

Manx Notes 261 (2017)

THE REVIVAL OF THE MANX LANGUAGE (3) “YOUNG MEN’S TEA AND MANX READING COMPETITION” (1899)

In connection with the forthcoming Wesleyan bazaar, the Young Men’s Committee gave a tea in the Centenary Hall on Tuesday evening week. The tea was well patronised, the tables, being presided over by Messrs W. Quayle, J. Boyde, G. Delany, H. Kee, P. Kee, and W. Looney. These were suitably attired in aprons, &c., and their get-up was in admirable taste. After tea a Manx concert was given, presided over by Mr J.L. Callister. Songs were contributed by Messrs J.W. Kelly (“The Manx wedding”), W. Watterson (“Ramsey town”), T. Crellin (“Barbara Allen” in Manx and English); a violincello solo by Mr Percy Kee, and a melodeon solo by Mr Tom Gawne. Reading, and recitations were given by Messrs R. McEwen, W. Quayle, J. Boyde, W.Q. Leece, and J. Clinton. The “Tom Brown” quartette party gave (by special request) “The Gel of Ballasallaw.” During the evening a most interesting Manx reading competition took place. There were sixteen competitors, all under thirty years, and each, in turn had to read at first sight a verse in Manx—the verse being selected by the judges. Messrs Wm. Cashin and Thos. Kelly (Stanley Mount) were the judges, and gave general satisfaction. Mr C.R. Shimmin carried off the first prize, Mr T.H. Clague the second, while the third had to be divided between Messrs J.H. Clinton, W. Quayle, and the chairman. In awarding the prizes, Messrs Cashin and Kelly gave exceedingly interesting addresses on the Manx language. The usual votes of thanks brought the a meeting to a close. We must not forget to mention that the duties of accompanist were ably fulfilled by Mr Herbert Kee.

“Young Men’s Tea and Manx Reading Competition.” *Peel City Guardian*
11 February 1899: [3]b.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2017

