

LINKS WITH ENGLAND'S PAST.

Curious Customs Still in Vogue Which Have Come Down From Mediaeval Times.

When the King at the recent Privy Council selected new sheriffs for the counties of England and Wales by picking a hole with silver bodkin opposite to each of the favored names on the list, His Majesty was carrying out one of quite a score of interesting customs that still survive to link the England of 1903 with the England of the Middle Ages.

There is hardly an important county in the land that does not cherish some noteworthy custom, hailing from early days in English history. Probably the most interesting feudal ceremony in existence is planting the horn-garth, an act of penance which dates from the thirteenth century of commemoration, and which has been carried out every year at Whitby without a single break.

The penance is for the death of a hermit who sought to protect a wounded boar, but who was slain by its furious pursuer. The horn-garth, or penny hedge, itself is formed by planting a hedge of stakes in the tidalway in the upper part of Whitby Harbor, in the presence of the lord of the manor. When the penny hedge is complete, three blasts are blown on an antique horn, the notes of which is in accordance with the prescribed stipulations. This horn is a good 500 years old, so it has seen considerable service.

A very long way back in the history of England was a time when the high festival of Ceres was exceedingly popular. To this day we have a remnant of the strange rites of the Temple of Eleusis in the Greek surviving in the form of the kern-baby. In various parts of the country kern suppers are held to celebrate the conclusion of the sowing, gathering, and the kern-baby is carried on high by the reapers. The baby is a straw image made from the last sheaf of the harvest, adorned with flowers and ribbons, and is usually dressed in a kern-baby's appearance at harvest festivals of to-day as the representative of an ancient Ceres.

Worship the Sun. The most ancient of customs is still observed in Ireland on the 21st and in the Highlands of Scotland on May 1, according to the old reckoning. This is belain, the festival in connection with the sun-worship; fires are kindled on the summit of the hills, and a variety of ceremonies are gone through.

Burning the clavis is another unique ceremony, whose origin goes back far into the mists of antiquity. Probably the rite is still observed at Bingham, on the Moray Firth, have been performed since the days of the Druids. A tar barrel is sawed in halves; one half is filled with tar-covered fuel given by the townsfolk, and is lighted with a piece of glowing peat. The fiery clavis is borne slowly high around the town in a grand procession, and is placed finally on the ancient freestone altar to burn high over the waters of the Firth. There are various minor weird ceremonies observed as the clavis burns away.

Perpetual Fires. Perhaps even more singular are the domestic fires of certain old-fashioned farmhouses in the Yorkshire dales. These great fires are veritable links with the past, as they never go out. Some have been kept alight for hundreds of years, and have warmed the feet of generations of dwellers. One Witley district is rich in these, and there is one at Osmotherly which, it is claimed, has been burning 500 years. A handsome fountain is to be seen on the village green at Offham, in Kent. The local custom is to hoist married men who are not fathers to its top and then to set the fountain revolving rapidly.

Throwing the dart is a picturesque custom which is observed in Cork. Every third year the chief magistrate proceeds to the mouth of Cork Harbor in full state. Following in memorial custom, he throws a dart into the sea—a dart with a head of gold and a shaft of mahogany—saying, "I cast this javelin into the sea, and declare that so far seaward as it falls extends the right and dominion of the corporation of Cork to and over the harbor as well as the rivers, creeks and bays within the same."

Bumping the Master. One of the most quaint of ancient customs is the bumping of staid and dignified elderly gentlemen against stones set in the Thames. Every year the court of the Watermen's Company is bound to inspect certain boundary marks on the river. The farthest upstream ferry under control of the company is at Teddington, the spot being marked by stone posts. At the inspection the headles seize hold of the worshipful master and the other members of the court

A Common Bred Cow. When toned up by Dick's Blood Purifier will give much as rich milk as highly bred aristocratic Jersey cowhens upon or. Leeming, Miles & Co., Agents, MONTREAL.

and gravely proceed to bump the solemn gentlemen on the stone. This is done so that the exact location of the boundary may be thoroughly impressed upon their memories. Some very peculiar ceremonies are observed when the Court of Brothwood and Questing of the Cinque Ports meet. The full-robed mayors, aldermen, councillors, town clerks, sergeants and macebearers of the thirteen boroughs form an imposing sight when in massed. Curious extracts are read from the decrees of Queen Elizabeth contained in the Black Book before the "ancient towns and their limbs" set down to business in earnest.

Every year for over 700 years the corporation of London has discharged the peculiar duty of cutting some faggots and counting out a certain number of horsehoes and nails. This is done before the King's Remembrancer by way of quit rent for certain lands in Salop and Middlesex held from the Crown by the city corporation.

Paying Debts at Dawn. In the semi-darkness of dawning day is carried out the ancient custom of the payment of "wroth silver" to the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord of the Manor of the Hundred of Knightlow, near Coventry. After the steward has read out the old charter and called out the amounts due from each parish, the representatives each place the sum required in a hole in a stone said to be the base of a cross. This is a weird scene as the shadowy figures glide up, place in their pence, and hoarsely whisper the words "wroth silver." Defalcators incur the penalty of forfeiting a white bull tipped with red at nose and ears and tail. A hot milk and rum breakfast concludes the ceremony. The origin of the custom is not clear, though some antiquaries declare that "wroth silver" was originally "wroth money" and was exacted for the murder of some relative of the lord of the manor.

Cheese-rolling is one of the most peculiar customs we have, and is observed at Bredford, near Cheltenham. A cheese is sent rolling down the side of a very steep hill. In its wild flight the rolling cheese is followed pell-mell by an excited crowd, each individual trying to gain it.

Women Pined a Penny or a Kiss. Hungerford rejoices in an ancient custom which is rapidly becoming extinct. This is lockede, the Tuesday following the second Sunday after Easter, when the usually quiet town ceases and all its women plunge into wild gait. All work is brought to a standstill by a blast from John of Gaunt's horn. Formerly on Rock Monday the men went into the streets with cords, stopped and bound every woman they met, the prisoner being released on payment of 1d or a kiss.

The following day the women went out to capture stray men—and the women invariably extracted the most money. Last year certain residents put an end to the kissing observance as being out of accord with modern ideas of propriety, and the "kiss-men" the jury drank punch and smoked instead. The "locking" consisted of capturing some unwary female and chaining her in a ribbon-locked chair, after which quaint ceremony she was taxed with the usual option of kissing, the officials still are given a supper, consisting of mackerel, watercress, spring onions, and bread and butter.

Among picturesque provincial survivals is the ceremony of weighing the Mayor of High Wycombe. The Mayor is weighed as soon as he succeeds to office, and is weighed again when he leaves it—presumably with the object of discovering whether the duties agree with him.

HOW'S THIS?

We offer One Hundred Dollars' Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. HENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations contracted by him.

W. LINDSAY, KENNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price—75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The Phrase of a Coward. "It is said" is the hedge behind which the slandereer lies concealed when he makes a murderous assault upon a spotless reputation. "It is said" is the coward's subterfuge, who is dreading the face of the accused, who is willing to circulate a tale that he may know to be untrue, but for which he does not wish to assume the responsibility. "It is said" is the subtle venom which many moll-creatures use to poison the mind and ruin the peace of twentieth century Olympus. "It is said" is the introductory note of every cruel gossip and scandal. And in nineteen cases out of twenty the man or woman who prefaces a tale with "it is said" will be found pretty close to the originator or inventor of the slander.—Burlington Hawkeye.

Ask for Minard's and take no other. Association of Ideas. Wife: "Mother writes that she will be here to-morrow for a short visit, my dear." "Very well," replied her husband. And as he left the house he patted his little boy on the head kindly, and said: "Bob, my dear, didn't you ask me to buy you a tin whistle and a drum the other day?" "Yes, pa." "Well, I will bring them home to-night."

Women and Pain. An Italian scientist of distinction declares that women are less sensitive to pain than men, and actually feel less of it in a given operation. Experiments on a hundred women led him to the conclusion that they were not more than one-half as sensitive to pain at the top of the forehead as the average male. This is confirmed by a well-known fact to surgeons and dentists.

8 Cents

Eight cents a pound is what a young woman paid for twelve pounds of flesh.

She was thin and weak and paid one dollar for a bottle of Scott's Emulsion, and by taking regular doses had gained twelve pounds in weight before the bottle was finished.

Eight cents a pound is cheap for such valuable material. Some pay more, some less, some get nothing for their money. You get your money's worth when you buy Scott's Emulsion.

We will send you a little free.

SCOTT & BOWNE, CHEMISTS, Toronto, Ontario. 50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.

Guessed Offhand. Ardupp—I wonder what my ancestor, Adam, said when he first met Eve? Digby—Are you sure he was an ancestor of yours? Ardupp—Certainly. Digby—Then I guess about the first thing he said to her was 'Lend me \$2.'

Terheer, Jan. 6, 1902. Massey-Harris Co., Limited, Winnipeg, Man.

Gentlemen,—It gives me very much pleasure to inform you that the No. 4 Binder which I purchased from your Agent here last summer has given me the very best of satisfaction, doing its work to perfection and drawing light—very much lighter than I expected. My crop was very heavy and some of it very badly down, but your binder did its work splendidly. I had no trouble whatever. I hope you will sell lots of binders for 1903 and save my brother farmers lots of trouble. I wish you every success. R. M. FERRIS.

Two Masters. Little Chronicle. In the primary class of a certain Sunday school the lesson was reviewed by a visitor. When she finally asked for the Golden Text, a little boy on the back row eagerly raised his hand and proudly repeated, "You cannot serve God and women."

I know MINARD'S LINIMENT will cure Diphteria. JOHN D. BOUTILLIER, French Village.

I know MINARD'S LINIMENT will cure Croup. J. F. CUNNINGHAM, Cape Island.

I know MINARD'S LINIMENT is the best remedy on earth. JOSEPH A. SNOW, Norway, Me.

Oh! Tr-Bis.

Husband—Darling, I believe that I am failing. Wife (in alarm)—Gracious! How do you feel? I have warned you, George, against your foolish speculations. Husband—I don't mean in business, dear; I mean I'm failing in health. Wife (relieved)—Oh, is that all? Oh! City, Feb. 5, 1903. Massey-Harris Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Gentlemen,—Please send me one of your 1903 catalogues of farm machinery. I have used no machinery that gives as good satisfaction as Massey-Harris. JOHN MARRIOTT.

Editorial Amenities in Missouri. Bethan, Mo., Owl. There is a gaunter eyed, yonk jawed, long nosed, hatchet faced man in the Pleasant Valley neighborhood that wants to always keep up a fuss in his neighborhood. He is running for office now.

Wash greasy dishes, pots or pans with Lever's Dry Soap a powder. It will remove the grease with the greatest ease. 36

Precise. "James," said mamma, apprehensively, "have you ever heard Hugh use any bad words?" "No," answered the little fellow. "Then," "Well, yes, I did, too, mamma. The other day he said 'git' for 'get.'—Little Chronicle.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE 25c. It is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blow-Blow-Blow. It cleans the ureters, clears the passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Beware of cheap imitations. All dealers or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

Overdid it. Pennsylvania Punch Bowl. Josephine—Yes, our trip was all right, but 'er had an atrociously fresh 'cort. Elizabeth—I thought they had personal conductors on those trips. Josephine—That was the trouble. Ours was too darned personal.

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend. How He Got Even. N. Y. Sun. Hi—Say, ye know that roll of green paper that the city feller horseshoed me inter buying last week? Si—Yes. Hi—Wal, I jes' wrapped a couple of \$20 bills round it, so's to make it look real, an' bought a \$1,000 gold brick off the same feller with it. Minard's Liniment is used by Physicians. A Cautious Apologist. Peterboro Review. We do not wish to be misunderstood; we are in no way to be defined every detail of the redistribution of 1881. There may be biots in it, as in every case of complex arrangements devised by human beings.

A Tinker's Dam. Is the bank of dirt he makes to hold in the melting solder. There's nothing so worthless a second after except Spoon medicines or Catarrh. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder is an antiseptic, healing, dressing, applied directly to the diseased surface by the patient himself, who blows the powder through a tube into his nostrils. The cure dates from the first puff. You needn't snuffle from colds and hay fever, if you have Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder in the house. It relieves colds or catarrh and cures headache in ten minutes.

Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. The American Medicine Co., Allentown, Pa. writes:—Your Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder is the best seller in catarrh remedies we have in our store, and our customers praise it very highly. Dr. W. W. STAN'S PINEAPPLE TABLETS are the only cures of indigestion, dyspepsia and catarrh of the stomach. They digest the food, giving the stomach a long holiday as it goes to get well. Cured thousands, will cure you. Price, 30c.

Sweethearts—in Buffalo. Houston Post. "Then you will be mine?" "All yours!" "Oh, joy!" "Oh, rapture!" (They embrace.) "It's getting late, dear; one more kiss, and then good-by. My hand doesn't permit my callers to stay after 10 o'clock, and, besides, I must put the children to bed." "But our wedding will be soon?" "Yes, honey, if our divorces do not flash in the pan. Good night. Give my love to your wife."

Ball Bearing Washer does away with all hand rubbing. You do not require to touch the clothes to thoroughly clean them and a tubful can be done in five minutes. It is needed in every home and you cannot afford not to have it. If your dealer has it you should see it at once. If not, write us and we will be glad to send you a descriptive booklet. The Downsell Mfg. Co. Ltd., Hamilton, Ont.

At the Trimming Counter. "When a woman comes up and says, 'Have you got those—or—' and then begins to paw her breast, we know she wants pendants," said the tired looking woman at the trimming counter. "And then to ask if we have them—when we have been selling them all winter," she went on wearily. "It's queer, but not one woman in ten knows the name. No matter what they ask for, we bring out pendants and it's the thing. 'Most women ask for 'those hanging things.' 'Once in a while some one will strike us for 'flub-dubs.' 'Flattery things,' is quite popular. 'Dingle-dangles,' are called for by many. 'So, also, are 'bobby ends.' 'Best black women just paw their breasts and ask, 'Have you got those—those—' 'And we say yes.' 'Just then a little woman with a worried look fluttered up to the counter. 'Have you got those jiggly little fly-about that everybody is—' 'And the saleswoman said in a tired voice: 'You mean pendants. Yes, we have them.' 'That's it. I couldn't just recall the name. Let me see them, please.'—Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.

Stomach Disorders. If you want to enjoy each meal to the utmost extent and feel that your stomach is taking the good out of the food you eat you should try Dr. Carson's Tonic Stomach and Constipation Bitters. It will give zest to your appetite. Our pamphlet on the use of this superior tonic sent in exchange for your name and address on post card or 50c. per bottle at all druggists or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Sample sent on receipt of 5c. (stamp) to cover postage. THE GORSON MEDICINE CO. TORONTO

Wood's Phospholine. The Great English Remedy. It is an old, well established and reliable preparation. Has been prescribed and used over 40 years. All druggists in the Dominion of Canada sell and recommend as being the only medicine of its kind that cures and gives universal satisfaction. It promptly and permanently cures all forms of Nervous Weakness, Emotions, Spinal Curvature, Insanity, and all effects of a base or excess; the excessive use of Tobacco, Opium or Stimulants, Malaria and Brain Worry, all of which lead to Infidelity, Insanity, Consumption and an Early Grave. Price 25c. per package or 50c. for 50c. One will please, etc. will cure. Mailed promptly on receipt of price. Send no stamps. Address The Wood Company, Windsor, Ont., Canada.

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Shirt waists and dainty linen are made delightfully clean and fresh with Sun-light Soap.

Towser Mistook the Sound. Kansas City Independent. He stood in the doorway, hat in hand, and the stuttering young lady was inviting him to call again. "Come around 8-8-8-8," she began, trying to say Sunday, but the sentence was never finished. "The dog thought she meant 'Six em,' and he did."

It is universally conceded that to properly appreciate a trip to New York or Boston, one must take the best road. That road is the New York Central.

The Overworked Monument. She followed him unto his grave, And reared a marble rare, And chiseled on this sentence sweet: "My grief I cannot bear."

Not long she walked in darkness lone Around this marble patch. The bells rung out, the sculptor wrote: "I've struck another match."

Whatever reduces the drudgery of housework is worth having. The New Century Ball Bearing Washer does away with all hand rubbing. You do not require to touch the clothes to thoroughly clean them and a tubful can be done in five minutes. It is needed in every home and you cannot afford not to have it. If your dealer has it you should see it at once. If not, write us and we will be glad to send you a descriptive booklet. The Downsell Mfg. Co. Ltd., Hamilton, Ont.

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ISSUE NO. 18, 1903.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used for Children's Teething, it soothes the inflamed parts, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea.

LEARN A PROFESSION IN FIFTEEN DAYS. by mail so you can make from \$100 to \$200 DOLLARS A DAY. For particulars write A. HANSEL, M. H., 2 West Hamilton, Ont.

LADY AGENTS WANTED

THE ALL-WAYS READY. BEST ADJUSTED. Best Selling Skirt Supporter and Waist Adjuster ever introduced. Sells at slight. Good profit. Send 25 cents for sample and terms in agents. BRUSH & CO., DEPT. H., TORONTO.

GOOD THINGS TO EAT. On the Later. Libby Luncheons. We sell the product in key-opening cans. Turn a key and you find the most exacting as it left us. We put them up in this way: Potted Ham, Beef and Tongue, Ox Tongue (Whole), Veal Loaf, Deviled Ham, Brisket Beef, Shined Smoked Beef, Etc.

Libby, McNeill & Libby Chicago, Illinois. We sell the product in key-opening cans. Turn a key and you find the most exacting as it left us. We put them up in this way: Potted Ham, Beef and Tongue, Ox Tongue (Whole), Veal Loaf, Deviled Ham, Brisket Beef, Shined Smoked Beef, Etc.

THE STRAIGHT B & C FRONT CORSET. IT PREVENTS THE LACING FROM SLIPPING. IT WILL NOT CUT NOR WEAR OUT THE LACING. IT DOES NOT POLE OUT THE WAIST OR THE CORSET. THE STRAIGHT B & C FRONT CORSET. SOFT LOOP EYELETS.

USE 1,000 MILE AXLE GREASE. It Has No Equal. Manufactured only by THE CAMPBELL MFG. CO. of HAMILTON, ONTARIO. For sale by all leading dealers.

ST. JACOBS OIL. POSITIVELY CURES. Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Backache, Sciatica, Sprains, Bruises, Soreness, Stiffness. CONQUERS PAIN. The man who cheats his neighbor in a business transaction has no doubt about his superior business abilities.

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