from the County Council of Went-worth, requesting amendment to Re-

Today's Celebration of

Festival.

Its Origin, Its Myths, and Its Obser

Our Saxon fathers named the months

from some characteristic manifesta-

tion of nature. February was the

month of sprout-kale, and March the

of the Roman Church the days of the

month were designated, not as the

tenth or twelfth, but from the nearest

saint in the calendar. In the "Paston

Letters," that mine of antiquarian de-

household life of the fifteenth century,

there is scarcely a letter which is not

during faith.

thus dated, as on "the Thursday next

The festival of Candlemas, the syn-

chronous celebration of the Presentation and the Purification, was probably

instituted as such by the Bishop Gela-

observance and one of the legacies of a dying cult. "Great Pan is dead,"

but his worship lingers in many an

unconscious service. Candlemas, oc-curring as it does on the second of February, may well be the survival of the Roman Lupercalia, the Februa, or rites of lustration performed on the fifteenth of that month for centuries before the Babe lay in the manger

before the Babe lay in the manger of Bethelem. The use of candles, al-

the people ran hither and thither car-

rying candles to represent the torch

Persephone through the Plains of En-

fair Persephone, reincarnate in the daf-

fodils which sprung up on the banks of Cyane! The transition from the

Lupercalia to Candlemas was but one of the many compromises by which

pagan customs were baptized with

In England, the best tribute to the

VIII., by special proclamation in 1539,

permitted the use of candles and the

further observance of the day, for

neither Henry nor his daughter in

their nominal Protestantism renounced

the pageantry of Rome. In every

English parish the Christmas greens

were removed from church and home on Candlemas Eve, a custom prettily

"Down with the rosemary, and .o Down with the bays and mistletoe;

Down with the holly, ivy and all

That so the superstitious find

So many goblins you shall see."

Old Christmas, was relighted:

Till sunset let it burn,

Wherewith ye dressed the Christmas

Not one least branch there left be

For look, how many leaves there be Neglected, there (maids trust to me)

Kindle the Christmas brand, and ther

When quench'd, then lay it up again Till Christmas next return.

The Christmas log next year,

Part must be kept wherewith to teend

And where 'tis safely kept, the fiend Can do no mischief there."

In Scotland, where the time is of

some official importance, as the chief

quarter day, great fires called the

"Candlemass bleeze" — glimmerings from the ashes of the long extinct

hilltops, and woe betide that neigh-borhood where for any reason the fire

Candlemas is one of the few festi-vals of the church of which Puritan-

ism has left no tradition in popular parlance. This may be because it is a noteworthy "observation day," and

of the year when the sun is unwel-

come. A German proverb declares the

Day.

nating animals.

shepherd would rather see the wolf in

tries of the badger and other hiber-

"If Candlemas Day be dry and fair,

The ha'f o' winter's gane at Yule."

The ha'f o' winter's to come and mair; If Candlemas Day be wet and foul,

Its substance is embodied in our own saying: "Half your wood and half your hay on Candlemas Day," a prac-

tical measure of the winter stores.
The general meteorological truths

crystallized in these proverbs, many

of them hoary with the rime of ages,

are obvious to one who studies the "skiey influences," and they may thus tend to preserve something of our vanishing fireside lore. If, as has

been well said, popular customs con-

tain the germs of history, it is equally true that the current beliefs and even

the superstitions of a people are the seedfields of philosophy and of sociology, from which may be reaped a

THE MEDICINE FOR LIVER AND KIDNEY COMPLAINT.-Mr. Victor Auger, Ottawa, writes: "I take great

A Scotch saw runs thus:

his fold than the sun on Candlemas

in every northern land there cluster about it proved predictions of the duration of winter. It is the one day

did not burn the livelong night.

worship of Baal-were lighted on the

Christian names.

told by Herrick:

ith which Demeter sought her lost

Beautiful myth-symbolizing so much truth, spiritual and physical-

sius, in the reign of Justinian, but it is without doubt a more ancient



### In the... Rain Storm

the man got very wet. The wetting gave him a cold. The cold, neglected, developed to a cough. The cough sent him to a bed of sickness. A dose of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, taken at the start, would have nipped the cold in the bud, and saved the sickness, suffering, and expense. The household remedy for colds, coughs and all lung troubles is

## Cherry

Pectoral.

Bend for the "Curebook." 100 pages free. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass

City Council's Settlement of Mr. Lewis' Claim.

Proposal to Establish an Executive Committee

To Relieve the Council Proper of Much of Its Work.

The Government to be Petitioned to Amend the Statute-A Practical Joke on Ald. Cooper.

The tedium of the Council meeting last night was relieved by a practical Ald. Parnell said the joke, perpetrated with malice aforethought, on Ald. Cooper, just before adjournment. The mayor had just left the chamber and resigned the chair to Ald. Taylor, when Ald. Gerry arose with profound gravity and moved that | Feb. 18. changes be made in the personnel of the committees by placing Ald. Hunt

Ald. Cooper on No. 3. At present Ald. Turner is on No. 1; At present Aid. Turner is on No. 1; passed the audit or No. 1 committee.

Ald. Cooper on No. 2, and Ald. Hunt Ald. Winnett complained that the

Ald, Gerry said if the gave his reasons for the change ne would talk all

"Well, you'll give them before I get through with you," said Ald. Cooper, with fire kindling in his eye. Ald. Bennet seconded the motion with much seriousness. "My reason for so doing is this: Ald. Cooper did nobly on No. 2 last year and I think he should have a chance to distinguish

Ald. Taylor put the motion and the vote was a tie. 'A two-thirds majority is necessary, so I declare the motion lost," said

The members then adjourned, and one let the cat out of the bag, and much as the jokers.

THE BOARD OF WORKS. Ald. Parnell's report was brief. The first clause recommended the filing of Mr. John Law's petition for a larger appropriation for Victoria Park. Mr. street sewer. No. 1. Law feelingly referred to the park as a thing of beauty and a joy forever. The second clause of the report recommended that J. Hartley be paid No. 1. till December. Ald. Parnell advocated the rejection of the clause on the ground that the account was an extra and should have been included in Mr. Hartley's original contract. The clause was struck out on the mayor's cast-

MR. LEWIS TO GET \$1,500. The most important clause of No. | G. S. Counsell-Inclosing petitions

1 committee's report was that recommending that Mr. Levi Lewis, of South worth, requesting amendment to Registry and General Road Company Acts. No. 1.

The full council was present, namely, the mayor, and Ald. Taylor, Johnston, Rumball, Douglass, O'Meara, Olmstead, Carrothers. Stevely, Winnett, Cooper, Hunt, Turner, Dreaney, Bennet, Nutkins, Parnell, McCallum and Gerry. London, be offered \$1,500 in full of his claim, each side to pay its own costs. This case is familiar to the public. Mr. Lewis complains of a nuisance created by the outlet of a city sewer on his property. The case has been on his property. The case has been carried through the various stages of law to the Supreme Court, by which referred to the master to as-

and Gerry. sess Mr. Lewis' damages.
Mr. M. D. Fraser appeared at the Council in Mr. Lewis' behalf. Mr. Lewis' loss, he claimed, was fully \$5,000. His costs were \$500, so that the \$1,000 clear would be no reasonable compensation. Mr. Lewis had had to forego chances of selling his property because of the nuisance complain-

In reply to an alderman, Mr. Fraser said Mr. Lewis' property was assessed for \$6,000. Mr. Lewis would accept \$2,-

The clause carried after a brief discussion, several members not voting. By another clause, the aldermen will be furnished with small copies of the sewerage plans, to aid them in dis-cussing future contracts. The sum of \$60,000 will be borrowed from the Bank of Montreal to meet wind-month, but during the dominance expenditure for the current year.

AN IMPORTANT MOTION. Ald. Parnell moved that this council petition the Ontario Government to extend to all cities of 30,000 or over, throughout the Province, the same powers which are now exclusively given Toronto, namely to establish a household life of the fifteenth century oard of control. Speaking to his motion, Ald. Parnell explained that many things done by the council should be done by an executive, or board of control, composed of the mayor and the three committee chairman. The council would then be

before St. Agatha's," "the Monday after St. Michael's," "the Wednesday next after St. Paule's," a curious mingling of honor to Woden and Thor with the sacred feasts of a more enduring faith a legislative body, controlling the actions of the board of control. Ald. Carrothers said he would support it, if a clause was included asking that the council of this city have a larger representation on the board of commissioners-say, two mem-

Ald. Parnell agreed, and the motion as amended went through

A SPECIAL COMMITTEE. Ald. Parnell moved that a special committee be appointed to superintend the purchase of supplies and employment of labor, the members to be Ald. Johnston, O'Meara, Carrothers, Hunt, Bennet and Parnell. 'What's the object?" asked Ald.

Ald. Parnell said that one effect of it would be to prevent members like though considered typical of the pro-phetic words of Simeon, "A Light to lighten the Gentiles" is probably the Ald. Cooper meddling with, the city relic of that feature of the Lupercalia, when during days of riotous license under the cloak of pious ceremonies, engineer's office. Ald. Nutkins said it would keep Ald. Cooper out of No. 5 ward.

Ald. Douglass moved that the board of works constitute the committee. Ald. Cooper asked why such a slur should be east upon him. Why should Ald. Hunt be put on the working committee? He (Ald. Cooper) was held responsible for the work in No. 4 ward, and why should he be blamed for what Ald. Hunt would do? for what Ald. Hunt would do?
Ald. Parnell's motion carried, 12 to 6, Ald. Cooper voting yea, so as to move a motion to reconsider it, which

he did at once.

INQUIRIES. Ald. McCallum asked when the houses in South London were to be numbered.

Ald. Parnell said the matter was long the specific property of the opening snow-drops—"Candlemas Bells," "Fair Maids of February," one of the many flowers dedicated to Mary, and formerly called the Purification Flower. Henry

Ald, O'Meara asked if the street railway company were to be compelled to run cars on Wellington street north. In reply to Ald. Douglass, Ald. Par-nell said that tenders for the next sewerage section would be in by

MOTIONS AND NOTICES. Ald. Winnett moved, seconded by on No. 1; Ald. Turner on No. 2; and Ald. Gerry, that no payment of an account or contract, other than the weekly pay sheets, be made until they council were asked to authorize many accounts already paid.

Ald. Stevely said there could be no harm in paying a contractor as the work progressed, reserving the final payment until the work was done. Ald. Nutkins took a similar view. On Ald. Parnell's amendment the

matter was referred to the special supply committee This notice of motion was made by Ald. Hunt-That ways and means be provided for a proper scavenger system, for the removal and disposal of

WIDENING HIGH STREET. John McClary and others, whose properties abut on High street, be-tween Maryboro Place and a point on a line with the south side of Emery when they reached the ante-room some street, petitioned to have High street widened between the points mention-Cooper seemed to enjoy it as | ed, to the extent of 20 feet on the east side, including the removal back of the Lepper cottages. No. 2.

COMMUNICATIONS, ETC. Thomas Bannan and Mary A. Bruce For remission of taxes paid on South O. G. Bayley, et al.—For remission of part of rate charged on artificial

stone walk on North York street. Chief of Police Williams-For lan 124 25 for cleaning the asphalt pave— Chief of Police Williams—For an ment on Saturday nights, from May electric light near police station. No. 3. Catharine Carter (per Love & Dignan)-Re damage for injury to property by the lowering of High street.

W. Robins-Inclosing Mr. Howe's report re fire preventive appliances.

John Mason-For remission of taxes on the ground of charity. No. 1.

## Announcement Extraordinary.

THE KOOTENAY EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMIT. ED, beg to announce that the price of their Treasury Stock has been advanced to 20 cents per share, and further advances will soon be made as it is the intention of the Company to offer part of their Treasury Stock on the London, England, market within the next 90 days, at 50 cents per share, and the price here will be made to correspond with the

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We anticipate such results, and every investor who purchases our Treasury Stock at the present price may have his money back 90 days from date if then dissatisfied with his investment.

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Every certificate thus offered will bear an indorsement across the face of it stating it is redeemable at 20 cents per share, ninety days from date, upon demand.

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