

THE 1897 BALLAUGH PAROCHIAL CONCERT *



BALLAUGH

THE PAROCHIAL CONCERT

The annual parochial concert at Ballaugh in aid of the relief of the poor took place in the Schoolroom. There was a crowded house, as was only to be expected, considering the excellent programme which the committee always arrange for this event. This year the committee were fortunate enough to secure the services of popular singers from Ramsey, Bride, Sulby, Ballaugh, Peel, and Douglas, and the result was a programme which excelled even the capital programme which was given at last year's concert. Mr J.C. Crellin, CP, who had that day been returned unopposed as member for the sheading, occupied the chair, and the other new member, Mr E.H. Christian, was also present.—The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, briefly referred to the lamented death of Mr John Kelly, the late member for the sheading.—The programme was as follows:—Song, “Out on the Deep,” Mr F. Minay (Douglas); song, “The King's Own,” Miss Anderson (Peel); song, “The Heavenly Song,” Mr H. Collister (Douglas); duet, “The Flower Gatherers,” Misses Jennings and Quayle (Ramsey); song, “Yeoman's Wedding Son,” Mr J.W. Kelly (Peel); song, “Three Fishers,” Miss J. Quayle (Sulby); song, “The Anchor's Weighed,” Mr G.W. Corlett (Ramsey); song, “Mona,” Miss Green (Ballaugh); song, “A Manx Wedding,” Mr W. Grindley (Douglas); song, “The Queen of Connemarra,” Mr E. Kelly (Douglas); song, “The Golden Shore,” Miss J. Kelly (Peel); instrumental selection, Misses Cowley and Mr H. Lace; quartette, “When Hands Meet,” Miss M.J. Quayle, Miss Jennings, Mr G.W. Corlett, and Mr T. Cowle; song, “Killarney,” Miss Kneen (Bride); song, “The Storm Fiend,” Mr T. Cowle (Ramsey); song, “Au Revoir,” Miss Quayle (Ramsey); duet, “Excelsior,” Messrs H. Collister and Mr F. Minay; song, “Biddy Arroo,” Mr E. Kelly; song, “Will o' the Wisp,” Mr Minay; song, “The Lass that Loves a Sailor,” Mr G.W. Corlett; song, “Ramsey Town,” Mr W. Grindley; song, “Love's Request,” Mr H. Collister; National Anthem. Mr F. Minay's “Out on the Deep” was deservedly encored, and Mr J.W. Kelly was recalled for “The Yeoman's Wedding Song,” and sang “Jack's the Boy.” Mr G.W. Corlett was well received in “The Anchor's Weighed,” and, responding to an encore, gave “The Soldier's Tear.” Miss Green repeated the last verse of “Mona” as an encore. “The Manx Wedding,” sung by Mr Walter Grindley evoked great amusement and applause, and, as an encore, he sang a verse of “Tommy Atkins.” Mr E. Kelly and Mr T. Cowle were each encored, but did not sing again. Messrs Collister and Minay

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were recalled for their rendering of “Excelsior.” Altogether the concert was a most enjoyable one.—Afterwards, Mr Crellin and Mr Christian both thanked the electors present for returning them to the House of Keys that day.—Mr Corlett, the secretary of the Poor Relief Committee, acknowledged the receipt of £1 from Mr E.H. Christian, through Mr J. Teare.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Chairman and to the vocalists. Supper was afterwards served by Mrs Teare and a number of assistants, in the class-room, the tables being decorated very nicely with beautiful flowers. Then dancing, games, and songs passed away a pleasant two hours, a large party of young folks staying behind till the small hours, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

“Ballaugh. The Parochial Concert.” *Isle of Man Weekly Times* 20 February 1897: 5d.

This report of the Ballaugh Parochial Concert in 1897 contains the programme for the evening as regards the musical entertainment that was on offer. And as reported “[t]his year the committee were fortunate enough to secure the services of popular singers from Ramsey, Bride, Sulby, Ballaugh, Peel, and Douglas [...]” From Ramsey came G.W. Corlett, T. Cowle, Miss Jennings, Miss Quayle; then Miss Kneen (Bride); Miss J. Quayle (Sulby); Miss Green (Ballaugh); Miss Anderson, J.W. Kelly, Miss J. Kelly (Peel); H. Collister, W. Grindley, E. Kelly, F. Minay (Douglas). That left four people, the two Miss Cowleys, H. Lace, and Miss M.J. Quayle whose places of residence were not given. There were twenty-two musical pieces scheduled. Two were duets, one was a quartette performance, and one was made up of instrumentals. Three songs not on the programme featured as encores.

There were three obvious Manx titles on the programme, ‘A Manx Wedding,’ ‘Mona,’ and ‘Ramsey Town.’ The middle song was sung by Miss Green of Ballaugh, and whilst there is only the one Green family in the parish, there is a choice between the Ele[a]nor (21), a school teacher, and her two siblings, Margaret (24) and Mary (30), both farmer’s daughters, and all living at Ballacurn.¹

STEPHEN MILLER, 2018

THE SONGS

‘A Manx Wedding,’ ‘The Anchor’s Weighed,’ ‘Au Revoir,’ ‘Biddy Arroo,’ ‘Excelsior,’ ‘Excelsior,’ ‘The Flower Gatherers,’ ‘The Golden Shore,’ ‘The Heavenly Song,’ ‘Jack’s the Boy,’ ‘Killarney,’ ‘The King’s Own,’ ‘The Lass that Loves a Sailor,’ ‘Love’s Request,’ ‘Mona,’ ‘Out on the Deep,’ ‘The Queen of Connemarra,’ ‘Ramsey Town,’ ‘The Soldier’s Tear,’ ‘The Storm Fiend,’ ‘Three Fishers,’ ‘Tommy Atkins,’ ‘When Hands Meet,’ ‘Will o’ the Wisp,’ ‘Yeoman’s Wedding Son.’

¹ *Census Enumerators’ Book* for Ballaugh 1901, RG 13/5300, fol. 45, sch. 34.

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THE PERFORMERS

Miss Anderson, 'The King's Own'; H. Collister, 'Excelsior' [duet with F. Minay], 'The Heavenly Song,' 'Love's Request'; G.W. Corlett, 'The Anchor's Weighe,' 'The Lass that Loves a Sailor,' 'The Soldier's Tear,' 'When Hands Meet' (Q); T. Cowle, 'The Storm Fiend,' 'When Hands Meet,' (Q); Miss Cowley (1), Instrumental; Miss Cowley (2), Instrumental; W. Grindley, 'A Manx Wedding,' 'Tommy Atkins,' 'Ramsey Town'; Miss Jennings, 'The Flower Gatherers' [duet with Miss Quayle], 'When Hands Meet,' (Q); E. Kelly, 'Biddy Arroo,' 'The Queen of Connemarra'; J.W. Kelly, 'Jack's the Boy,' 'Yeoman's Wedding Son'; Miss J. Kelly, 'The Golden Shore'; Miss Kneen, 'Killarney'; H. Lace, Instrumental; F. Minay, 'Excelsior,' 'Out on the Deep,' 'Will o' the Wisp'; Miss Green, 'Mona'; Miss Quayle, 'Au Revoir,' 'The Flower Gatherers' [duet with Miss Quayle]; Miss J. Quayle, 'Three Fishers'; Miss M.J. Quayle, 'When Hands Meet,' (Q).

