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## 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.

hand.

## CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

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

January 1st. Some people will not pay out money, unless the buyers are known out the ashes from the fire.

Shrove Tuesday is "pancake night." They are made and eaten at tea-time. May Day. Many people will not lend, sell or give away milk.

June 23rd. "Bonfire night" when fires are lighted in the open air.

Hallow Eve: The custom of "kicking the cabbage." Cabbage is kicked around the roadways.

St. Martin's Eve: A fowl is killed and its blood sprinkled in the four corners of the house.

St. Stephen's Day: The "wren-boys" or "nummers" go around to neighbouring houses singing and playing.

Births.

It is unlucky for a person to be god-parent to two children in the same year. The ill-luck attends the second child.

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(Signed) Donald A. Yaghman.

Surveyor.

DATE Sept. 22nd 1944

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## Marriages.

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

## Deaths.

The funeral takes the longest route to the graveyard.

The two chains on which a coffin rests are tipped over flat to the ground as soon as the coffin is taken out.

The coffin should be carried feet first out the doorway as the corpse goes "against his feet" to the graveyard.

Gravediggers often leave spade and shovel in the form of a cross over the open grave until the funeral arrives.

Relatives sometimes cross three over the filled-in grave of their deceased one. This to prevent further deaths. Some more especially if two or more people (relatives) die in a shortish period.

The number of candles at a wake is an odd number.

Clocks are often stopped in the house where death occurs.

They are re-set after the funeral.

Some people believe in opening the windows of a dying person's room. This to allow out the soul when it leaves the body.

Wakes are held. They are quiet and decorous.  
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a visitor should always assist at churning.

a pinch of salt is put in the churn before buttermaking and the sign of the Cross made over the churn to prevent "stealing of the butter".

no one should bathe in river or lake at Whit Sunday.

### Cures.

Chin-cough. "Gesset's" "leavings" of milk given to the child.

Ring-worm. Cured by the seventh saw.

Yew mouth: Cured by the breath of a child who has never seen its father.

Warts: a fasting spittle rubbed on every morning in the name of the Holy Trinity.

Wash wart in the water collected in a hole in a stone. Stone must be accidentally met with.

A most efficacious embrocation for man or animal:-

an half-pint of brown vinegar, a raggin of turpentine, the whites of two eggs and a "small shot" of whiskey - all well mixed. Then add a glass of olive oil.