

# Manx Notes 499 (2020)

“THE TERM ‘CLASS’ WAS SCARCELY SUITABLE” \*  
(1871)

On Thursday last the members of the advanced division took into consideration the advisability of altering the name of “advanced class” to some other more appropriate and significant title. As this division now numbers over a hundred names, and usually musters upwards of ninety for practice, including most of the leading voices in Douglas, it was thought by several that the term “class” was scarcely suitable. Under these circumstances, therefore, after a little discussion, in which all present seemed anxious to take an active part, it was finally proposed by the Secretary that in future this class be designated as Miss Wood’s choir. The proposition was seconded by Mr Kissack, and evidently gave general satisfaction, for upon a show of hands, it was earned unanimously.

“[Local Intelligence] Douglas Singing Class: Alteration of Title.” *Mona’s Herald* 25 October 1871: 5a.

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A number of the Douglas Singing Class, those “leading voices in Douglas” as the *Mona’s Herald* referred to them, were evidently displeased with being in what was termed the Advanced Class, and effected a change, and so with a unanimous show of hands it became “Miss Wood’s Choir.” With musical ability comes too social distinction for some.

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