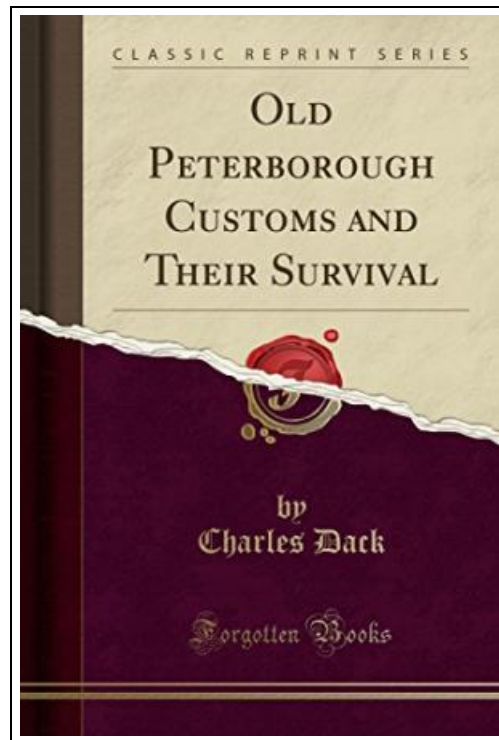


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Forgotten Books. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 28 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.1in. Excerpt from Old Peterborough Customs and Their Survival In the country, if refused a present, the boys were yoked to the plough, and the path in front of the house ploughed up. In the town, the toe of the share was inserted under the scraper, and the plough-boys tugged, and away went the scraper. They were called Plough Witches and Mumpers. The leader used to repeat some doggerel, but I can only remember one verse, and unfortunately I have not been able to find anyone who can remember more. It was: -Look ye here and look ye there, And look ye over yander, And there youll see the old grey gooseA smiling at the gander. A Mr. Towers, in 1711, left 10 to be laid out in land, and the rent to be given to the poor in candles on Plough Monday. The occupants of the alms-houses have been the recipients for many years. I should imagine this gift was intended for Candlemas Day. February 14th, St. Valentines Day, is still observed, and it is the custom for the night of the 13th February to be called Baulk Valentine, as on this night mischievous people or urchins would give runaway knocks, or ring the bells at various houses. Sometimes a packet or parcel, affixed to a piece of string, was put on the doorstep, a knock given, and the person answering and opening the door would see the parcel and stoop to pick it up; then the lad with the string would jerk it away. Occasionally, these packets were sent by spiteful people, and had pins fixed in them point upward to catch and scratch their hands. On this evening (February 13th), those...



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