

Manx Notes 640 (2024)

“A NEW TUNE” *

(1900)

The concluding services in connection with the opening of the Ballabeg New Chapel, were held on Sunday last. The Rev. E. Gill, of Kansas, occupied the pulpit; the choir rendered special music, including a new tune, Ballavarkish, composed by Mr R. Lawson, in collaboration with some Castletown friends; and the young ladies connected with the chapel received the offertories of the congregation. There was a goodly gathering in the afternoon, and in the evening the new chapel and the greater part of the old were crowded. The sum of £22 2s. 6d. was collected during the day, making about £60 raised by the opening services.

“[Arbory] The concluding services” *Isle of Man Examiner* 20 October 1900: 5c.

A new Methodist Chapel and a tune composed for the occasion. “Mr R. Lawson” is likely Robert Lawson, enumerated in the 1901 census as a widower, aged fifty-two, working as a gardener, and residing with his brother and family at 22 Arbory Street in Castletown.¹

Stephen Miller RBV

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* Originally published as Stephen Miller, “‘A new tune’ (1900),” *Kiaull Manninagh Jiu March* (2024), [17].

¹ *Census Enumerators’ Book* for Castletown 1901, TNA, RG 13/5308, fol. 100, sch. 30.