

Manx Notes 547 (2021)

“THERE WAS SINGING GALORE OF CAROLS, HYMNS ANTHEMS”

THE OIE’L VERREY AT CARDLE CHAPEL (1903) *

The oiel verrey, which was to have been held in Cardle Chapel on Friday, the 9th inst., was postponed, owing to the inclemency of the weather, until Friday of last week. On that day the chapel was well filled, and practically the oiel verrey was the event of the season. Mr Thomas Christian, of Ramsey, conducted the service and gave an address in Manx, which was very eagerly listened to by the audience, and was very much appreciated by those present who understood Manx. Mr and Mrs Killey, of Ramsey, sang a piece in Manx, which was well rendered and highly appreciated. Mr Nelson, of Ramsey, also sang an old Methodist hymn in Manx, the audience joining in the chorus in English. This embraced the Manx portion of the service, with the exception of a casual remark by Mr Christian, in Manx. In English, there was singing galore of carols, hymns, anthems, and Sankey’s songs. The following choirs took part—The Agneash Choir, the Ballajora Choir, the Ballinen Choir, together with the chapel choir. The greatest treat was the singing of a youth from Ramsey, named Evan Butler. With his rich, mellow, and musical voice he delighted the audience twice. His singing carries both power and appeal. It is to be hoped that the good people connected with Cardle will continue to get up Manx services. It would be an improvement and an advantage to the congregation if a programme could be arranged for future oiel verrey services.

“[Maughold] Oiel Verrey at Cardle.” *Isle of Man Examiner* 24 January 1903: 7e.

“[O]wing to the inclemency of the weather,” a situation familiar to anyone attempting to hold events in the Island, and not just in the winter months.... Postponed until another week was the Oie’l Verrey held at Cardle Chapel in January 1903. The Oie’l Verrey now “the event of the season” for those in Maughold who worshipped at the chapel, but with the *carvals* now long gone as well as the parched peas for that matter. The evening now drew upon choirs from other chapels and also from outside of the parish. The use of Manx features here, but only just.

STEPHEN MILLER RBV

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