

SUPERSTITIONS OF CHILDHOOD ON THE HUDSON RIVER.

THE following superstitions are to-day well-known to all the children of this region :—

1. When you see a shooting star, if you can make a wish before the star disappears, the wish will come true.

2. When the first star is seen at evening say :—

Star-light, star-bright,
First star seen to-night !
Wish I may, wish I might,
Have the wish I wish to-night.

3. Wish whenever you see a load of hay.

4. Wear a piece of golden-rod and you will see your love before to-morrow.

5. To find a four-leaved clover brings good luck.

6. Always turn your money when you see the new moon, and the money will double before the month is out.

7. Cut your hair when the moon is waxing, not waning.

8. Blow out the seeds of a dandelion (clocks the children call them) to see if it is time to go home. If all the seeds fly away at one breath, your mother wants you.

9. It is always necessary to carry a young baby up-stairs before you carry it down, if you wish it to have good luck.

10. Never hand a young baby through an open window, or its soul will go out that way.

11. Never cut the nails of a baby before it is three months old, or you will make it light-fingered.

12. Never watch a departing friend until he is out of sight ; it bodes you will never see him again.

13. It always brings ill luck to break a mirror.

14. If a bird fly in at a window and out again, it is seeking some one's soul.

15. It is a sign of coming death to have a dog howl at the door at night.

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