

Manx Notes 628 (2023)

“HOPED HE WOULD RETURN HOME WITH HIS POCKETS WELL-FILLED WITH GOLD”

(1897)

An interesting function was held at Glenmay yesterday week, when Messrs W. Quilliam and Fred Coole, who will shortly leave for South Africa, were the recipients of valuable presents. Both gentlemen have long been associated with the Glenmay Primitive Methodist Sunday-school, and their departure will be keenly felt. In connection with the event, a public tea-meeting was held in the Village Hall, and was patronized. The following ladies presided at the tea tables: Misses E. Callister and B. Quilliam; Misses A. Cashin and J. Cowley; Miss Lily Radcliffe and Carrie Quayle.

A concert was afterwards held, presided over by Mr P. Watterson, superintendent of the Sunday-school. The Chairman, in the course of an excellent address, stated the object of the meeting, and enlarged on the valuable services rendered by Messrs Quilliam and Coole, the first as teacher and organist, and the second also as a teacher.—Mr J.E. Kelly sang “The anchor’s weighed,” after which Mr W. Moore (Glenmay) gave an address eulogising Mr Quilliam and Mr Coole’s services, and concluding with an earnest wish that they would have a prosperous time.

Mr J.E. Kelly, on behalf of the Sunday-school, then presented to Mr Quilliam a handsome writing case, making an appropriate and eloquent speech in so doing. After a solo by Mr J. W. Kelly, entitled “The maid of Port-e-Chee,” Mr Quilliam replied. He thanked the officers and teachers of the Sunday-school for such a handsome present, which he would prize as long as he lived.

“Ellan Vannin” was feelingly sung by Mr J.E. Kelly, the chorus being sung by the assembly, after which Mr R. Cubbon gave a stirring and appropriate address. Mr Cubbon made reference, amidst much laughter, to the old fashion of “raising the tune” in the chapel, and said that on many occasions he had stayed in the heating apparatus room until he heard the welcome sound of the organ. His throat was none so good now, and he feared the difficult task of starting the tune. He wished their guests God-speed, and prosperity in their new sphere of labour.

Mr F. Coole was presented at this stage with a handsome gold albert, by the Sunday-school, the presentation being made by Mr J. E. Kelly.—Mr Coole expressed his sincere thanks to the officers and teachers of the school, with whom it had been a pleasure to work.

An address by Mr H. Clucas was followed by a song, “The Manx wedding,” by Mr J.W. Kelly, who was deservedly encored.

Mrs Quayle (Glenmay), on behalf of the choir and congregation, presented Mr Quilliam with a brown-leather travelling bag, in appreciation of his twelve years’ services as organist. She dwelt on the fact that it would be difficult to fill his place, and hoped he would return home with his pockets well-filled with gold.—Mr S.

Quane addressed the meeting, after which Mr Quilliam replied. He expressed his gratification at the presents he had received. It was a great sorrow to him to leave Glenmay, but he thought he would be bettering himself by so doing. He gave some capital personal reminiscences of his connection with the choir and chapel, and said that though removals were frequent, they had always maintained their reputation for singing.

“Auld lang syne” was sung, and the proceedings terminated, a happy evening having been passed.

“Interesting Presentation at Glenmay.” *Peel City Guardian* 20 March 1897:
[2]f.

Stephen Miller RBV

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