# WAKEMAN'S WANDERINGS

## THE LITTLE MANX ISLAND AND ITS FOLK

**Manxmen and Their Wives, Their Homes and Home Belongings—Amplitude Tempered by Thrift—Homely but Pleasing Pictures of Manx Interiors—Interesting Characteristics and Customs—The "Old Verses."**

[Copyright, 1893, by Edgar L. Wakeman.]

PEEL, Isle of Man, —In a somewhat extended study of the home life of Manxmen I have come upon many striking similarities between the character and habits of these folk and those of the "statesmen" of Cumberland and the fisher folk of Cornwall.

Cumberland "statesmen," the actual peasant owners in perpetuity of little mountain tracts of land which have passed from father to eldest son since the border assemblies of feudal times compelled the warlike northern barons to parcel out their lands to their serfs, are full of stature, stout of frame, grave of aspect, but with a certain fire of calm and conscious independence in their great grey eyes which on occasion would flame into exalted heroism.

All this you see in Manxmen in their comfortable homes, and we has only to acquaint himself with the lineaments of this handful of islanders in the past to know that their looks do not belie their real character. There is nowhere on English soil a greater contrast to be found, to the head-breaking, turk pulling, fawning human whose the English land system has merged into a hereditarily cringing, farthing spitting vassal called an English small farmer.

You would be charmed with a mountain side or tossed over a cliff here in Mansland if you offered money for any form of hospitality. The host of farmhouse or cottage regards your coming as an honor, your staying a pleasure, your going with regret. From time immemorial no tramps or mendicants have been allowed to land upon the shores of Man. Not so very long ago any vessel breaking this law was forfeited. Locks and keys are unknown in the countrysides. Utter simplicity and complete repose reign in all farm and cottage homes. "Civilization," represented by an influx of sightseeing strangers from all parts of the world, has not yet disturbed the serenity of apparently changeless thought, feeling and habit. Strangers are so gratifying to the equable interest of Manxmen as the simplicity of the latter is satisfying to the curiosity of those who come from far lands. Outside of the town's unsuccessful life to close honest toils

* * * is measured in three parts.

A simple war—the birth, the toil, the rest.

The Manxwoman is ruddy of face, broad of girth and has a tongue which deals in special snacks. This face of hers is usually withal, and there is a Biblical grace of pleasant eyes which tells that her fine cozy mouth and ready tongue are not given to deceiving. It is a better face altogether than you will find in any of the Latin countries. You are not as affably fed as you are of the more English Irish face. It is less selfish than the faces of women you see in England, and it is not conjuring ill of you, as the Southrwoman sometimes makes you conscious. Altogether it speaks loyalty, carpetness, some sympathy and stamina all the trace of merriment you will find in Ye Mansland.

Only in the more ancient quarters will one find folk and customs peculiarly characteristic of the little Manx nation in towns. In Douglas, Ramsey, and even here in antiquated Peel, the humble folk live much as they do in all little old English coast cities. The real Manx house, preserved in its material and human entirety for many hundreds of years, is the house of the Manx highlander or fisherman, or of both. All habitations of these Manxmen are places of genuine though rude and simple comfort. In wandering in all manner of out of the way places on this fair island I have not been able to find one whole of peasant or fisherman where poverty is apparent. Even discomfort is seldom seen. Cleanliness and neatness are universal.

Nearly every cottage is like the Cumberland "statesman's." It is low, broad, simple. Its walls are practically indestructible, and the building, hooded with snug brown thatching, runs out in all manner of picturesque ways into stables, cowhouses, sheepfolds and out sheds. These tell their own pleasant story of prudent preservation of possessions and kindly comfort for dumb beasts. There is always a fine garden. This is not only a bit of rare bloom and color in summer, it is an contrast to the vast breadth of golden ever blooming gorse, the purple heather and lichen covered rocks, but Manxmen get as much as Hollanders for home comfort out of these richly tilled half acres. The earthen fences inclosing the garden and every hedge between the fields are beautiful from painstaking care. Enriched with moss, where the tiny Burnet rose is a marvel of color and fragrance, with lavatera and honeysuckle, they furnish one of the most exquisite charms of the island.

Within the Manx yeoman's home the picture is homely, but pleasing. The house place, living room and kitchen combined, is at one side of a green painted door and short passage. On the other is a narrow slip of a parlor, for, as with the Staffordshire potters, the parlor is a hereditary and necessary dignity with the Manxmen. It is, as usual with other pieces of dignity, the only place of discomfort in these kindly island homes. In the center of this room will always be found a little square mahogany table. A family Bible rests upon it. A half dozen ancient mahogany chairs are adjusted against the walls with a view to their support. A short, low backed mahogany framed chintz settle is in the window. Over the mantelpiece is a huge mirror whose texture is so choppy as the surface of the Manx coasting sea, but this reflects in a zigzag way a marvelous collection of stuffed birds, dried grasses, china dogs, vases and rampant superstitious, with sundry carvings from Double days and huge shells which under seas have brought from fabled shores.

But the comfort of the runner old house place and kitchen atones for all this. The stone hearth is deep and wide, and the fire of a great family might all have place upon it, with room for logs and peat for the little ones between the women's chairs. The fireplaces are broad and deep and high for burning peat or wood, with hugs, cranes and hooks above them, where a whole sheep or pig might be roasted, and the great chains and hooks for slinging the pots above the fire would bear the weight of a cow or an ox.

In some of these habitations the chimney is so set back and outward into the garden that a genuine Scottish "inglenook," such as may be found in the olden weavers' villages of Gartsmith, near Matlese, is formed, with tiny deep windows jutting inwardly. Other have at one side the Cornish "turgarrets," or footpeople. There is always a recess for storing peat or wood, sometimes hooded as an old time chest, with a wide, long deal cover. This provides a rude settle, upon which, when not occupied by some member of the family, will always be found the strange but ever beloved animal, the tailless Manx cat. A "stubbins," as this tailless cat of Man is called, is regarded in many districts of the island with an affection bordering on veneration. It is more than a superstitious notion, it is a belief, that any one injuring a cat will suffer disharm when at sea, for the progenitors of this curious species were cast upon the island from a wrecked ship from which no person was saved.

In one corner on the propinquo side of the room will always be found the stately dresser, set high in the room upon its four crooked and slender legs. A wealth of goody crockeryware ornaments its capacious shelves, and round its wide drawers provides for the reception of the daily gathering of eggs, while the other is heaped in the edges with the weekly baking of barley cake bread, still the staff of life in most of the country side homes. Beyond this is the long table, the family board for occasions of festive use. It is a huge, stout affair, white as the silvered hair of the dame whose mother's mother's mother set the example of its daily scouring.

Between this and the dresser, as well as beneath the latter, is a row of huge casks and jars. The largest of these contains the greatest of blessings to the Manxmen—his "geng" or pickled herring or "scudder." In another is his store of salted mutton or pork. In others are preserved fruits and vegetables. This region is secured to the single supervision of the housewife, and woe to the Manx lad or lass bound by unlawful proximity. In the opposite corner is the family "bunker cupboard," the Mecca of all children, highways and eager glances. More than all else this ecstatic stamp the Manxman as a homogeneous lover. It is never known to be lacking such comfortable corners as a few periods of homemade bliss. Bachelors shamefully shove pots of honey and cream jam and slices of fowy bread and cake. All this, outside the family's requirements, serves in a most genial countryside fashion. Strangers or neighbors never call at Manx cottages which they consider to eat and drink, and neighbors' children are never sent away from a Manxman's home without carrying in their elastic bits some responsible token from the generous entertainer.

Huge wooden chairs and great armchairs which might have come down from King Orry's time give the place an atmosphere of restfulness. Pillows of linen, golden brown from their browning of past weeks, hang temptingly from the rafters below the thatching. The tiny windows are shaded with snowy muslin, and the light is mellowed and diffused as it is filtered through a tracery of plants. The Manx fisher lass shows an abundance of glowing pink, changing the green Kopkos near from orange to purple, while, looking comfortably and with a friendly and companionable mind, a huge eight day clock looks blandly down upon all. Not gorgeous homes these, but they are homes of integrity, comfort and content, every one.

Strictly speaking, the Manx are a sea one people. They are not given to fortification. They are contentable, happy and content, feeling all the poor Manx lives idleness and turbulent as stored pensive and sorely and discontented in the long and monotonous intervals. There is not one day in the year which may be regarded as of such importance. This is Tynwald Day in midsummer, when the laws of the land are promulgated and solemnly ratified by court and people. Now, as a thousand years ago, all Mansland comes to the purple glen where this ceremonial takes place, for a few hours stands free as free with customs of huge dues, and returns to the centuries old Manx homes with the gentlest wrinkles of King Orry and his Norse daughter engraved in giant proportions.

The ordinary amusements of both European folk have little place among them. A surprising calm, as if these folk reflected in the presence of a mighty and terrible past, comes to brood upon island and islanders. When midsummer days have reason the fires of the ancient gods, they flash from height to height, as in pagan days. No one can tell you why it is done. There is no weird and fetish explanation in Gaelic as in some parts of Ireland, in the Scottish highlands and in Cornwall. Of course the Manx drive away all witches, but with these staid folk the fires of Baal must have today not in superstitious weal, but because the Manx forefathers never failed to light them.

Indeed unswerving loyalty to established customs is their most marked characteristic and highest charm. They have utterly grown out of superstitious incubus, dread or mistrust, which gave importance to the origin of many, but held to the sun and fact of tradition with changeless zeal. "Our fathers did thus and so. We respect the doings of our fathers, casting not for their reasons, save that they had them," governs all attentions of what may seem incongruous and unusual to you and to me.

Weddings are almost secret affairs. All the tender and forgetable sentiments of preparation are attended with signsness and sincere repression of publicity. No one can tell you why. It simply is so. It has always been so. On the contrary, as in Cornwall, funerals are drawn out to the utmost limit of sympathetic affection. The body is carried, never driven, to the churchyard. Hours, often days, are consumed from the start to the church. Innumerable delays give occasion for innumerable outbursts of affection and the singing of an equal number of lugubrious psalms, intoned in such shrill minor strains that the western land seems the wailing of keening at Irish wakes is often surprised. The origin of this custom is also a mystery. No matter to the steady Manx. Anything different would be sorrow for the living, a wrong to the dead.

In the tender holiday time, when these words will be read, Manx folk of the remote countrysides will have already celebrated their most cherished annual custom. Though discountenanced by the clergy it has survived from a time long before the introduction of Christianity in the island. This is the version of Old Verse, undoubtedly a corruption of Finch Verse, literally the Feast of Mary. To commemorate this event, numerous Roll Christmas are serving. But they are of no avail. When the lights are set more one is always found with a key in the Sacred edifice. Then from the remotest prospect of the parish come all, young and old, each with a long lighted taper dip the wick and with a bit of tribute in the Manx coin, the Manx silver pence, and now advance toward the communion and chant the wilder, weirdest words and diffuse mental sense may know. Most are addressed to the Virgin Mary, as in honor of Sign time home, still others are of wrath and death. Singers and listeners often reach a tremendous pitch of exaltation. Strange and wild these midnight scenes at the moment of Nativity in Mansland! The bustle, clash of oils, bell tree and firedrum in chanting line of a thousand years, then one each year follows the Same Spanish Christian Server to the "near Infinite of Man."

EDGAR L. WAKEMAN.

**He Lost by Our Letter.**

Every man should always write as plainly as he can. Once upon a time a young man wrote to a girl, "Your loveliness has inspired me to ask you to become my wife." She read it "loveliness," and got so everlastingly mad that she refused him by return mail.

A Rapid Week.

Billiton—That bill is all right, but I haven't any money about me, and—

Collector—You'd better look sharp, then, or you'll find the sheriff—

Billiton—And, I was going to say, I'd have to give you a check.

Collector—Oh—er—never mind, it's no consequence. I'll call again.


**$500 Reward!**

WE will pay the above reward for any case of Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Indigestion, Constipation or Costiveness we cannot cure with Vegetable Liver Pills, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely Vegetable and never fail to give satisfaction. Sugar Coated. Large boxes, 25 cents. Beware of counterfeits and imitations. Unequaled as a family cathartic. For sale by JOHNSON, PRATT CO., 32 and 34 Main Street, Salt Lake City.

JAPANESE PILE CURE

DR. GUNN'S ONION SYRUP FOR COUGHS, COLDS AND CROUP. GRANDMOTHER'S ADVICE.

T. C. M. I. LEWIS DEPT., AGENT

*"White and dazzling In the moon's fair light she looked."*

Nothing remarkable about that! She was fair to look upon, as a matter of course; and the dazzling effect was produced by her white robes—cleansed and brightened by a liberal use of

KIRK'S AMERICAN FAMILY SOAP

That's one of the peculiarities of KIRK'S Soaps. Clothes washed by them always attract attention by their purity and brightness.

JAS. S. KIRK & CO., Chicago.

Dusky Diamond Tar Soap

Thomson & Taylor Spice Co.,

Importers and Manufacturers of the FINEST SPICES —AND— FLAVORING EXTRACTS KNOWN TO THE TRADE.

Proprietors of the Famous Brand of RED CROSS LYE.

Michigan Avenue, Cor. Lake, CHICAGO.

GUNPOWDER.

HAZARD'S "Kentucky Rifle." HAZARD'S "Trap Shooting." HAZARD'S "Black Shooting." HAZARD'S "Sharp and Hunting." HAZARD'S brands, the most reliable in the market.

MANUFACTURED BY THE HAZARD POWDER COMPANY, Hazardville, Conn.

Represented in Utah by Paine & Lyne, Agents.

WEAR COON BRAND —OF— Linen Collars AND CUFFS.

Coon & Co.

SAPONIFIER

PLEASE REMEMBER! That we still carry a Complete Line of Disstons' Celebrated Saws,

COMPRISING IN PART OF Cross Cut, Drag, One Man Upright, Mill, Hand, Rip, Panel, Tenon, Pruning, Compass, Butcher, Cook, Keyhole, etc., also Circular, both Solid & Chisel Point Tooth And TRIUMPH.

For Felling Trees with, and are Selling at LOWER PRICES THAN EVER. Also a Full Stock of their Renowned RASPS and FILES always on hand. H. S. Co. Sole Agt.

Star Horse Nails, Polished or Blued, Have been sold by E. C. M. I. for over 15 years. They are the BEST NAILS MADE, and guaranteed to give the best of satisfaction. Will hold a shoe no longer than any other. MADE BY THE UNION HORSE NAIL CO., Chicago, Ill. For sale by E. C. M. I. and leading dealers.

At Price

UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM.

THE THROUGH CAR LINE.

EFFECTIVE FEB. 26, 1893.

Trains arrive and depart at Salt Lake City daily, as follows:

ARRIVE.

From all Eastern points.....
From Butte, Portland and Sun Francisco.....
From Park City and Cache Valley.....
From all Eastern points.....
From Cache Valley and points.....
From Provo and intermediate points.....
From Milford, Juab, Nephi, Levan, Payson and intermediate points.....
From Tooele and Intermediate points.....

DEPART.

For all Eastern points.....
For Butte, Portland, San Francisco and Cache Valley.....
For Cache Valley and Park City.....
For Provo, Intermediate points and all points East.....
For Ogden, all intermediate points and San Francisco.....
For Eureka, Juab and Milford.....
For Provo and Intermediate points.....
For Tooele and Terrace.....
Daily. Sundays excepted.
Trains between Juab and Milford do not run Sundays.

CITY TICKET OFFICE, 201 MAIN ST.
O. H. HUMPHREY, Gen'l Agt. Pass. Dept.
F. DICKINSON, Gen'l Agt.
E. L. LOMAX, G. P. & T. Agent.

RIO GRANDE WESTERN.

Standard Gauge.

DESERET TIME TABLE

In Effect January 1st, 1893.

LEAVE SALT LAKE.

No. 2—For Provo, Grand Junction and all points East.....
No. 4—For Provo, Grand Junction and all points East.....
No. 6—For Provo, Grand Junction and all points East.....
No. 8—For Provo, Grand Junction and all points East.....
No. 10—For Ogden and West.....
No. 12—For Ogden and the West.....

ARRIVE AT SALT LAKE.

No. 1—From Provo, Grand Junction and points East.....
No. 3—From Provo, Grand Junction and the East.....
No. 5—From Provo, Grand Junction and points East.....
No. 7—From Provo, Grand Junction and points East.....
No. 9—From Ogden and the West.....
No. 11—From Ogden and the West.....

Through Pullman Palace Sleepers on all through trains. Buffet Sleepers, Dining Cars, Compartment, Observation and Library Cars.

Ticket Offices—No. 1 Main Street.

D. C. DODGE, A. G. P. A. WEST. J. H. BENNETT, Gen. Manager. Gen. Ticket Agent. Gen. P. & T. Agt.

"Scenic Line of the World."

THE DENVER AND RIO GRANDE RAILROAD

PASSING THROUGH SALT LAKE CITY

En Route to and from the Pacific Coast.

THE POPULAR LINE TO Leadville, Glenwood Springs, Aspen AND GRAND JUNCTION.

THE MOST DIRECT ROUTE TO Trinidad, Santa Fe & New Mexico Points

Running all the principal trains and solid vestibuled trains through to Colorado, Utah and New Mexico.

THE TOURIST'S FAVORITE LINE TO ALL MOUNTAIN RESORTS.

All through trains equipped with Pullman Palace and Tourist Sleeping Cars.

For elegantly illustrated descriptive books free of cost, address

E. T. JEFFERY, Gen'l Manager. A. S. HUGHES, Gen'l Ticket Agent. E. E. HOYT, Gen'l Pass. & Ticket Agt.

DENVER, COLORADO.

Colorado Midland Railway.

"Pike's Peak Route."

SUPERB SCENERY. ALL STANDARD GAUGE. Steel Rail. Long Sleepers.

Ogden, Salt Lake and all Western Points TO DENVER, COLORADO SPRINGS, PUEBLO

And all points East, via Glenwood Springs, Aspen, Leadville and Manitou.

Scenery Unequaled. Equipment Unsurpassed.

Through Pullman Sleeping Cars between Ogden and Cripple Creek without change via A. T. & S. F. on Night Train. Direct connections at Denver with Through Trains for the East via Burlington and Rock Island routes. The Colorado Midland is the best, shortest and quickest route East.

Trains leave Union Depot, Ogden, at 7 a. m. and 8 p. m. for Colorado Western Depot, Salt Lake City, at 9 a. m. and 9:30 p. m.

H. C. BURNETT, GENERAL AGENT. 103 W. Second South St. Salt Lake City

S. P. McGEARY, T. P. A.

PATENTS

Caveats, and Trade Marks obtained, and all Patent Office business transacted for MODERATE FEES. Our Office is Opposite U. S. Patent Office and we can obtain patents in less time than those remote from Washington.

Send model, sketch or photo., with description. We advise if patentable or not, free of charge. Our fee not due till patent is secured.

A PAMPHLET, "How to Obtain Patents," with cost of same in the U. S. and foreign countries sent free. Address,

C. A. SNOW & CO. OPP. PATENT OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

WE KNOW OF NOTHING THAT CAN COMPARE WITH THE GRAEFENBERG PILLS AS A FAMILY PILL. THEY ARE NOT ONLY MILD BUT EXCEEDINGLY EFFECTIVE.

THE BEST HEADACHE PILL.

THESE PILLS CURE ALL FORMS OF MALARIAL DISEASES, BILIOUSNESS, LIVER AND KIDNEY TROUBLES.

THE BEST PILL —FOR— WEAKNESS AND NERVOUSNESS.

Sold by All Druggists.

GRAEFENBERG CO., 81 Chambers Street, N. Y.

BACK VOLUMES —OF THE— DESERET WEEKLY.

The sixth volume of the DESERET WEEKLY in the present form is now bound. A limited number of copies of these six volumes can be obtained at the DESERET NEWS Office, Salt Lake City, in bound form at $3.00 per volume. It is the best history of current events to be obtained, and by far the cheapest, and the time is not far distant when they will be eagerly sought after by students of history, anxious to be informed of the stirring events which have transpired within the past three years—the most interesting period of the history of the Latter-day Saints. Every person who can afford it should secure these volumes while they are to be had for future reference, and especially should they be obtained for every Sunday School, Improvement Association and Ward library. Apply early to make sure of getting them.

CHURCH BLANKS

Printed and for Sale at THE DESERET NEWS OFFICE, SALT LAKE CITY.

Stake Reports.....
Ward Reports.....
Sabbath Sunday Reports.....
Primary Association Reports.....
Y. L. M. I. A. Reports.....
Y. M. M. I. A. Reports.....
Elders' Certificates.....
Midwife Testimonials, books of 50, 50c. of 100, 75c.
Primary Association Roll and Record Books, $1.00.
Y. L. M. I. A. Roll and Record Books, $1.50.
Sacrament Gem Ware, 1 qt., $2.00; 2 qt., $3.00; 4 qt., $5.00.
High Priests' Records Made to Order.
Secretaries' Records Made to Order.

UNDERTAKERS.

ESTABLISHED, 1869.

Joseph E. Taylor, Pioneer Undertaker of Utah.

Always keeps on hand a full stock of Metallic, Wood and Cloth Covered

COFFINS AND CASKETS.

Full Line of Coffin Furnishings kept constantly on hand.

Telephone and Telegraph Orders promptly filled.

Bodies preserved in their Natural Condition without extra charge.

OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

Factory and Warerooms: No. 153 E. First South, One and a half blocks east of Theatre.

TELEPHONE No. 75.

Joseph William Taylor —UTAH'S LEADING— UNDERTAKER AND EMBALMER.

Carry the Largest and Most Complete Stock of COFFINS, CASKETS, And Undertakers' Goods in Utah.

Wholesale and Retail at Immensely Reduced Prices. Every thing warranted as represented.

LOTS AND GRAVES Furnished in any Cemetery in the City.

All orders filled day or night at the Shortest Possible Time.

OFFICE AND WAREROOMS NEVER CLOSED.

Nos. 21 and 23 WEST TEMPLE STREET. P. O. Box 904. Telephone 451.

Spring Weight Overcoats, NOBBY—STYLISH—HANDSOME.

We have received some very fine spring overcoats in Cheviots, Meltons, Kerseys and other fabrics, which we have placed on our counters for inspection, giving you first choice, and for fit, style and finish will compare with any fine custom garment that your tailor could make. We have them in all the NEW COLORS, NEW SHADES, NEW STYLES. Step in any time and look us over.

Spring Style Hats, 1893.

TALK ABOUT NOBBY HATS, WELL GENTS, KINDLY CALL ON US AT YOUR LEISURE AND ASK TO SEE WHAT IS THE PROPER SHAPE FOR THIS SEASON, AND WE WILL SHOW YOU, AND PLEASE YOU TOO....

NEW SHAPES, NEW STYLES, NEW COLORS,

THE HOPKINS, "a gentleman's hat." We are the sole agents for this make, and for popularity the Hopkins has no equal. THE FINEST MAKE IN THE WORLD. The finest assortment of CHILDREN'S HATS ever received. We have now on exhibition....

Goldsmith & Co.

61, 63, 65 Main Street.

A Large Variety and Full Supply —OF— LATTER-DAY SAINT TRACTS!

Published and for Sale at the DESERET NEWS OFFICE.

For a few cents any person can obtain a supply to send abroad to friends, and these silent messengers frequently preach the Gospel as effectually as missionaries. Try it by buying some and mailing to your friends abroad.