

“IT IS FREELY RUMOURED ...”

(1899) *



It is freely rumoured in the Isle of Man that Kruger is a Manxman, and that his real name is Creer. On the other hand, his name is said to be Kerruish, but the rumours unite in saying that he originated in Ballaugh. Mrs Kruger is also said to be Manx, her maiden name being Corlett. Manx people bearing either of these names ought to communicate with Mr and Mrs Kruger, when doubtless they will hear something to their advantage.

“[It is freely rumoured ...].” *Ramsey Courier* 20 October 1899: 4c.

This is a wonderful and well-written piece of satire and mocks that still prevalent Manx attitude of seeing—or rather, trying to find—a connection with the Island in anyone of prominence, in this case the Boer President, Peter Kruger—as well as his wife for that matter. Whilst we do not know his real surname, though it is a Manx one, there is one thing known for certain, and that is that he comes from Ballaugh...

STEPHEN MILLER, 2017



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