

Manx Notes 712 (2025)

T.E. BROWN NIGHT IN CANADA (1914)

The *Chatham Daily Planet* (Ontario) gives the following account of T. E. Brown and how T.E. Brown Night was celebrated at that place by Manxmen living in the district: "A very pleasant gathering was held at the home of Mrs Simpson, Lydican Avenue on Nov. 12th, when the Chatham natives from the Isle of Man assembled to do honour to their grand old man—Thomas E. Brown. Brown is to the Manxman what Burns is to the Scotsman, and the 12th November. Hollantide, is held apart from celebrating his memory by all true and loyal Manx. Thomas E. Brown died ten years ago. The most of his works are in the Anglo-Manx dialect; so that they are not very widely read, except by people of his own country. He was a professor in Clifton College, near Bristol, and was a minister, musician, humorist and poet. His life was clean and blameless, and, above all, he was a man in whose presence meanness and sham were impossible. There are about nine Manxmen in Chatham, but there were about fourteen at the celebration. Manx cats have no tails. Tome Cottier (Peel) presided over the meeting, and made an excellent chairman. The Excelsior quartette party, consisting of Messrs Stanley and Ernest Sharpe (sons of Mr R. J. Sharpe, Ramsey), Burns and Cottier gave some Manx music; and views of the Island were shown by means of a magic lantern. The Isle of Man is noted for its excellent scenery. The evening was opened with the singing of the Manx National Anthem, and closed with the singing of "God Save the King."—Mr Killip, a native of the Island, who is a prosperous and well-respected citizen of Chatham, gave the lantern exhibition of Manx views.

"[Manx in Canada] T.E. Brown Night at Chatham, Ontario." *Ramsey Courier* 16 January 1914: [2]c.

STEPHEN MILLER RBV

*