CITY OF MEXICO, July 10 .- [Special to THE BEE]-Bull-fighting in Mexico is not carried on so extensively as it was a few years ago, and one might safely assert that it is virtually practiced in but a half dozen cities in this republic. The fight I describe took place in the city of Pachuca, on the 28th of May this year, and was fully up to the average.

Pachuca is a typical mining town about sixty-five miles from Mexico City, containing about 20,000 people. The altitude of Pachuca is 5,000 feet above the ses level, or 300 feet higher than Mexico.

The writer was one of a party of six that left the City of Mexico via the Mexican railway on an excursion train that started at 8:30 a. m., on its trip to Pachuca, where the renowned Ponciano Diaz was to give an exhibition of his skill, assisted by Timoteo Rodriguez and wife. It is generally conceded that Ponciano is the bravest and most during Mexican bull-fighter in the republic, and when he visited Spain some time ago he received many laurels and plaudits from that nation. We arrived in Pachuca about 11:45, and as the fight was not to commence until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, we had plenty of time to visit the many places of interest in that flourishing city.

Early in the afternoon we wendred out way to the bull ring in order to svoid the crush at the entrance, and at 4 o'clock the ljudges took their seats in the box reserved for their use, and the band simultaneously commenced playing one of those beautiful selections only to be heard on such occasions.

Explanation of Technical Terms.

In explanation of the terms I may use in "this article, I will state that a "rosa" is an artificial bouquet, the stem of which is armed with a steel barb similar to that of a fish hook; this bouquet is placed in the bull's back as he enters the ring. The name "pic-adores" is applied to the men who are mounted on horses and armed with a long mounted on norses and armed with a long pole, at the end of which is a sharp steel point, with which they try to hold off the bull when he makes an attack on the horses. There are two pucadores in the ring at the beginning of the fight, and they remain until beginning of the fight, and they remain until signalled by the judges to withdraw. "Ban-derilla" is the term applied to a stick about eighteen inches in length, also having a sharp steel barb at the end like that of the rosa, and beautifully decorated with tissue paper of many colors; these banderillas are shaped into many different forms; those used by the hero of this particular fight were made to represent a heart. The "banderilby the hero of this particular fight were made to represent a heart. The "banderil-leros" are the men who place the banderills into the shoulders of the bull. They are given two of these barbod instruments and have to place them into the bull while he is rushing upon them, and if they succeed in putting but one into the bull the audience show their displeasure by hissing long and loudly at the unsuccessful banderillero. Large capes of varied colors, called "capas," are used by the banderilleros for the purpose of teasing the bull and attracting his attenof teasing the bull and attracting his atten-tion when he pushes one of the fighters too closely; when the banderilleros are using these capas they are referred to as "tore-adores." The man who kills the bull with adores." The man who kills the bull with the sword is called a "matador." He is armed with a double edged sword about twenty-six inches in length, and also a small red flag with which he attracts the attention of the bull. He has to make the thrust with his sword while the bull is charging upon him. The ring itself is nothing more than an enclosure of about ningty feet in diameter and is destigute of ninety feet in diameter, and is destitute of any protection to the fighters, with the ex-

BULL FIGHTING IN MEXICO
Description of One That Was Considered Fully Up to the Avörage.
FIVE ANIMALS BRUTALLY PUT TO DEATH
Tour of the Victims Distinguish Themselves by Killing a Horse Each-Entertain-ment Does Not Drag-How the Novices Are Taught.
Curr or Maxim July 10 - [Special to

ring, and with the first thrust of the sword put an end to the buil. The third buil was put into the ring as soon as the second one had been removed, and his first act was to gore another horse to death, and then dismount the next pleador. Then came the feature of the day: Maria A de Rodriguez, wife of Timoteo Rodriguez mounted on an excellent and well trained horse, appeared in the ring, and for a mo-ment the audience went wild with enthusi-asm. She was a superbrider, and her cos-tume was rich and showy. She was given the banderillas, and successfully put two of them into the buil. For a moment the large the banderillas, and successfully put two of them into the bull. For a moment the large concourse of people fairly rent the air with applause, and bouquets, sombreros and money were showered into the ring in abund-ance. She gracefully bowed her acknowl-edgement of the honors bestowed upon her and graciously gave back the hats to their respective owners. The bull, evidently provoked at having a woman dare to enter the enclosure and put banderillas into his flesh, bethought himself of a means of reverge, and made a furious charge upon the fair banderillers and her noble steed, and for a moment the spectators were specil-bound, for the bull's horns came violently in contact with the horse, but luckily for horse and rider the blow struck the saddle girth in such a manner that it glanced off, and no

such a manner that it glanced off, and no serious damage was done. Ponciano Diaz then successfully killed the bull, but not without great danger to himself, for the bull was very vicious throughout the fight. The fourth bull was hurried into the ring, and probably thinking there were already too many occupying that circle, immediately tore open the side of a horse, the picador narrowly escaping from the bull's horns. But after this attack the bull seemed to weaken, and backed up against the fence and faced his antagonists, but would not fight; the audience in one voice called for "otro toro," "otro toro," which signifies another bull. Tho judges decided the bull was not a good one and requested that he be taken from the ring. It is not always an easy matter to get the bulls out of the ring, though they refuse to fight, and a steer is generally put in the ring as a companion for the bull, and they are taken out together. In this case whon the steer was brought into the ring the bull regained his courage and attacked the steer, but the bull was lassed by the horns and hind legs, and with the

steer was removed from the ring. This One Failed to Kill a Horse.

The fifth bull was now brought into the

ing and instantly attacked one of the plea-dores, and, although he did not reach the horse, he managed to push the pole from the pleador's grasp. This bull was the only one that did not kill a horse. About this time a shower of rain fell and caused a general stir of discomforture, but the sport was too fus shower of rain fell and caused a general stir of discomforture, but the sport was too fas-cinating for anyone to think of retiring from the spot; the fight went right ahead, and after the banderillas had been put into the buil, Timoteo Rodriguez stepped before the buil to put an end to him. The audience, however, called vociferously for Ponciano, but the judges decided against them, and Timoteo proceeded with the fight. The ground was slippery from the shower of rain that had just fallen, and when he made his first thrust he missed the heart but the that had just fallen, and when he made his first thrust he missed the heart, but the sword was driven clear through the animal and the point protruded through the buil's body. He was given another sword and this time stood immediately in front of the buil and thrust the weapon into the spinal chord just back of the horns of the buil, and the animal fell dead at his feet. This mode of tilling a buil is exceedingly demonstrated

animal fell dead at his feet. This mode of killing a bull is exceedingly dangerous and Timoteo was cheered to the echo. As five bulls were to be killed, and the fourth one had to be taken out of the ring on account of its refusal to fight, they now brought forth the extra bull. Timoteo Rod-riguez again distinguished himself, and seemed to have a charm over the bull. Ponciano Diaz also seemed to bear a charmed life, for during this fight the bull had an excellent opportunity of goring him, but Pon-ciano merely gazed into the bull's eyes and the animal walked away apparently satis-fied to succifice bis own life rather than det to sacrifice his ow prive Mexico of her Ponciano. During this light the most sickening scene of the day occurred. The bull dismounted a picador, severely injuring the man's leg, and then gored the horse in a horrible manner. The poor horse managed to regain his feet poor horse managed to regain his feet and started on a run around the ring; his en-trails hanging from his body soon became entangled in his leg and he was thrown violently to the ground. The assistants got him on his feet again and dragged and whipped him out of the ring, but this sight was so cruei and brutal that it has undoubt-odly starward incelf includer. was so cruei and brutal that it has undoubt-edly stamped itself indelibly upon the mem-ory of every spectator. The banderillas were then put into the bull, Timoteo Rod-riguez once more distinguishing himself by his agility and bravery. Then Ponciano Diaz made one of those sword thrusts for which he has gained much celebrity. While the bull was rushing upon him with great speed he thrust the sword into the animal clear to the hilt, withdrawing it immediately. The bull stopped almost as soon as the sword bull stopped almost as soon as the sword buil stopped almost as soon as the sword point had pierced its flesh, and then like a drunken man staggered a moment and dropped dead in its tracks. This bull was killed magnificently and Ponciano was the recipient of many congratulations.

ANCIENT BRITISH CUSTOMS Quaint Old Observances Still Common to England, Scotland and Ireland.

Nearly All the University and Public School Customs Intact-Cross-Country Riding and Punch and Judy Show Still Flourish.

[Copyrighted, 1893.] LONDON, July 3.- [Special to THE BRE.]-It is a common and pathetic lament of most writers, and particularly of those writers who shut themselves up in the shadowy recesses of some moldy clnb, with the opposite street facade for the limit of their horizon of actual observation, that the good old days and their good old ways are dead and beautiful things of the past. The change in conditions of life and living in England, Scotland and Ireland have certainly been greater dur ing this century than is all the five centuri es immediately preceding; and this has of necessity made obsolete many ancient customs and observances that are perhaps just as well to have survive in literary reminiscence only; but in most of those things holding fast the gentler and dearer traditions of a people in home, sporting, social and even religious life, there is a surprising record of

sturdy retention. Should only those which have come under my personal notice since 1867 be given the briefest reference, so great a number could be grouped as to completely refute those dolorous plaints that the pleasant olden customs are no more; and I am quite sure that should some friendly and enthusias-

tio pen be devoted to making an entire volume on the subject of "Famous British Customs Still in Vogue," treating the matter something after the garrulous, genial manner of that wonderful old olla podrida. 'Hone's Every Day Book," the English speaking and reading world of today would find in the result a genuine revelation of pleasure and surprise.

In Ireland the tender custom of "convoying" the departing emigrant is the same today as during all the sad cycles since its peasantry were forced to seek homes in foreign lands; its wakes and weddings, its fairs and frolics, its childrens' hunting of the robin and the wren, and countless other customs hundreds of years old are precisely as they were in the heart of the better olden

days Isle of Man Same as of Old.

Over in the sturdy little Isle of Man every essential feature of its patriarchal and representative government, established early in the tenth century, exists in its original simplicity at the present time. Its Tynwald

court is still, as 1,000 years ago, held under the open sky on its grassy Tynwald hill. Its sheading coroners, high bailiffs, house of keys and sword-bearer promulgate the laws i ust as they did in glorious King Orry's time. Some of its parish clerks are still elected by Some of its parish clerks are still elected by the votes of only those who "put out smoke," that is, whose habitations possess a chim-ney. Its lisher folk put to sea with goodly prayers and psalms. Its peasant folk, in dress, customs, superstitions and plous faith, live lives of calm indifference to the outer world of changes and the basile straights world of change; and the bardic strain of old, held true and firm down the shining line of 1,000 years, flashes forth now as then in its weird, exaited Oiel Verre in each suc-ceeding Christmas tide that comes.

ceeding Christmas tide that comes. And who shall truly say that the land o' cakes has lost its fine old customs and ten-der superstitions altogether! What a host of genial customs still eling to these stern and fine folk through the influence of their "gund neebors" the benificent little Brownies alone! Make merry of it as you may, the household Scottish "brownie" still holds its helpful place in the hearts of the people be-yond the Esk and the Tweed.

youd the Esk and the Tweed. He is never idle in all good office to the lowly home of the countryside, where you never fail of finding him, if you do not enter his realm in the spirit of cavil and scoffing.

than Christianisy Itself; the "touch-pipe" or siesta of the Cornish miller, "above grass" and below; the "vagroff thirs" or wild, bar-barie convoying by children of all vagabond traveling shows; the "wijping of the shoe" by the plicher-packing fishwires of St. Ives, or daubing the stranger's shoes with oil, for which a half crown "for luck of the fair matids that feed and clothe the poor" (the pilchers) must be paid, or a hustling or a ducking will follow; the very ancient har-vest-home custom of, "crying the neck" which consists of elevating a small sheaf of the bost heads of grain three times and cry-ing "The Neck!" as a token that the field is done, and a signal for, farmide generosity TRADITIONS AND LEGENDS OF CENTURIES

ing "The Neck!" as a token that the field is done, and a signal for, farmside generosity and jollity; and those quaint old customs at Cornish funerals of "carryin" the box" (the coffin), "layin" oot" the corpse, "watchin"," which is nearly equivalent in all essentials to the Irisb wake, the display of the "blerers" (bearers) and their unique coffin-tackle, the slow, weird psalm-chanting pro-cessionals to the churchyard, the wailing of all females at the church, the compensation of the "passon" in com in the pres-ence of the multitude; the final "cheerin" of the mourners at the homes of the latter, and the gallons of "shnaegrum" at the pub-

of the mourners at the homes of the latter, and the gallons of "shnaegrum" at the pub-lic house, over which the lamented "Coden Jack" is paid the highest eulogy known to Cornish genus, "'E knowed tin!" In England generally the great number of old customs surviving, and almost prevailing, is far more remarkable to those who will see, than can the absence of their like be either striking or lamentable save to those of com-pletely opaque vision. In modern London, modern as Paris or New York in most of its cosmopolitan characteristics, there are no cosmopolitan characteristics, there are no end of ancient customs still in vogue, espe-cially among the ancient guilds and among the extremes of society, from the coster mongers' annual outlandish parade to the lord mayor's banquet. There is a no greater nest of these odd old ceremonials and things than may at any time be observed in and about Parliament and the House of Lords about Parliament and the House of Lords; while for every half dozen court ceremonials in vogue during the time of Elizabeth that have been discarded, any person of intelli-gence can point out a score, equally antique, curious, and some might insist ridiculous, which have been dauntlessly retained.

Charms of English Village Life.

As I have previously shown in these ar-ticles, English villages and village life are in most particulars as charming and character-ful as they were any time st or beyond a cen-tury ago. The customs remain with these practically the same; and the change in es-sentials is largely in the imagination of those who remove to the cities, and who are them-selves subject to such radical change that their former provincial environment seems selves subject to such radical change that their former provincial environment seems mean and deformed from the new and won-drous view. But coming directly to the most important and effective illustration that can be made, take life in and about the great English, or for that matter Scottish and Irish, noblemon's estates. As British institutions and sociology go, these provide the highest possible example. With few ex-ceptions—such as the the discontinuance of home brewing of ale, and the provisions of a home brewing of ale, and the provisions of a servants' hall in place of the common table— the entire regime of these splendid places remains the same as in the time when the old robber barons' fortified stone barrels with litches around them were transformed into

princely Elizabethan castle or hall. princely Elizabethan castle or hall. In nearly every detail of relations between lord and tenant; between tenant and hind; in the management of the home demesne; in the force of retainers and their duties— from steward or agent, down past head for-ester and under foresters, head gamekeeper, helpers and "beaters," head gamekeeper, helpers and "beaters," head gamekeeper, under gardeners, lodge keepers and all house servants-there remains, strong and fixed and seemingly unchangeable, every older custom, observance, duty, gratuity and pleasant or unpleasant association of master and man that have, for nearly a quarter of a thousand years, provided the most inter-esting pages of English literature and secured the almost unshaken admiration, if not always affection, of those who have, despite all political turnoil, held the British nation together; all of, which is not in de-fense of a system, but the statement of a historic fact and practical illustration of a

most interesting sociological spectacle. Generalizing, there are innumerable an cient customs and observances remaining in England peculiar to its people which are almost as unconscious as fadeless. The greatest host of these are of a half religious and half social nature, solely the outgrowth of the influence of the Church of England, which are so much a part of national and individual life, even among dissenters, that their existence is almost unrecognizable among the people themselves. The single instance that the ancient caudle and chris-

tening feasts and ceremonies are greatly re vived, and often more extravagant than in former times, is sufficient illustration.

Roads Pointed Out-Practical Suggestions on Road-Making by Cartiss C. Turner.

"Of all inventions, the alphabet and the printing press alone excepted, those inventions which abridge distance have done most of the civilization of our species." Conspicuously displayed on the golden door of the Transportation building the words of Macaulay are awakening trains of thought in the minds of many who have never before realized the full extent of the subject.

I.,

We are so accustomed to accept the conveniences of nineteenth century civ-ilization as a matter of course that it is ifficult or at least unusual for us to pause and endeavor to realize the conditions of human existence a few centuries back, in ages when the footpath and the pack mule represented the highest type of inland means of communication.

In every age the necessity of better means of communication has been realized and striven for, but in no age and in no country have there been such contrasts of perfection and crudity as are to be found here in America today.

are to be found here in America today. Our railway system is the wonder of the world. The fleet that plies our in-land lakes and rivers is a mighty one among the fleets of nations. Our sys-tems of urban communication are by all means the most perfect that the world has ever seen. But our country roads are the worst known among civilized people. We are as many centuries behind the ancient Perusians in the construction of country highways as we are centuries ahead of them in the methods at our command.

It would be a platitude to say that good country roads are a necessity. It is a difficult task to make people re-

alize how bad our roads really are. It is a still more difficult task to secure agreement on a line of policy looking to their intelligent improvement. For immediately we decide that improvement is a necessity we find diverse interests rising up and clamoring for this, that or the other policy. If, in the judgment of those who are most capable of deciding, certain reforms or lines of action are deemed necessary we at once find an army of private interests rising in opposition. To people who have observed the workings of our local governments the effect of the opposition of private interests is clear.

How can these discordant elements be nited? How can the voice of selfish private interests be silenced when it is plainly in opposition to the general wel fare? Only by a clear, exact understanding of the situation on the part of the public at large. With an intelligent understanding of the conditions and requirements by the public there can be no ear but that a correct solution will be finally reached.

Having been committed for some time to a line of policy that is, in my opinion, the only rational policy to pursue, I have been constrained to write the folowing series of articles in the hope that the public may receive a correct under-standing of the actual conditions and necessities of the road improvement question as it exists here in Douglas county. Practical Suggestions.

There are two ways in which the

roads of Douglas county may be improved.

One-third Saved

By buying Moquette Carpets now, if you can find a carpet in our made up line to fit your room; and we have so many sizes made up you are almost sure to find one. These are going at \$1.00 a yard as long as they last, which won't be long.

Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co.; Douglas, between 14th and 15th Sts.

four "burladeros" along the edges of the pen. These burladeros are about eight feet in length and set away from the edge of the ring a sufficient distance to allow a man to run behind them, but at the same time close enough to the fence to prevent the bull from following. They are of the same height as the fence of the pen, or about eight feet. The ring is surrounded by benches, chairs and boxes, and somewhat resembles the amphitheater of Rome in gladiatorial days.

Entrance of the Participants.

The judges gave the signal for the en-trance of the men who were to take part in the afray, and in a moment they appeared in the enclosure, gorgeously arrayed in cos-tumes of variegated colors, the pleadores on horseback and the remainder afoot. It is the custom for the matador to throw his cape among the audience just before the cape among the audience just before the fight begins, and it was not at all surprising when the fickle Ponciano picked out a party of American tourists as the proper resting place for his robes during the conflict. This rash act was probably orought about on ac-count of the ladies composing the party being most excellent specimens of American beauty

The judges now signalled for the appear-ance of the first bull, which came bounding into the ring with the customary rosa in his shoulder. Evidently the first thing that met his gaze was the picador to the left of the entrance through which he had come into the ring, and with tail erect and head lowered he made a mad rush for the horse on into the ring, and with tail erect and head lowered he made a mad rush for the horse on which the picador was mounted, and ap-parently without difficulty drove his horns far into the animal's body. The poor horse staggered for a moment and then fell, never again to enter the cruel bull ring. The bull had scarcely finished this bloody attack ere his eyes discerned the second picador mounted on an excellent mustang on the opposite side of the ring, when with a furious and violent charge he also made short work of that animal, which was hur-ried out of the pen where he so lately had entered full of life and beauty. The judges now called for; the banderilleros to com-mence the work of worrying and teasing the bull, and in a moment's time the first banderiliero had managed to put one of his brads into the bull's shoulder, but was hissed and hooted by the audience on ac-count of his failure to put in both. The second banderillero new approached the thoroughly infuriated beast and suc-coasfully drove his banderillero did his work much neater than his predecessors, and for a moment, as the bull was dashing at full speed upon him, his life was in great danger, when with the agility of an athlete he dely horms and thrust his banderillas into the bull; but the third banderilloro did his work much neater than his predecessors, and for a moment, as the bull was dashing at full speed upon him, his life was in great danger, when with the agility of an athlete he dexterously glided a step to the side of the bull's horms and thrust his banderillas firmly into the bull. This magnificent feast called forth the deafening applause of the multitude, and money for a moment was thrown wildy into the ring. Then the judges signalled for deafening appliause of the multitude, and money for a moment was thrown wildly into the ring. Then the judges signalled for the matador to put an end to the bull, and invincible Ponciano Diaz, sword in hand, appeared in the center of the ring. Ponciano's aged mother, who attends nearly all the fights in which he participates, covered her face with her shawl so that she could not witness the last scene. In a short time he attracted the attention of the bull, which stood for a moment as if study-ing a means of attack, and then with a loud bellow rushed upon his antagonist; but Ponciano proved equal to the occasion and stopping quickly to the side thrust the sword to the hill through the bull's body, and death followed almost instantly. Then three mules covered with elegant blankets and housings were brought into the ring and made to drag the bull from the area. No Time for Drinks Between Acta.

No Time for Drinks Between Acts.

No Time for Drinks Between Acts. There is a difference between buil fights and most other entertainments, in that there is no time lost between acts, and the first buil had hardly been dragged from the ring when the second one was turned into the now blood-stained enclosure. He first un-horsed one of the pleadores and then at-tacked the second, who was also partly dis-mounted; then pawing the ground furiously for a moment he made another rush for the pleador, and this time successfully put an and to the horse. One of the tareadores iried to attract his attention from the blood-

For the Benefit of Novices.

For the Benefit of Novices, The bull-fight proper was now ended, but for the benefit of the younger aspirants for the bull-ring they turned a bull into the enclosure whose horns were padded and bandaged with wrappings of cloth in such a manner that they could not seriously injure anybody who happened in their way. Large numbers of boys now jumped into the ring, and although the bull did not touch a single one it was an amusing sight to watch the youngsters roll and tumble over each other when they imagined the bull was following them. After several minutes of this kind of amusement the bull was taken out of the ring and the day's sport was at an end. ring and the day's sport was at an end.

The sport being over, our party returned to the train, which left Pachuca at 6:30 in the evening and arrived in Mexico about 10 o'clock at uight.

o'clock at uight. One more remark and my story is finished: In Mexico City they have had but one buli-fight during the past three years, and that one was projected by the wife of President Diaz and the proceeds realized, together with many voluntary contributions, were sent to Spain for the benefit of those who were suf-ferers from the inundations which occurred that year. The principal reason for stopping that year. The principal reason for stopping the bull-fights in this city was that the bulls they used were of such an inferior breed that they would not fight, and the people, becoming disgusted, tried to tear down the becoming disgusted, tried to tear down the rings and were so disorderly and violent in their denunciations that the governor of the district issued an order forbidding the further practice of this brutal though fascinat ing pastimo TORO.

New York's Greatest Property Owners.

The Astor estate will pay in taxes this year \$420,000. This is more than the entire sum of city taxes collected in 1820. There is only one richer family than the Astors and that is the Vanderbilt, which pays \$608,000, but as this includes a good deal of city railroad property the Astor real estate, exclusively owned by the family, is undoubtedly the more valuable. The Lorillard family pays Valiable. The Lorniard family pays \$131,000 in taxes, which means that its city property is actually worth more than \$10,000,000, while the Jay Gould estate is assessed \$134,000. These are the four richest estates in the city. From the tax books just made up it or From the tax books just made up it ap-pears that the most valuable buildings in New York are the Equitable, at 120 Broadway, assessed at \$3,800,000; the Fifth Avenue hotel, \$1,800,000; the Mills building \$1,700,000; Matual 146,build building, \$1,700,000; Mutual Life buildbuilding, \$1,700,000; Mutual Life build-ing in Nassau street, \$1,625,000; the Western Union building, \$1,500,000; the Astor house, \$1,400,000, and the Stewart building, \$1,600,000. The real values are nearly, if not quite, double the rate at which they are assessed. For instance, the Herald building, for which \$1,100,000 has been offered. is appraised \$1,100,000 has been offered, is appraised by the city tax assessor at \$560,000.

There, in each simple home and heart, he sits There, in each simple home and heart, he sits enthroned with every attribute of benevo-lence and affection. He not only works with giant might to assist in ploughing the land, harvesting the crops, guarding the grain and minding the herds, but in every little household drudgery of guidwife and bairn he lends a helping hand. No ill can come but that he has fended its cruelest touch. No sorrow can fall upon the household whose hurt would not be deadlier were it not for his kindly and palliative powers. And in all the glorious old land o' cakes, his gentle in-fluence adds zest to every peasant joy. As fluence adds zest to every peasant joy. As the burns, springing from the misty, crag-rimmed corries of the north, descend and water the welcoming plains of the lowlands the endless streams of Gaelic superstition descend from the weird and misty ceilidhs of the crofters' ancient homes and the cen-turies-old clachans and render perennial the lowland growth of Scottish folk-lore and well beloved olden ways. Scotland's Ancient Customs Still Observed

Let all doubters of the existence in Scot-

land of most ancient customs and pastimes step into the great farm kitchens of the Lothians at Hallowmas eve. Let them, at Lothians at Hallowmas eve. Let them, at Auld Reekie's ancient cross, at midnight of any New Year's eve learn what a Scottish Hogmanay truly is. Let them in spring and summer and autumn follow the keen-eyed, sure-armed golfer, or know the thrill of win-ter curling joys. Let them visit that most ancient and glorious of Scottish fairs, the St. George cattle fair of Kelso, where the Tweed and Teviot mingle their historic waters. Let them wander to that decaying realm of Gypsydom, quaint old Yetholm, hidwaters. Let them wander to that decaying realm of Gypsydom, quaint old Yetholm, hid-den from both English and Scottish eyes in the mazes of the grewsome Teviot hills, and see the "Fasten Een" fames of Bowmont-side, in February, almost as ancient as the Teviots themselves, and so brave, rough and brawny that the spirit of battle and the strength of giants are required to withstand them. Or still, let them wander to old Hawicktown and view something that church and state could never put down-the atmual Common Ridings; and, as the Cornet is mounted, feel the thrill of the hero days within them as Hogg's soul-stirring lines, Sons of heroes alain at Flodden!--Met to ride and trace our common--the to ride and trace our common--tore the solemn league and covenant. Down in scarred and earth-rent old Corn-wall this is and and earth-rent old Corn-wall this here the the sour and sources and they will the source and covenant.

fore the solemn league and covenant. Down in scarred and earth-rent old Corn-wall little indeed has been any manner of change for hundreds of years. It is within the memory of those now living when old folk were constantly lamenting in their ancient language, "Cornoack ewe all ne cea ver yen poble younk!"—"Cornish is all for-got with the young people!"—out there has been no one to lament in truth the departure of old customs in the rugged land of ""Pres got with the young people!"-but there has been no one to lament is truth the departure of old customs in the rugged land of "Tros, Pol and Pen." See what a host of these daar old drolls, and these but a few out of hundreds, even a Yankce can find and remember: The "Takin' Sunday," when all the lads and lasses meet to se-lect "pairdners" for Mazard (cherry) fair, that most beloved and ancient fair at Praze; the "growder" selling and growder, or scrubbing, day; the , "watching" overnight for the May day's coming; the blessing of apple trees on St. James' day and at Christ-mas time; "rook" day on the great estates, when all the peasant folk can shoot rooks to their heart's content and luxuriate in pot-pie made of the young rooks for a fortnight thereafter; "cob nutting," that ferocious contest between Cornish i ads and quite as wonderful kite fiying by grave old miners; that immemorial custom of mothers of be-stowing gifts to the first person met, when returning from a christening; the "taking the New Year" into houses invariably by men first, on account of the ill-luck always following a woman's accidental first ontrance, a custom almost as universal in sociand. Ireland and some portions of the north of England; the saturnalia of flowers at Heiston called Furry (Flora) day, as ancient as the duchy itself; and the "huers", of Carringgladen and Perry indention in the start waving as the shoals of pikchers are sighted. Customs Older Thas Christianity.

have heard the town crier announcing the nave neard the town crier announcing the arrival of the coach at old Warwick town, and grotesquely uniformed Sergeants at Mace-"robinredbreasts" they are locally called-stride about within the walls of ancient Londonderry precisely as they did be fore the long siege. Derby day, the memor-able moveable feast andouting, and the statutory feast of the 12th of August, are religiously kept. Parliament always adjourns for the first, and nothing but impending national calamity could tempt it to meet at the time dedicated to the opening

Nearly all the old university and English public school observances and customs are intact. Everybody knows that Guy Fawkes is annually officially and literally searched for in the cellars of Parliament house before the opening of Parliament. The ancient cus-tom of "doling" food and clothing to the poor is still observed on St. Thomas Day in

Kent. That unimpeachable custom of uni-versal guzzling which, in 1874 alone, brought the national treasury a revenue of £31,000,-000, seems to bravely hold its olden own. Over at Great Yarmouth by the sea you will still find in general use the famous ancient two-wheeled "Yarmouth cart," little, narrow and low, and with shafts as long as a Cuban relation. volante's. At Coventry the town council meets in St. Mary's hall, a structure built meets in St. Mary's hall, a structure built for this self-same purpose 600 years ago, and many of the oldest ceremonies are preserved, while every year brings its Lady Godiva pro-cessionals upon which Peeping Toms with wooden heads and learing eyes look down. English lovers still run away to get married after the ancient Scotch fashion of consent before witnesses at Gretna Green.

"Well-Dressing and "Rushbearing."

Over in Derbyshire is still splendidly alive

Over in Derbyshire is still splendidly alive the ancient and beautiful ceremony of "well-dressing;" and in the heart of Wordsworth's land, beside the very spot where the grand old singer lies, may be annually seen that sweetest of all pious pastoral customs, "rushbearing," a ceremony perhaps a thou-sand years older than Christianity itself. There are more "hot cross buns" now sold every Good Friday in England than were ever disposed of on that day before the reformation. Who can close his eyes or his pocket to that hoary English custom of "tip-ping" which holds the classes and masses so firmly together? That glorious fountain of childisn pleasure, the Punch and Judy show, flourishes everywhere and in bleased youth perennial. There is an hundred times the cross-country riting that there was a cen-tury ago. Some time since I figured out from reliable data that the rentals of shoot-ing and fishing privileges in Sootland alone annually exceeded 2469,612, or \$2,300,000! What must they be for three kingdoms, and who can truly say that these most ancient and inspirating of Britist sports are falling into decay? What would the boys and youth of England say to the assertion that "hare-and-hounds," foot ball, spricket and even of England say to the assertion that "hare-and-hounds," foot ball, scricket and even wrestling and "putting the stone" were not immeasurably more universal and manfully now done than of yore! "And last-because now done than of yore! "And last—because one has to stop somewhere in a recital, which, briefly made, would fill overy column of this paper—it would not be a venture-some thing for one who had tramped the length and breadth of the British Islos, as I have done, to express the firm belief that, two to one, there is today more ringing clat-ter of better hoof, more jingling of better haruess, more ratiling of superb coaches and merrier notes from bugle and horn, and this, too, every whit for pleasure, along the grand hedge-bordered highways of Saxons, Gaels and Celts, than were ever known in Britain's paimiest olden coaching days! EDGAB L. WAKEMAN.

The "No. 9" Wheeler & Wilson makes a perfect stitch with all kinds of thread on all classes of materials. It is always ready. Sold by Geo. W. Lancaster & Co., 514 S. loth street.

Then there are the Beltain fires, as in Ireland and the Scottish Highlands, eider

1st. By building or improving the natural clay or earth roads. 2nd. By paving or macadamizing these improved roads.

It requires no argument to show that the first process of improvement must be carried out before the second or final process is undertaken.

The only questions are: Have our clay or earth roads reached their highest development?

Can nothing be done to still further improve them before giving them pernanence by paving or macadamizing? The first question admits of no argu-ment. An hour's ride in almost any diection will convince the casual observer that it can be answered unqualifiedly in the negative.

The second question, however, is very far reaching in its effects, and one that requires a clear understanding of many conditions. I am prepared to answer it unreservedly in the affirmative, and it is on this affirmative answer that I shall base my argument.

I wish to state here positively that it is my opinion that our country roads are in an extremely unfit state to be either paved or macadamized. That to give permanence to the monstrosities that or macadamizing them, would be an act of the greatest folly. That we can never have good roads in this county until we abandon our present illogical and ruin-ous system of locating roads, and adopt an intelligent system based upon common sense principles. Let us then attack the problem of road

mprovement in a rational, intelligent, systematic manner. Let us begin at the bottom and work up. Let us begin and build new, correctly located earth roads. Build them carefully on some compre-hensive plan, and after the most ap-proved methods. Build a few miles each year, and as rapidly as they are built place them under some well organized, intelligent management. Do not leave them to take care of themselves as is now don

When this has been accomplished, then it will be time to talk of pavements, and not till then.

These are revolutionary ideas and may be startling to many who have not given the subject much thought. They are ideas that must be carried out if we are to exercise the commonest judgment in the management of county affairs.

In future articles I shall attempt to give a plain review of the situation, and will point out the disadvantages of pres-ent methods, together with the advanages to be derived from a complete departure from them.

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