

Manx Notes 681 (2024)

“MANX SUPERSTITIONS” (1874)

SIR,—It is astonishing the amount of superstition and belief in old traditions that still exists in some parts of the Island. One old gentleman assured me the other evening that the “myrrh” sprang up, blossomed, and withered away again on Old Christmas night, at a farm in Jurby. Most of the old people make their Almanacks for the months of the year according to the weather on the twelve days after Old Christmas day—the latter day, I believe, included. For the sake of easy reference for the good old souls, I have kept an account of the weather on each of those days:

Tuesday, Jan. 6th, answering to January—Fair.

Wednesday (February)—Windy.

Thursday (March)—Showery.

Friday (April)—Fine.

Saturday (May)—Very fine and warm.

Sunday (June) Cold and windy in the morning; very wet and stormy in the evening.

Monday (July)—Very fine.

Tuesday (August)—Cold and foggy.

Wednesday (September)—Fine; cold in the morning.

Thursday (October)—Stormy, morning and evening; fair in the day.

Friday (November)—Very windy till three in the afternoon; fair till seven; then slight showers.

Saturday (December)—Fair in day; stormy evening.

ALMANACK.

“[Letter to the Editor] Manx Superstitions.” *Isle of Man Times* 24 January
1874: 8e.

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