

Manx Notes 508 (2020)

“TO KEEP UP THE WEDDING DAY”

(1880)

On Saturday last John Kaighin, Thomas Kaighin, Robert Crellin, R.W. Stewart, and T. Cannell, were brought before his Worship R.J. Moore. Esq., High-Bailiff of Peel, on a charge of being drunk and disturbing the public peace, in Kirk Michael Village, on the 9th instant.—Mr Wood appeared for the defendants; and it was proved by Thomas Teare, police constable, for the prosecution, that the defendants procured a barrel of ale to keep up the wedding day of a distinguished person of the name of Mr Parkes, and rolled the same down to the low end of the village, where they deposited the cask in a lane adjoining the highroad, and tapped the same, and freely partook thereof; also inviting passers-by to have a drink, including the witness—For the defence two witnesses were examined, and proved that the men were not drunk, nor making any particular disturbance.—After Mr Wood having addressed the bench, his Worship inflicted a fine of 10s. 6d. each, remarking that it was not creditable for men in their position to have acted in such a manner.

“[Peel and the West] Keeping up a Wedding.” *Isle of Man Times* 28 February 1880: 5b.

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“On Monday, Feb. 9th, at the Parish Church, Peel, by the Rev H. Dening, Samuel Parkes, butcher, &c., Michael, to Miss Annie Elizabeth Clucas, second daughter of Mr Joseph Clucas, jeweller, Peel.”¹ This is the marriage which was the occasion of the incident that led to the appearance before the High Bailiff. As regards those who rolled the offending barrel of ale “down to the low end of the village” as it was put, in the 1881 census, Robert Crellin was aged 23, a lead miner living in Kirk Michael village.² John and Thomas Kaighin were both fishermen enumerated onboard of the *Honey Bee*, respectively 45 and 36 years old.³ Robert Stewart was another lead miner and again living in the village, and 26 years old.⁴ As regards T. Cannell there are too many candidates for Michael to be able to make a choice.

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¹ “[Births, Marriages, and Deaths] Marriages,” *Manx Sun* 21 February 1880, 5f & [—] —, *Isle of Man Times*, 21 February 1880, 5g.

² *Census Enumerators' Book* for Michael 1881, RG 11/5598, fol. 26, sch. 31.

³ *Census Enumerators' Book* for 1881, [Enumeration of Fishermen], RG 11/5609, fol. 69[b].

⁴ *Census Enumerators' Book* for Michael 1881, RG 11/5598, fol. 37, sch. 29.