebrews, and were known by various names, Scythians, Goths, Celts, Saxons and Normans, etc.

There is no record in the Bible to show that the Ten tribes of Israel who were taken captive by the Assyrians, ever returned to Palestine to mingle with the Jews. The Jewish historian-Josephus, writing from Rome in the year 70 A.D. states that "The entire body of the Ten tribes are still beyond the River Euphrates, an immense multitude not to be estimated by numbers". This was written more than 750 years after Israel had left Palestine.

Continued on page 2

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OUR MANX HERITAGE

Cont'd from page 1

In 2nd. Samuel, chapter 7, verse 10 we read, — "Moreover, I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, that they may have a place of their own and move no more, neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more as beforetime". Many Bible scholars interpret this passage of scripture as applying to Great Britain or the British Isles.

Since William the Conqueror landed his army in Britain in the year 1066 A.D., Britain has never been conquered by any outside nation, altho many at-

tempts have been made throughout the centuries.

In 1588 the Spanish Armada attempted an invasion (with 131 war vessels, 19,000 soldiers, and 8,000 sailors), but it failed. According to tradition, one of the boats of the Spanish Armada was wrecked on the rocky cliff known today as Spanish Head, on the Isle of Man, and this was when tailless cats were first introduced to the Island.

The French fleet of 235 ships attempted an invasion, but a storm held them up for several weeks and they returned to France. Napoleon was so sure of taking England that he had medals struck beforehand to celebrate the occasion.

The battle of Waterloo in Belgium, ended the career of one who conquered all of Europe, — except Britain. When Napoleon was a prisoner of the British on the island of St. Helena — 1915 to 1821 — a Manxman named Colonel Mark Wilks, son of the Rev. James Wilks, Vicar of Kirk Michael Church in the Isle of Man, was governor of the Island of St. Helena. Another Manxman named Lieutenant George Morseley Wood was in charge of the soldiers who guarded Napoleon. In one of his poems Lieutenant Wood wrote: —

"And I did not hold that pale cold hand
in mine,

Which once did rule the sceptre of
the world."

Napoleon Bonaparte, (1769-1821) died on the island of St. Helena on May 5th. 1821 of cancer, age 52. In 1840 his remains were disinterred and taken to Paris.

During World war one, the Kaiser, Emperor Wilhelm of Germany, planned to have his 1914 Christmas dinner in Buckingham Palace, London, England, but his plans failed.

In the summer of 1940, during world war two, the British Isles were so close to invasion and defeat that the British Cabinet met secretly to consider flight to Canada. The German offensive against Britain began on August 12th. 1940 and on August 15th. the Germans flew 801 bombing and 1140 fighter sorties in four massive attacks. For 13 days. — August 24th. to September 6th. 1940 —, the Germans sent over an average of 1,000 planes per day.

On the afternoon of September 7th. 1940, the great German air attack on Britain began and 842 persons were killed and 2,347 persons were wounded during the first two nights. The assault

went on all the following week, night after night.

On September 15th. 1940, 200 German bombers, escorted by some 600 fighters appeared over the English Channel about midday headed for London. The German planes were intercepted before they reached London. Two hours later, a stronger German formation returned but were routed.

On September 17th. 1940. Hitler called off indefinitely his plan for the invasion of Britain. For 57 consecutive nights, London was pounded by German planes.

In the summer of 1942, German "U" boats were sinking British and American shipping at the rate of 600,000 tons, per month in the Atlantic Ocean. It is impossible to imagine what would have happened to America, if Germany had seized control of the British fleet in 1940.

Due to the large number of Manx people that have emigrated to other lands and the constant influx of people from surrounding countries, the Manx-Celtic blood stream is gradually being diluted, and their Island home is slowly being taken over by other people. This is what our National poet Rev. Tom Brown visualized when he wrote his famous poem: —

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

"Dear countrymen, whate'er is left to us
[of ancient heritage

Of manners, speech, of humours, polity
The limited horizon of our stage —
Old love, hope, fear,

All this I fain would fix upon the page;
That so the coming age,

Lost in the Empire's mass,

Yet haply longing for their fathers, here
May see as in a glass, what they held

[dear —
May say, "Twas thus and thus they
[lived";

And as the time-flood onward rolls,
Secure an anchor for their Keltic souls.

During two world wars, the Isle of Man suffered much, but it can proudly boast of the magnificent contribution it made toward the defense of Britain, and the defeat of Germany.

If the Manx People can trace their ancestry back to the ancient Hebrews-thru their Celtic blood stream, truly their's is a noble heritage and may well qualify as being a branch of "GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE — ISRAEL".

Walter J. Stevenson
312 North Central Avenue
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.
60644

September 26th. 1969.

MANX SEA LORE

by Charles Southward

Much of the old Manx sea lore has no doubt been forgotten as the number of fishing boats has diminished over the years but it still makes interesting reading.

The old fishermen used to mark the twelve days after the 5th of January, each day representing a month in the year. They would write down the nature and direction of the wind, and whether it was wet or dry for each day and this gave them a forecast of the weather for each month in the year.

It was not lucky to meet any bare-footed person when going to sea: to sell herrings without first sprinkling them with salt or to bring them within sight of any person, other than the crew, before salt was thrown on them. It was unlucky too to go to sea the first night without carrying salt or to put white stones in the ballast.

It was lucky to nail a horseshoe to the stern of the boat, and to dip the end of the first net in the water three times before shooting the whole net.

When the old Manxmen started to get ready for the fishing, the first thing was to get a 'kishen' apiece of ale, and after that to haul the boat alongside the ballast; the skipper would be carrying a bottle of rum with him to give the crew a drink at intervals. The skipper did not work, but sat on the gunwale at the stern of the boat with his clawhammer coat on. The tails of his coat had to be a certain length and the men would put stones in the boat until the tails touched the water when the skipper would call out — "Cum ort! patchey ayn jeh" (Stop! there's plenty in her).

The first herring on board, the first night at sea, would be boiled whole. The other herrings in the pot would have their heads and tails cut off. The first herring was called 'yn eirey' (first son) and when cooked every man on board would have to come and take a pick.

The first herring caught on a fishing boat in a season, was split open to see whether it had a roe, or milt; the roe herring being lucky and the milt one foretelling a bad season.

It was very unlucky for a boat to turn against the sun when going out of the harbour. The third boat leaving the harbour was also considered un-

THE MAGNIFICENT MANX CAT

In an article written for the Cat Fancy Magazine in August, 1970, Barbara St. Georges who is a breeder of Manx cats gives the following good description of their characteristics:

The Manx is a great cat — for a pet or a breeder. If you want a cat with history and folklore the Manx has it. One cannot think of the Isle of Man without thinking of the Manx cat. This is their place of origin over 250 years ago, and they are still romping gayly around the island. As for folklore, there's the wonderful story of how the Manx came to be tailless. Noah grew impatient while boarding the animals onto the Ark and asked that the door finally be closed. Last but not least were the pair of cats running in, and just in time, for Noah slammed the door to the Ark down on their tails. And, the story claims this is how we got the Manx!

For me, the Manx are highly intelligent and are fun loving comical cats. Full of games and pranks. Always alert. And most of all, full of love and devotion to their owner. They are robust cats and always in good health. They make devoted mothers to their young and enjoy having their babies with them longer than other breeds of cats I've worked with. So, why not a Manx?

lucky and often the third and fourth went out together.

In the olden days certain land animals and other things, were called by different names when fishermen were on the sea to what they called them on land. It was not allowed at sea to mention any animal with hair on by its proper name; the hare, at sea, was called 'the fellow with the big lugs', and the cat was called the "scratcher". The merman was called the "little boy". Similarly the horse, the dog and the pig were called different names at sea. If anyone mentioned the name of a tabooed animal, that is, the land name, they were fined 1/—. The sun was called 'the glory of the world', and the moon — 'queen of the night'.

To whistle on board a boat, or to mention a whistle was sure to bring ill-luck, as it might have been confused with the merman's whistle which was a signal for all to go ashore, being the sign of rough weather ahead.

It was lucky for a Roman Catholic priest to come on board, but a clergyman of any other denomination was strongly objected to.

HEAD: Fairly round with prominent cheeks and jowly appearance. Medium in length without a definite nose break.

MUZZLE: Tapering, but not to a sharp point.

EARS: Rather wide at base, tapering slightly to a point and longer than those of the American Shorthair, but in proportion to the head.

EYES: Large, round, and full. Points to be divided equally between size and color.

BODY: Solid, compact, and well balanced, with the back showing a definite incline from the shoulders to the haunches. Small or medium in size. "Bunnylike" in appearance.

FLANK: Of great depth, adding to the cobbiness and balance.

TAILLESSNESS: Absolute in a perfect specimen. A decided hollow at the end of the backbone where, in the ordinary cat, a tail would begin.

BACK: Sturdy and short, to conform with the actual size of the well balanced cat.

LEGS: Of good substance, with front legs short and well set apart to show good depth of chest. Back legs much longer with a heavy, muscular thigh tapering to a substantial lower leg that often has the hair worn off due to the fact that the Manx rests on this part as often as on the paws.

PAWS: Small, neat and well rounded with five toes in front and four toes behind.

COAT: Short, of good texture, with a well padded quality arising from the longer outer coat and the thicker undercoat, known as a "double coat".

CONDITION: Good physical condition. Muscular, good flesh, but not fat.

PENALIZE: A rise of the bone at the end of the spine. A non-visible joint or cartilage.

WITHHOLD WINNERS: Definite, visible tail joint. Incorrect number of toes.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please don't forget to notify the Secretary-Treasurer and the Bulletin Editor when you change your address.

NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

BISBEE

The Bisbee Manx held a meeting in March at the home of Arnold and Ida Corrin. They had a good turnout and had a wonderful birthday party for Mrs. Margret Ann Kelly who was celebrating her 90th birthday. She had a grand time.

An election of officers was held at the meeting with the same slate as last year carrying on.

Bill Franks, President
Ann Quill, Vice-President
Christine Rothery, Treasurer
Ivy L. Dillon, Secretary

The April meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Wood where there was also a good turn out and a most enjoyable evening. A meeting is to be held on May 17th at the home of Mrs. Helen McKay who has been a visitor at some meetings and has graciously offered her home for the meeting. The Bisbee Manx group is small but there are a number of friends who enjoy meeting with them.

Ivy L. Dillon,
Secretary.

TORONTO

The Toronto Manx Society held a meeting on April 24th at the Westbury Hotel. The meeting opened with the singing of "O Land of Our Birth" and with the singing of birthday greetings to Mrs. W. Beddow who was celebrating her 88th birthday.

On conclusion of the evening's business, the meeting was given over to the showing of two films, one from the Bell Telephone film library and called "Beyond the Barriers" — was a most informative film with beautiful colouring and excellent photography on travels around the world of the telephone. The second film was of the International Six Day Race Trials on the Isle of Man. The film of motor cycle races through rough country deep with mud, open moorland and a section of the sea shore, with hill climbs, was exciting but not good advertising for the Island as it was raining all the way through. The Toronto Manx enjoyed it anyway: it was home. Refreshments were served to end the evening.

Another meeting will be held on May 29th at the Westbury Hotel and on June 19th the Manx picnic will be held at Chairville Park.

Dot Hall,
Secretary.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

At the March 27th, 1971, meeting of the Southern California Manx Society, the annual election of officers was held and the following members elected to office:

President	Malcolm Kinley
Vice President	Philip E. Caley
Secretary & Treasurer	Ellen Bain
Sunshine Chairman	Jeanne Corkhill

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Past President William K. Caley for his leadership and inspiration to the Society during the past year.

The April 24th meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Lewis in Santa Ana. Mrs. Lewis (Esther) is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip E. Caley. All enjoyed a lovely time at their beautiful new home which is situated on the Irvine Ranch, a suburb of Orange County.

The next meeting will be a picnic to be held in Rixby Park in Long Beach on May 15th when it is hoped to have a large turn-out of members. At the Park there is an excellent view of the Queen Mary which is now in her permanent berth facing the Park and the shoreline of Long Beach. The great ship is now open to the public for tours.

Greetings to all Manx friends everywhere.

Ellen Bain,
Secretary.

GALVA

Galva Manx Society observed the 60th anniversary of the first Manx "Teaparty" in Galva with a dinner and program on Sunday May 16, 1971. Guests were present from Elmwood, Kewanee, Knoxville and Galva.

Four of those present: Rev. John Clarke, Mrs. Tyrus Kelly, and Mr. and Mrs. James Kewish also attended the first party. Mr. Frank Collister, the first president, is the only "sixty-year ago" officer surviving. Mrs. A. R. Johnson and Rev. and Mrs. Clarke led the group in singing Manx and American songs.

The next meeting of the group will be a picnic in Wiley Park, Galva, at noon September 19.

Mrs. Clyde Collinson,
Secretary.

FLORIDA

Mr. William Quine of Lake Worth, Florida, reports that things have been quiet in that area during the winter as there are not many Manx there now.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Kelly of Rochester, N.Y., were visiting the area and with Mrs. Annie Jackson went to see Mrs. Lewin and were surprised to see how smart she was at her age which will be 95 next November. She still has a wonderful memory of the Isle of Man.

ROCHESTER

Alice Garrett has just returned from a visit to Georgia where she enjoyed the warm weather and sunshine. She travelled as far as Atlanta on the same plane as Mr. and Mrs. Percy Kelly who were visiting Willie Quine and his sister, Mrs. Annie Jackson, in Lake Worth. Alice finds she is back home in time to greet a second spring which is really welcome after a long hard winter.

WINNIPEG

It is with deep regret we report the death of Mr. Quirk, husband of Mrs. Margaret Quirk, our President, and also that of Mr. Tom Corkan in Richmand, B.C., formerly of Winnipeg.

We hope to have a get together to celebrate Tynwald Day with a cruise on the Red River or a picnic in Kildonan Park.

D. M. Inge,
Secretary-Treasurer.

LOS ANGELES

The members of the Los Angeles Manx Society which was founded in September 1923 are now rather few and live far apart so that they keep in touch by letter or by phone.

At the moment Mr. and Mrs. Francis Nugent are visiting the British Isles for six months.

Mrs. Tipper reports that she enjoyed her trip to the Isle of Man with her daughter last year. They were in the Island for 5 weeks before the Convention and were taken to many interesting spots by her cousins and neices. One cousin, being an M.H.K., got them into the Church on Tynwald day which was a great thrill. They left the Island the day after Tynwald and visited other relations in England before returning to U.S.A. at the beginning of September.

The Los Angeles Manx were very sorry to hear of the passing of Harry Kelly.

Lillian Marrion-Tipper.

WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

Miss Doris Clague sends the following list of Outings and Events to be held by the World Manx Association during the coming months:

July 5th (Monday) Annual Gathering at 3 p.m. at Castle Mona Hotel, Douglas.

July 18th (Sunday) Outing — 2.15 p.m. Tea at "Grand Island Hotel" Ramsey Evensong at Kirk Maughold Church

August 12th (Thursday) Outing — 2.30 p.m. to north of Island, Tea at "Ravensdale Castle" Ballaugh

September 9th (Thursday) Outing — 2.30 p.m. to south of Island

October 29th (Friday) Annual T.E. Brown Dinner at Castle Mona Hotel 7.30 p.m. for 7.45 p.m.

All Outings will leave the Road Services stop at Villa Marina Colonnade and anyone wishing to join in these World Manx events is asked to book as early as possible by phoning Douglas 6741. All are welcome.

The World Manx held a very lively annual General Meeting in March when all Officials and Committee were re-elected. During the evening the members were entertained by a splendid talk from Mrs. G. Clarke of Douglas, on a recent visit to Canada. She mentioned many Manx folk whom she had met in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, etc. and this of course added a lot to the interest of her talk.

*Doris Clague,
Secretary.*

CHICAGO

On Friday, May 14, 1971, the Chicago Manx Society held its Ninety-eighth Anniversary Dinner at the Encore Buffet in Chicago. There were 34 in attendance, including six guests, and everyone had a most enjoyable time. Norman Clucas showed slides taken during the July 1970 Homecoming on the Isle of Man. It is hoped that he will be able to show the other half of them at another meeting.

The Chicago Manx have again been invited to hold their annual picnic at the Glen Orry Manx Cattery in West Chicago in July. The Glen Orry Manx cats have won many championships, winning in 35 cat shows during the past year. In appreciation of their exhibiting at the Chicago Holiday Folk Fair and hosting our picnic many times, Ruth and Ellen Carlson were presented at the dinner with the new Isle of Man silver proof Manx cat crown issued in 1970, the first I.O.M. coinage since 1839.

*Bob Kelly,
President.*

CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

Almost one hundred people attended the card party held in May in place of our regular meeting. There was an abundance of door prizes and many other lovely items were awarded in a drawing.

June is our last meeting till fall but there will be a picnic sometime in August.

Some of our members are visiting the Island this summer. John Watterson (Peel) sails in June with no definite idea as to how long he will stay. Sisters — Mrs. Mabel Burhenne and Mrs. Fairy Lyon, are looking forward to their trip. Their parents were James Crellin of Ramsey, and Ellen Jane (Boyde) Crellin of Ballaugh. Mabel was born in Onchan and this is her first trip back. Fairy has never been to the Isle of Man.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gorry (Peel) will be going home again this year. They are to represent our Society at the World Manx Association meeting.

Marge Krach, Publicity

SAN FRANCISCO

In spite of being a small group, the San Francisco Manx try to keep up their mothly meetings. The April meeting was held at the home of Miss Evelyn Corlett and in June her brother and his wife will be the hosts at their home in Sebastopol.

*Evelyn Corlett,
Secretary*

MANX BUGGIES!!

Have you seen the Manx dune buggy? Bob Kelly had seen them advertised for sale in the Chicago papers and has at last found out that they are made in California by B. F. Meyers & Co. of Fountain Valley who advertise themselves as "makers of the famous MEYERS MANX SR., MANX and MANX 2 sports car and sports buggy kits and accessories. They also have Manxpower Volkswagen engines. For \$2.00 you can send for a complete catalog and price list. In the ad sent in by Bob the body kit cost only \$298!

DUES

It's DUES time again. Pink slips are included with this Bulletin. Please take a few minutes now to send in your check. The mailing address is noted on the pink slip.

Golden Wedding

Fred and Dolly Caveen of Toronto will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on June 25th next.

The Li'l People

Born — April 5th, 1971, to Mr. and Mrs. John Cubbon, Galva, Illinois, a daughter Vicki Lynn. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cubbon are the new grandparents and Mrs. Ada Cubbon of Galva is the great-grandmother.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

A friend of the Corrins of Bisbee, Arizona, was visiting a buddy of his after a National Airforce Reserve meeting and during the evening Mrs. Moore, the buddy's wife asked if he knew the Corrin family in Bisbee and said she too was a Corrin. After writing to Mrs. Moore recently, Mrs. Dillon does not think that they are of the same clan as her family is from Foxdale and Mrs. Moore's from Ballabeg. Mrs. Moore is a cousin of Charles Corrin of Chicago. Mrs. Dillon is looking forward to taking time off from her many other hobbies one day to pursue the Corrin family history.

While in the Island last summer the Corrins arranged to have a tree planted in memory of their brother Fred. They picked a location on Peel Hill near Corrin's Folly and have recently heard that a Wych Elm was planted. A bronze me-

morial plaque will be put at the foot of the tree.

Mrs. Ivy L. Dillon of Bisbee is expecting a visit from her sister, Mrs. Gladys Rogers, whose daughter Margaret LaPrade who works for Eastern Airlines will be attending a convention in Tucson, and is hoping that they will join her and her daughter, Peggy Van-Camp, for a short holiday in Hawaii in June.

Ethel Christian reports that she has had visits from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shimmin (from Peoria) and from Mrs. Malik and her sister Florence Comish (from Chicago) while they were vacationing in Florida.

Ethel is hoping to made a trip to Australia and New Zealand this fall but has not finalized her plans yet.

KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

By Mrs. Edna Cowin

A bit of preliminary reading helps a great deal when starting a "family tree". In addition to visiting your local library on general reference books on the subject, a request accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Local History and Genealogy Room, General Reference & Bibliography Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540 will bring suggested reading lists and an explanation of the facilities of the Library's services.

Also, two dollars (American) mailed to the headquarters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776 D Street, N.Y., Washington, D.C. 20006 will return to you that organizations excellent genealogy kit. The envelope contains instructions on how to start, work charts, and a useful booklet.

From the Mail Bag

Mrs. Charles Steed, 25 Chestnut Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077 is trying to trace the family of her great-great grandmother, Elinor Clucas. She married John Lace and came to the States around 1826 or 1827 from German Parish near Peel. Her great grandfather was Charles Lace born in 1824.

Mrs. Edmund C. Consolo, 15407 N.E. 3rd Place, Bellevue, Washington, 98807 is a descendant of one James Quine and Jane Ferrin Quine who came from the Isle of Man to the United States in the middle 1770's. She would very much like to hear from some Quines.

If you can help these folks, I have included their addresses so you can write to them direct.

Please send your material to Mrs. Robert S. Cowin, 1223 West Melrose Drive, Westlake, Ohio 44145.

MANX LIFE

Readers of the Bulletin may be interested in a new publication from the Isle of Man commencing with the first issue this summer. It will be a "glossy" type magazine with lots of photographs and covering all aspects of Manx life. There will be 6 issues per year and the annual subscription is £1.68 (One pound, sixty-eight pence). Orders should be sent to:

MANX LIFE.

C/o Isle of Man Weekly Times,
Athol Street,

DOUGLAS, Isle of Man

and payment of the subscription is preferred by International Money order. Your local bank can work out the American or Canadian dollar equivalent.

HARPER'S VIEW OF THE ISLE OF MAN — 1875 PART III

The old town is on the low ground nearest the shore, and is intersected by incoherent little streets, which are so narrow that two vehicles approaching from opposite directions can not pass, and the occupants of the solid-looking houses might almost shake hands out of their bedroom windows with their neighbours over the way. The houses are as much alike as a row of nine-pins, as uniform as the streets are erratic. They were built for a simple people, earning a frugal living from the sea, and no vain architectural fancies have been lavished upon them. The walls are thick and the roofs warm. They were looking out on the bay and trembling in the wintry blast long before a new town had crept above them on the hill, and these very dormer-windows that stare in perpetual reveries from the deep roofs have often been filled with the anxious faces of fishermen's wives as the herring boats have sailed far out to sea. A chilly effect is produced by their white fronts and dark roofs in the gray light of the afternoon, and they look all the better in the evening, when the lamps glow through the bits of red curtains in the windows.

Compared with its tributaries, the principal thoroughfare is magnificent. It runs across the town from one side of the bay to the other, and is nearest of all to the water. Once its buildings were like those on the other streets, and its only claim to superiority rested in its possession of a few shops. But it has since advanced to the glory of plate-glass show windows, with as fine displays of fashionable millinery and clothing as an ambitious little city could desire. There are also extensive bazars and arcades for the allurements of those tourists who have a weakness for giving inscribed mementoes of the places they have visited to their friends. But Duke Street, with all its fine stores, still remains a mere alley, with a cobble-stone pavement. Some of the older one-story buildings have stood their ground while the grander ones have been built around them. Its inconvenient compactness gives a small crowd the appearance and force of a large one, and you can not walk through it without the most vigorous pushing and elbowing. At night it is flooded with light from the shops and thronged with loungers.

The trade done in pictorial note-paper and wooden spoons marked "A present from the Isle of Man" is enormous. All the purchasers seem to be strangers, and occasionally you may see a salty-looking native, dressed in a pea-jacket and a sou'wester cap, watching them with an expression of mingled contempt and approval.

The southern end emerges in the old Market Square — a lively and interesting scene at all times. On one side stands the Church of St. Matthew, which has been frowning on the vanity of the passing crowd for more than one hundred and fifty years. It was consecrated by Bishop Wilson, whose life was written by Keble, and age has only slightly impaired the strength of its substantial walls. Close by there are several old-fashioned taverns, with cozy bar-parlors, which invite the carnal man to drowse away an hour or two over a long clay pipe and a glass of steaming toddy. A little further on you come to the harbor, which is formed by the embouchure of the river Douglas, and is partly separate from the bay. Two great hills flank it, the one on the farther side covered with the brightest verdure, the other graded into streets and occupied by houses. At low water the pebbly bottom is visible, with the river, white from the flour mills, running through a deeper channel in the middle. A few fishing boats are moored to the wharf, their red sails hanging limply about the masts, and their weather-beaten crews enjoying an industrious idleness on deck. A schooner or bark from England or Ireland is sometimes moored among others, and under the light-house at the end a gallant fleet of row-boats and yachts dazzle the water with the surpassing brilliancy of their paints.

At night the market-place reminds you of Flemish pictures. Its space is filled with stands and lighted with flaring yellow lamps. Here you may see a comely woman — with such a color and such a breadth! — planted before a stall loaded with the most glittering and most richly colored mackerel in the world. Her bright eyes, clear complexion, and picturesque dress — a red shawl jauntily thrown across her magnificent shoulders, the clean blue check apron and homespun brown

HARPER'S VIEW OF ISLE OF MAN

Cont'd from page 6

gown — realize the ideal of a modern viking's daughter. Next to her, before a stand of oysters, is a gray-haired old fellow in sailor's attire calling out his stock in the most persuasive tone. "Fine oysters, fresh oysters, oysters all alive oy-y-stars kicking! Try them, ladies; try them, gents; a shilling a dozen. Oysters, oysta-r-r-r-s!" Only a few of the tourists who throng the narrow passage are able to resist the appeal, augmented as it is by the tempting samples which are open within their pearly clasps, all ready for the pepper and the vinegar. On another stall a lot of crimson lobsters and crabs invite purchasers; and the next dealer, a fair-haired girl, displays some tender-looking mushrooms, gathered by her own chubby hands that same afternoon. In the background stands the old church, the flickering lamps throwing gigantic shadows on its yellow walls, and the taverns, their windows beaming with a hospitable warmth.

When other visitors than occasional officials of the English government and the captains of small coasters began to come to the island, the first stones of the new town were laid on Prospect Hill. Soon afterward terraces of stucco villas, with carriage-drives and gardens in front, dawned on the astonished minds of the old town folk, and yet greater wonders in the shape of modern hotels, with hundreds of rooms



Manx Oystirman

and princely furniture. A steamer came from Liverpool daily, bringing an increasing number of passengers each succeeding summer, until the fame of Douglas was spread through the kingdom.

Douglas is the starting-point for tourists to all parts of the island, which can be reached within a day, and it has all the essentials of a fashionable resort. There is a splendid concrete parade, where you may watch the sea rolling in on the low beach, not in thundering waves, as at Long Branch, but in play-

ful ripples that chase each other like children; an ornamental iron pier reaching several hundred yards in the water of the bay, water of such purity and exquisite colors as you will not see elsewhere on the English coast; handsome boarding-houses and hotels perched on the cliffs among the shady foliage; and the street entertainments of negro minstrels, ballad singers, and acrobats, which form one of the distinctive features of all English watering-places.

A pleasant lane leads to Douglas Head, one of the promontories guarding the entrance to the bay, from which elevation a superb reach of land and water is in view. It is over three hundred feet above the sea-level and rises almost precipitously from the water. Lovers have made it a favorite tryst, and dainty parasols blossom unexpectedly out of the secluded nooks torn in the rock. On the opposite headland a smoky chaplet hovers above Onchan village, with its romantic little church — fair Onchan,

"Studding the hill above the glassy bay,
A tiny hamlet bosomed in the skies."

Inland there are the mountain ranges, and the fertile valley that cleaves the island between Douglas and Peel. A footpath down the hill brings you to the light-house on another commanding eminence, and then, by flights of stairs hewn out of the layers of greenish rock, you come to Port Skillion. I never saw a more romantic bathing-place than this is, nor one where a bath could be enjoyed with greater luxury. It is a cool recess in the rocks, cool on the warmest days in summer. The water is intensely green, and so clear withal that a small object can be seen fifteen feet below the surface. In the rear there is a row of comfortable dressing-rooms, with neat exteriors, and a wall of concrete partly incloses a bit of shelving beach evenly strewn with lustrous pebbles. Near the middle of the bay is the "tower of refuge" established on Consister Rock for the succor of the shipwrecked by Sir William Hillery, founder of the National Life-boat Institution. Above you impend the frowning cliffs.

But with all its attractions Douglas is not fashionable. A wealthy iron-master from Barrow, or a mill-owner from Manchester, sometimes builds a summer residence there, and in times past it was a little Siberia for profligate sons of gentlemen, who could not behave themselves in England. Families with limited incomes have chosen it

MANX CROWN PIECE

The Isle of Man crown piece which went into circulation last year was the first such coin ever to be issued by Tynwald and could be the last crown piece to be struck in the Sterling area now almost all converted to decimal currency.

The coin bears the head of the Queen similar to that on the obverse of all British coins and on the reverse is a Manx cat.

The crown piece was struck by the Royal Mint and an allocation was sent to the Island for normal distribution while coins intended for collectors were to be available from Spink and Son Ltd. of London.

Mr. Douglas Liddell, director in charge of Spink's coin department, believes that this is the first coin in history to bear a domestic cat as its subject. "The nearest parallel is in the

fifth century B.C. This is a panther's cub on a Greek stater of Tarentum, which is being fed with a fish by the god Taras."

Miss Suzanne Danielli of Spinks of London was closely associated with the new coin and even submitted a design for it. It was the first such design she had ever done but it so impressed the experts at Spinks that they passed it on to the Royal Mint, where it was considered along with a design by Mr. Christopher Ironside which was eventually chosen. Mr. Ironside was also involved in the design of Britain's new decimal currency. Miss Danielli was very proud that she only lost out to such a famous artist as Mr. Ironside.

The Manx Treasury was expecting to realise a good profit on the sale of 15,000 proof crowns in silver selling for 5 each; 140,000 proof cupro-nickel at 10s., and a further 10,000 cupro-nickel which were to go into normal circulation through the banks.

Cont'd on page 8

SUMMONED TO SERVE THE LORD

I hear the Heavenly summons
And I'm glad to serve the Lord;
I always have been sheltered
By the blessings of His Word.
And though the Scriptures promise
A full life — three score and ten . . .
There are many duties here on earth
I'd gladly do again.
I've loved my home and family . . .
These ladies sweet and dear,
Who've given me such joyous times
In every given year.
And thankful for the relatives . . .
And friends who are all about . . .
It's really been my pleasure
As with love we sing and shout.
The Heavenly Home is real on earth
As we serve day by day . . .
In doing things that Jesus taught
As part of His good Way.
And in this life we're meant to Know
God's Kingdom is to come . . .
As we have often bid farewell
When graduations come.
And though it seems life is too short
With God we have the power;
To share in that Eternal Life,
In every given hour.
So, let me bid farewell for now,
With praise to God Above . . .
Expecting we shall always walk
In God's Eternal Love.

written for Harry Kelly
Paul R. Balliest
February 8th, 1971.

HARPER'S VIEW OF ISLE OF MAN

Cont'd from page 7

as a retreat where they may practice economy without being debarred from social distinctions. But the crowd of visitors who fill the hotels and boarding-houses to overflowing during the summer mostly are foremen mechanics, clerks, and salesmen from Liverpool, Manchester, and the manufacturing districts of North Lancashire and Cumberland, out for a holiday. Their wives, daughters, and sweethearts are quite as pretty as the women of the better classes, with rosier cheeks, I think, and handsomer forms. Full of health and mirth, tasting the pleasure of relaxation from toil for only one or two weeks out of the whole year's round, their exuberance is sometimes loud to the degree of vulgarity. But what an incomparably jolly, sociable, song-singing, picnicking set they are!

Their day began with an early morning dip in the water, no matter how cold the temperature or how heavy the rain, and then came a prodigious-

OBITUARIES

BROWN, Mrs. Harold H. died in hospital at Inverness, Florida, at the age of 84. Mrs. Brown, the former Marguerite Gill and daughter of J. T. Gill, Manx builder, lived in Cleveland Heights before moving to Fort Lauderdale in 1956. She was always interested in Manx and Manx affairs. Her husband died in 1945. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Armstrong, of Iverness, and Mrs. Adelbert E. Bronson; a son, John T.; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

CORKAN, Thomas Henry of Richmond, B.C., passed away on April 22nd, 1971, aged 86 years. Mr. Corkan was formerly of Winnipeg, Man. He was predeceased in 1967 by his wife, Elizabeth, who was president of the Ladies Auxiliary for a number of years. Surviving are two sons, Tom of Richmond, B.C., Juan of Calgary, Alberta; one daughter, Mrs. B. Widland (Betty) of Taxoma, Wash., seven grandchildren and two sisters.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

A gift to N.A.M.A. is a fitting memorial in memory of a Manx loved one or friend. Gifts received will be used for special purposes as approved by the N.A.M.A. Officers. For gifts sent directly to the Secretary-Treasurer, please include the name and address to which the Memorial Card is to be sent.

breakfast of mutton-chops, beefsteak, and "kippered" herrings, which were eaten in abundance with immense relish by men and women. There no headaches or complaints of bad nights' rest among them. All were jolly, talkative, and full of health. After breakfast, they divided into fishing and driving parties, taking with them plethoric lunch baskets; and when they returned in the evening they all settled down to rubbers at whist, song-singing, and story-telling until midnight.

To be continued

CORLETT, Mrs. Clara of San Francisco, passed away on April 9th at the age of 86. Even though she was born in Germany, she attended San Francisco Manx meetings and also three Conventions. She was predeceased by her husband in 1948 and is survived by her step-daughter Evelyn Corlett of San Francisco and three sons.

KELLY, Miss Milchrist D., 93 year old former Galva resident passed away April 4, 1971, in Galesburg, Illinois. A native of Kempton, Illinois, Miss Kelly lived in Galva most of her life and for the past 17 years resided in the P.E.O. Home in Knoxville, Illinois. Survivors are a niece, Mrs. Charlotte S. Harris of Jackson, Tennessee, and a nephew, Harold Kelly of Kankakee, Illinois. Her parents were among the early residents of Galva and her father, with his horses and wagon, helped to haul materials for the first Methodist church in that town in 1855. These materials were brought from the Tri-cities, a distance of some forty of fifty miles. Burial was in Galva cemetery.

NICHOLL, Mrs. Hilda Jane (née Taylor)—wife of the late Albert Nicholl; mother of Frank, Henry and Mrs. Gladys Mathes passed away May 5, 1971, in Cleveland, Ohio.

QUIRK, Thomas of Winnipeg, Manitoba, passed away on April 19th, 1971. Born in the Isle of Man, Mr. Quirk had resided in Canada for the past fifty-nine years. Prior to his retirement in 1959, he was Captain of the City of Winnipeg Fire Department. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, President of the Winnipeg Manx Society; one daughter, Mrs. D. D. (Eunice) Parker of Karlstad, Minnesota; four grandchildren, and four sisters in the British Isles.

SCHMIDT, Mrs. Alice passed away in Burlingame, California, on August 19, 1970. Born in Peel, Isle of Man, Mrs. Schmidt came to America in 1899. She attended Manx meetings in Cleveland, Los Angeles and lastly in San Francisco. She is survived by a sister, Jane C. Bare.