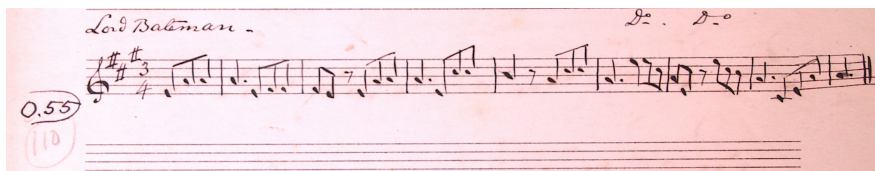


Manx Notes 378 (2019)

LORD BATEMAN *



“Lord Bateman” (Child 53) & (Roud 40) is a well-known and widely-distributed English and Scottish traditional ballad. It, too, is known from the Isle of Man having been collected by the Gill brothers on 6 August 1895,¹ from John Callister (1833–1912) who farmed Ballachonelly at Jurby East.² Taken down from him as well that day was “The Farmer’s Daughter”³ and “’Twas once I loved a lady fair.”⁴ As regards the first title, it is fuller A Sailor courted a Farmer’s Daughter (Roud 993), with the first lines, “A Sailor courted a Farmer’s Daughter, | That lived convenient to the Isle of man [*sic*],” and from a broadside published between 1820–40.⁵ The first line of the second piece here suggests a number of songs, the words a ready commonplace opener. It is likely connected with the group of songs known as “The False Bride” (Roud 154). Titles such as these link a singer like Callister with a wider song community and one that was outside of the Island itself; living then at Jurby East was no bar to him becoming acquainted with them.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2019



* Originally published as Stephen Miller, “Lord Bateman,” *Kiaull Manninagh Jiu May* (2019), [26]. Reproduced here with sources.

¹ THE ORIGINAL COLLECTION | OF | MANX FOLK MUSIC | [RULE] | MADE BY | HIS HONOUR THE DEEMSTER GILL | MR W.H. GILL & DR. CLAGUE | COMPLETED IN 1895 & 1896. MNHL, MS 09702, Deemster J.F. Gill Papers, Box 1 (hereafter [oc]). See [oc] 0.55, 1/3.

² *Census Enumerators’ Book* for Jurby 1891, RG 12/4684, fol. 56, sch. 9

³ See [oc] 0.54, 1/2

⁴ See [oc] 0.56, 1/4.

⁵ NLS, APS.4.95.15(3).