

## 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.

Despite the mountainous nature of a large portion of the parish, hardly any of the old customs or wells remain.

On St. Martin's Eve a fowl is killed and its blood sprinkled in the four corners of the house. Said to prevent disease for the year.

On June 23rd bonfires are lighted in the open air. Occasionally a person takes a lighted faggot and throws it amongst his crops to ensure a good harvest.

On St. Stephen's Day, innumerable "ween-lays" go from house to house, dressed in all kinds of queer clothing, and sing and play. They are suitably rewarded for the entertainment.

Hallow E'en used to be a favourite night for practical jokes of all kinds but is hardly observed now except for games played by the children in their own homes.

Shrove Tuesday is "pancake night". Pancakes baked in most houses.

The chairs on which a coffin rests are tipped over flat on the ground as soon as the coffin is taken out for bearing.

Wakes are held, and are quiet and <sup>resembles</sup>

(Signed) Daniel J. Gaughan.

Surveyor.

DATE May 27th 1864.

all clocks are stopped in some houses when a death occurs. They are reset after the funeral.

A visitor should always give a hand with the dash after when visiting a house where churning is in progress.

Hair, after haircutting, is, by some people, not thrown away but placed in a well service or such-like.

When the cow has been milked, the milkmaid gives a thumb in the fresh foam and makes the sign of the cross on the animal's side.

Some people will not pay out money on New Year's day.

Chin-cough.. milk which a peasant leaves after him given to the child to drink.

Yeast-much - Cured by the breath of a child who has never seen its father.

King-worm - Cured by the seventh son.

Wayside stones.... There are a few by the roadside as one travels from the road from Killasnoe burial ground to the main Swinford road. These were erected in the year of the Cathanistic lengths.