

Household tales with other traditional remains; collection in the Counties of York, Lincoln, Derby, and Nottingham

Sidney Oldall Addy



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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1895 edition. Excerpt: ...called Dewric Well, the water of which is said to make any woman who drinks of it fruitful. Children living at Dore, in the parish of Dronfield, near Sheffield, were afraid to fetch water from a well called Sparken Well, because, they said, it was haunted by a spirit. There is a wishing well near Roche Abbey. If you breathe a wish as you go past the well your wish will be granted. Water that is watched is long in boiling. In East Yorkshire if a kettle boils slowly they say "the kettle is bewitched; it must have a stone in the bottom." When people cross a stream of water, or stand on the middle of a bridge, they express a wish. In the East Riding of Yorkshire they stand by the side of a brook, spit in it, and wish, taking care to tell nobody what the wish is. When you first see the new moon you should bow to it three times (some say nine times). It is often said of a man who is unlucky that he has forgotten to bow to the moon, or that he has looked at the new moon through a glass. The first new moon should be seen in the open air. The "man in the moon" is said to have a bundle of sticks on his back, and it is said that he was put there because he gathered sticks on Sunday. When you first see the new moon bow to it nine times and wish. It is unlucky to have your hands empty when you first see the new moon. On that occasion you should turn the money over in your pocket for luck. When the moon is full girls cut the ends of their hair even, so that it may grow long and thick. In the East Riding women go out of doors and turn their aprons before the new moon. They then wish something without telling their wish to anybody. O. N. sp&kona, a prophetess, sorceress. Compare Sparken Hill at Worksop in Notts, and sj/dJuinu-feU,...

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