

# Manx Notes 408 (2019)

## THE OIEL VERREY IN ANDREAS

(1875) \*

(1)

LEODEST OIEL VERRY was held on Monday, January 4, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, when Mr J. Kneale preached to a crowded house many having had to stand outside, as the house was full to excess. After preaching the singing commenced. Mr Kewen sung a Manks carol. "Hold the Fort" was next sung by Misses Mylrea and Goldsmith, Messrs W. Skinner, T. Cottier, J. Kelly, W. Goldsmith, and — Goldsmith. "The Lifeboat" was then sung by Mr B. Radcliffe. "Another year has passed away," "Kind words," and "While shepherds watched their flocks by night," were sung as pieces, besides seven carols, sung by Dugdale, Teare, Kneen, Lace, Corkill, Corlett, Corkill, Kinrade, and Callow, of Andreas and Jurby. The Leodest tonic-sol-fa choir sung eight hymns during the service. The singing commenced before eight o'clock, and lasted till ten, when the Doxology was sung and the audience dispersed in good humour and well pleased.

(2)

BALLAKANEEN OIEL VERRY was held in the chapel on the 7th January. The Rev Mr Hughes preached to a crowded house. After preaching he invited the carol singers, or others, to sing their pieces. The first piece sung was the "Sweet bye and bye," sung by Messrs B. Radcliffe, Mylrea, and W. Skinner, junr. The piece was much applauded by the audience, and received from the Rev. H. Hughes the greatest praise he possibly could give for the good rendering of the piece. "Now another year has passed away," was sung by the Misses Goldsmith and Cottier, Messrs Goldsmith, T. Cottier, and J. Kelly. "I hear thy welcome voice" was sung by Messrs Kewin and Christian. A carol was then sung by Messrs T. Cottier, Kelly, and Goldsmith. "Safe in the arras of Jesus" was next sung by B. Radcliffe, junr, and W.S. Quayle then sang a Manks carol. "The Lifeboat" was next sung by F. Radcliffe. The next was the carol, "Let Christmas now in joyful mirth," sung by J.T. Corkill and Corlett. A carol, sung by Messrs Quayle and Dugdale. The Doxology was then sung, and the meeting brought to a close at ten o'clock. The Oiel Verrys at Leodest and Ballakaneen this year are the best that have ever been held, and the singing at these meetings deserves credit. The collections also have increased, and will defray the cost of lighting the chapels.

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Sources: (1) “[Ramsey and the North] Ballakaneen Oiel Verry,” *Mona’s Herald* 14 January 1875: 5d; (2) “[Ramsey and the North] Leodest Oiel Verry,” *Mona’s Herald* 14 January 1875: 5d.

“Mr Kewen sung a Manks carol.” This was the last link at Leodest with the Oiel Verry of old, held on Christmas Eve in the parish church, the vicar having left, with *carval* singing and a cavalcade of parched peas from the females there. In 1875 at Leodest and Ballakaneen, the venue was now the Methodist chapel, the date now in January and a varying one, with a sermon preached on the night and a selection of hymns following thereafter and all done by ten o’clock. The collection at Ballakaneen was to be used in part to defray the costs of lighting the chapel that evening, no longer did people bring their own candles on the night.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2019

