

CURIOSITIES

Curious objects, structures, monuments, landmarks, sights, etc. For example, Wishing stones or "chairs," freaks of nature (i.e. grotesque rock formations)—in fact, any scene or object which may be regarded as queer, quaint or mirth-provoking. Location and description. Any story or legend to be related.

none.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

Brief account of old customs, traditional cures, etc., still practised in the district. Pilgrimages to Holy Wells, Shrines, etc. Patterns.

On January 1st some people will not throw out the ashes, clean out the pipes or pay out money. A man visitor brings luck if he be the first this day on St. Agnes's Eve

On May Day many people will not lend, sell or give away milk, or in fact, give lend or sell anything lest it bring ill-luck for the year

On Shrove Tuesday which is Pancake night pancakes are baked and eaten on June 27th, St. John's night fires are lighted in the open air and sometimes the ashes are thrown amidst the crops to bring good harvests. On Hallow E'en the children amuse themselves with indoor games and pranks. On St. Martin's night the blood of a slaughtered cock is sprinkled in the four corners of the house.

On St. Stephen's Day there are the "immurers" or "waler-boys" who dress up in fantastic clothing and go from house to house playing and singing. They are suitably rewarded.

(Signed) Donald A. Gaughan
Surveyor.

DATE July 15th 1924

Deaths.

Clocks are stopped in the house when a death occurs. Reset when funeral is over.

The number of candles at a wake must always be an odd number.

The chains on which the coffin rests must be tipped over flat on the ground as soon as the coffin is taken out to the hearse.

The coffin must be borne from the house feet first.

The route taken to the graveyard is the longest possible.

Wakes are held. They are quiet and decorous affairs.

Gravediggers place shovels & spades in cross fashion near the open grave.

Marriages.

The bride should not return to her own home until at least a month after her marriage.

Some consider it unlucky for a bride-to-be to meet a woman on her wedding-morn if the woman met is the first of the day.

Churning.

A visitor must give a loaf with the dash lest he "steal the butter."

A man may not light his pipe from a coal if churning is on

A quenched coal is often put under the churn to "preserve the butter."

Some of the older people will put their hair after hair-cutting into a wall crevice or such-like and refuse to be seen or throw it away.

What is a time when water should not be bathed in - river or lake.

Tues.

There is a kind of disease locally called the "Yellow" which is said to cause rash and scales and which attacks children in particular leaving (if they recover) the skin in an unsightly state. The ailment which is said here to be peculiar to the variety of yellow, is cured by the application of a plant called "Gae o'colla" the "green of the wood". The plant is supposed to have great healing properties apart from its efficacy as regards the disease called "Yellow".

(The plant if obtainable now, is being sent on to me by Mr. Roughneen N.T. of Carbrack school - with method of treatment).

Food much is used by the breast of a child who never sees its father.
 King-woman by the seventh son.
 Chincough by "Jesus's leavings" of milk given to the child.