

Manx Notes 637 (2023)

W. RAMSEY WRIGLEY
“ISLAND HOME”
(1945)

To the Editor

Being an exiled Manxman (although with an English name!) and a great admirer of the late T.E. Brown, the Manx poet and his poetry, I have written a Sonnet expressing my yearning for the Island.

As, these days, many have much the same feelings, due to being away from home, I thought that you might care to publish it.

Yours truly,

W. RAMSEY WRIGLEY.

ISLAND HOME

Oh! Shall I ever come and live with Thee
Most blest of islands with Thy faery shore
Set many a mile of salty, foaming sea
For these less blessed lands?—My heart is sore.

Sometimes Thou seems't to me some high ideal
Placed there for striving—though I may not reach
Sometimes ghostly Thou seem'st, unreal,
Until I see Thy fields, and hear thy speech.

It may be that I may but visit Thee
For too short seasons, just begun when o'er
Some restful haven that I may but see
When stern Necessity returns—withholding more.

So I believe that when this life is run,
Then shall I find that Thou and Heaven art one.

W. Ramsey Wrigley, “[Letter to the Editor] Yearning for Manxland.” *Ramsey Courier* 1 June 1945: 7b.

Stephen Miller RBV

*