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Classified Catalogue of Brand Material.

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CLASSIFIED CATALOGUE OF BRAND MATERIAL.

(Continued from Vol. XXIX. p. 74.)

(k) <i>Strolling Visitors.</i>	LOCALITY.
<i>Waits</i> (instrumental musicians ; ¹ generally perform during night of Dec. 24-25). Employed by municipality (obs.) - - - - -	Berwick, Scarboro', Don- caster, Nottingham, Cambridge, Leicester, Chester, etc.
Licensed to solicit money within definite area (down to 1820-30) - - - - -	London Parishes.
Entirely independent ; and lingered into 19th century " Timbrel-waits " (tin-kettle music by boys, before Christmas) - - - - -	Country towns (sporadic). Wolverhampton, York- shire towns.
" Bletherhead bands " (nigger minstrels) perambulate streets - - - - -	Bradford.
<i>Carol-singers</i> (perform at house- doors, night or day, some- times with instrumental accompaniment - - - - -	General.
Sing on church-tower - - - - -	Berks. (Newbury), Hants. (Crondall).
At holy wells - - - - -	West Cornwall.
In Minstrels' Gallery - - - - -	Exeter Cathedral.

¹ But the name is often applied to singers, e.g. "The singing waits, a merry throng" (Clare, *The Shepherd's Kalendar*).

At choir-supper, Christmas
Eve - - - - - LOCALITY.
Oxford (Magd. Coll.).
(Cf. Wassailing, above.)¹

Masqueraders.

Mummers (costumed figures,
with blackened faces, enter
unannounced, and sweep up
hearth without speaking - West Riding.

Hoodenens (carol-singers ac-
companied by a "hobby-
horse" masquerader,
extort money) - - - Thanet and East Kent.

"The Broad" (wassailers
accompanied by man per-
sonating bull, called the
Broad) - - - - - Glos. (Kingscote).

"The Horse's Head or Queen's
Pony" (Hobby-horse
parody of the Doctor inci-
dent in the play of St.
George) - - - - - District between Ponte-
fract and Doncaster.

Sword-dancers (perform in
character, introduced by
song) - - - - - Northumbria.

Called *Guizards* - - - Co. Durham (Swalwell),
Northumbd. (Ears-
don), West Riding
(Kirkby Malzeard,
Grenoside, nr. Eccles-
field, etc.).

Mummers' Play of St. George
acted - - - - - General.

Performers called Guisers,
Geese-dancers, Morris-
dancers, Mummers, Tip-
teerers, etc. - - - In various counties.

(I) *Games and Sports.*

Boar-hunting, Christmas to
Candlemas - - - - - Essex Forests.

Fox-hunting, Christmas to Lady
Day - - - - - Essex Forests.

¹ It is desired to form a Bibliography of Christmas Carols. Information will be welcomed.

	LOCALITY.
Squirrel-hunting - - - -	Norfolk and Suffolk.
Bull-baiting - - - -	Suffolk.
Butcher provided bull to be killed by undergraduates	Oxford.
"Cabsow" or "shin-up" (a kind of hockey) - - - -	Lincs. (Grimsby, Cleethorpes).
Quintain (medieval athletic sport).	

Indoor Games.

"Bite-apple" or "souse-apple" (see November) -	Lancs., Staffs., Salop.
Snap-dragon - - - -	General.
Card-playing - - - -	Universal.
Apprentices allowed to play cards at Christmas, 1446 -	Walsall.
Children's gambling game with pins - - - -	Cornwall.
Blindman's Buff, turn-the-trencher, hunt the slipper, puss-in-the-corner, hot cockles, hide-and-seek (in various forms), Bobby Bingo, oranges and lemons, Buff, forfeits, memory games, etc., commonly played.	
Christmas Tree introduced -	<i>Circa 1789.</i>
Christmas Cards introduced -	1850-60.
Christmas Pieces (children's specimens of caligraphy, disused)	<i>Circa 1830.</i>
Christmas Pantomimes introduced - - - -	1702, <i>ut dicit.</i>

III. LOCAL OBSERVANCES.

(a) *Bell-ringing Customs.*

Christmas Eve.	
Two bells rung, 4 p.m. -	Wolverhampton.
"Cheese-and-bread bell," 7 p.m. - - - -	Hexham Priory.
Peal rung, 8 p.m. - - - -	Yorkshire (general).
"The Devil's Knell" (passing bell) midnight - - - -	Yorkshire (Horsbury, Dewsbury).

LOCALITY.

Peal rung at midnight -	-	Beds. (Gt. Barford, Woburn), Herts. (Abbots' Langley, Ashwell, etc.), Lincs. (Kirtõn in Lindsey, 1640; cf. <i>In Memoriam</i> , No. xxviii. Staffs. (Bilston, 1685, etc.; Wolverhampton, 1893).
Submerged bells thought to be heard at midnight -	-	Salop (Bomere), Notts. (Raleigh).
Christmas Day.		
Peals rung -	-	Beds. (Cranfield ¹ Goldington, Flitwood), Glos. (Ruardlean, by bequest), Hants. (St. Mary Bourne ²), Herts. (Rushden, King's Walden ³), Lincs. (Edenham, S. Kelsey, etc. ⁴), Rutland ("in most places"), Yorksh. (Wensleydale, called Virgin's Chimes).
"Pye bell," between noon and 1 p.m. -	-	Worcester (St. Helens).
"Plum-pudding bell" rung by request, a month before Christmas -	-	Worcester (St. Martins).
Twelve days of Christmas, Curfew or "Culfer" rung on two bells, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. -	-	Leeds (18th cent.).
Twelve days of Christmas, Curfew silent -	-	Salop (Cleobury Mortimer).

¹ North, *Ch. Bells of Beds.*, p. 107.

² "At Christmas the bells had no rest" (Stevens, *St. Mary Bourne*).

³ North, *Ch. Bells of Herts.*, p. 76.

⁴ *Ibid.*, Lincs., pp. 220-221, "in very many places."

(b) Church-going Customs.

LOCALITY.

Christmas at Court (King George II. escorted to Chapel Royal by Heralds and Knights of Garter, Thistle and Bath, communicated, and offered wedge of gold called Byzant) - - -	1741.
Municipal Christmas, 1685 (Corporation met at Guildhall and escorted Mayor to Church, on festival and its morrow) - - -	Newbury. Berks.
Dancing in Church after service, crying ' Yule, yule, yule ! ' -	North Yorksh. (17th cent.).
Drinking together in alehouse after service (17th cent.) -	Yorksh. (Danby Wiske).
Christmas Greetings in churchyard before service - - -	Derbyshire villages.

(c) Customary Feasts.

Breakfast given by Bailiffs between Matins and High Mass on Christmas Day (discontinued 1540) - - -	Shrewsbury.
Breakfast given by individual Aldermen, 1556 - - -	Chester.
Breakfast for inhabitants on Christmas Day provided by monks, subsequently by farmer of parsonage - - -	Yarmouth.
Ditto, by tithe-farmers, St. Stephen's Day, <i>i.e.</i> 1800 -	Oxon. (Bampton).
Rector provided bread, cheese and beer to inhabitants after afternoon service on Christmas Day - - -	Oxon. (Heyford), up to <i>c.</i> 1730
Ditto, St. Stephen's Day - -	Bucks. (Drayton Beauchamp and Gt. Horwood).
Rectors remonstrated against similar custom, 1610, 1667, 1765 - - -	Glos. (Evenley).

	LOCALITY.
Vicar gave beef, mustard, bread
and cheese to all comers on
Christmas Day, down to 19th
cent. - - - - -	Staffs. (Gt. Barr and
Aldridge).
Vicar provided bread, cheese,
and beer for tithe-payers after
evening service, to 1814 -	Berks. (Cumnor).
Ferryman remitted toll on
Christmas Day and received
loaf from parishioners; his
dog fed at Vicarage - -	Notts. (North Clifton).
Bread, ale, and mince-pies distri-
buted to poor by Rector on
<i>Old Christmas Day</i> - -	Dorset (Piddlehinton).
Tenants-at-will made customary
presents to Lord of Manor at
Yule; he entertained them
and their wives at dinner -	Ashton-under-Lyne, 1422.
Feast in reeve's house; mince-
pies; free drinks while candles
burning. Associated with
memory of King John - -	Somerset (North Curry).
Break-up school-feast, cakes and
sweet ale (Pegge) - - -	Derbysh. (Whittington).
"Rumbald Whittings" (eight
finest whittings from each boat
sold to provide supper for
fishers, Christmas Eve - -	Folkestone.
(d) <i>Doles</i> (cf. St. Thomas's Day).	
Plums distributed to inhabitants	Stafford (Forebridge).
Annuities to Widows, by bequest	Oxford (St. Thomas's).
Beef, by bequest, 1729 - - -	Exeter (St. Mary Major).
(e) <i>Other Customary Gifts.</i>	
Officers of King's Bench Court to
Judges - - - - -	See <i>Report of Royal
Commission</i> , 1820.
Tenants of Selby Abbey to Con-
vent - - - - -	Yorksh. (Selby, 1597).
Lord of Manor to Tenants, yule
logs - - - - -	Northumbd. (Belford),
1890-1900.
Grocers gave plums to customers	
Bakers, a cake - - - - -	Northants., 1854.

Chandlers and grocers, Christmas	LOCALITY.
candles - - - -	Yorksh.
Master joiners, yule-logs - -	Yorksh.
"Hardgrain," a present of wheat or money made to children at Christmas - - - -	Lancs. (Hund. of Lons- dale).
Stocking hung up to receive gifts	See Henderson, p. 67.

(f) *Household Festivities.*

Households of Nobility and Squirearchy (17th cent.). Tenantry assembled at day- break; hospitality to all comers; servants dancing, masquerading, joined in games	General (cf. <i>Round about our Coal Fire</i>).
Guessing identity masked fellow-servants, 1795 -	Aston, nr. Birmingham.
Farmhouses (dances, collec- tion for fiddler) - -	Somerset.
Cottages ("crusty loaf and mouldy cheese" ready for all comers) - - - -	Derbyshire.

(g) *Holidays, Merrymaking, etc.*

Plough not worked (see Plough Monday).	
Household work intermitted -	South and West Salop.
Servants equalled masters -	Norfolk.
Servants leave places, Dec. 26; spend Christmas Week at home	Cheshire, North Staffs. North-east Salop.
Fairs in Christmas Week.	
Gauby Fair (formerly Hiring Fair) - - - -	Shrewsbury.
Gauby Market (ditto) - -	Salop (Newport).
Giglet Fair (a pleasure fair, introductions unneces- sary ¹) - - - -	Cornwall (Launceston), Devon (Okehampton).
"Merry Nights" (subscription dances at public houses -	Cumbd. and Westmd.
"Treating" expected from all comers, under pain of "stang- riding" or "basketing" -	Ditto.

¹ Cf. Mistletoe.

	LOCALITY.
"Yule-girth" (immunity for bad characters during holidays) proclaimed - - - -	York.
Watch and Ward kept three nights by Customary Tenants, 1555, 1667 - - - -	Chester.
Yule-waiting or "yolwayting" by customary tenants (1183, compounded for money payment, 14th cent.) - - -	Durham.
Customary tenants watch twelve nights, turn and turn about - - - -	St. Paul's Cathedral.
Ditto, 12 men and horses 12 nights, stick pins on leaving	Yorksh. (Wadsley).
Tenure of Breadsall by serving lord (Earl of Lancaster) at dinner and supper on Christmas Day - - -	Tutbury.
The Lord of Misrule (leader of Christmas revels, in royal, noble, and official households)	London, Westminster, Greenwich, etc., 16th century.
Styled Abbot of Misrule at court - - - -	1489.
Held office Hallowmas to Candlemas inclusive.	
Styled "Christmas Prince" or "King of Christmas" -	Inns of Court.
Held office Hallowmas to Shrovetide - - - -	St. John's College (Oxford).
Elected St. Edmund's Day (Nov. 19).	
King's Lord of Misrule accompanied by masquerade procession visited city.	
Dined with Lord Mayor and Sheriffs - - - -	1551, etc.
Dined at Temple - - -	1561.
Stayed all night in Poultry -	New Year's Eve, 1557-8.
Mayor kept open house 12 days. Lord of Misrule appointed, 1567 - - -	Chester.

	LOCALITY.
Lords of Misrule at Easter and Whitsuntide also, 1555 <i>et seq.</i> - - - -	Melton Mowbray.
Collected money (for expenses of sports ?) - - - -	Melton Mowbray.
<i>The Finger-stocks</i> ; an instru- ment into which the Lord of Misrule put the fingers of misdemeanants against Christmas rules (1686) -	Staffs. (Beaundesert).

Business Customs.

Hiring Servants (see above) -	Cheshire, North Staffs., N.E. Salop.
Woodcutting rights begin -	Herefd. (Yatton).
Boar payable to Lords of Manor	Kent (Denford).
Lessee of Tithes gave boar's head to be wrestled for - - - -	Essex (Hornchurch).
" Hogling-money " (?) due -	Surrey (Wandsworth, 1455).
Warden to pay dues to Corpus Christi guild-master - - -	Coventry.
Outgoing Masters of Cappers Guild to deliver up accounts, 1520 - - - - -	Coventry.
Town servants to receive liveries, 1534 - - - - -	Coventry.

(To be continued.)