

Manx Notes 336 (2018)

“INCENDARISM IN THE ISLE OF MAN”

(1841)

On Tuesday night the whole of the farm premises, and crop, consisting of a stack of hay and about 2,000 stocks, of oats, on the property of Capt. Clucas, at Ballaneragga, in the parish of Kirk Santan, were entirely consumed by fire. It appears that it was first discovered by a party who was sitting up waking a corpse about half-a-mile from the farm, and who mistook the fire for a “sign.” Attempts to extinguish it were unavailing, as it broke out in all the property,—the farm house, a large barn, cow house, stables, thrashing mill, and stock yard, simultaneously, and consumed the entire property. The live stock were let out of the cow-house and stable by the incendiaries, previous to their being fired, belonging to the tenant in possession of the farm, who did not reside on the premises; but a pony belonging to the proprietor was consumed. His Excellence the Governor has, we understand, issued an order to the High Bailiff of Castletown, directing him to attend on the premises with a jury, and some of the police, for the purpose of instituting an inquiry for ascertaining the cause of the fire.—Capt. Clucas is insured at the Sun Fire Office, through their agent here, Messrs. Moore and Son. The culprits are perhaps not aware that if discovered, their lives will pay the penalty on the gallows.

“Incendarism in the Isle of Man.” *Manx Sun* 29 January 1841: 4d.

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