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THE MOON.

[From Harper's Weekly.]

Everybody accords the sun the privilege
of regulating the course of the
seasons. Their majestic alternations har-
monize well with the march of a heav-
enly body that constantly meets our eyes
with the same invariable aspect. But
changes of the weather, so unexpected
and frequent, seem to require, people
think, a more variable origin. If we
consider the daily vicissitudes of rain
and sunshine, of fogs, winds, clear skies,
and clouds, the moon is the only heav-
enly body whose rapid alterations of form
and position answer to such unceasing
variations.

In truth, the moon's course does
really offer numerous periodical changes,
without taking into account anomalous
events, such as eclipses and others. If
the weather's caprices are more or less
periodical, they can hardly be richer in
contrasted periods than the moon her-
self is. Moreover, prediction-makers
have the additional resource of lunistics,
when the moon is stationary; of the
epochs when her declination is either
north or south, when she crosses the
equator or the ecliptic, when she is on
the same side of the equator as the sun,
or on the opposite side. Note well that
all these circumstances really have some
influence on the ebbing and flowing of
the sea; whence, sailors do not fail to
conclude, they also influence the tides
of our aerial ocean.

If we accepted literally every lunar
prejudice, the moon would rule many
things besides the weather. Madmen
and lunatics would be subject to her
power. There are veterinary surgeons
who say that the sight of certain horses
becomes dim or clear according to the
phases of the moon. Woodmen insist
that if trees are felled with a waning
moon, the wood will speedily decay.
Housewives declare that if you kill your
pig, as you ought, with a crescent moon,
the bacon will swell nicely in the boil-
ing, if, on the contrary, when she is on
the wane, it will shrivel, shrink, and be
hard and good for nothing. Finally, all
sailors in a mass, except the most highly
educated officers, attribute every change
of weather to the moon. Why? Nobody
knows.

It is exactly because prejudices are
beyond the reach of discussion that it is
so difficult to bring them to reason.
Natural philosophers have perfectly ex-
plained the phenomena attributed to the
red moon (the lunation between the
Paschal and the Pentecostal moons)
responsible for the morning frosts which
frequently occur at that season. But
the ancients never entertained the idea
that the moon's phases were the cause
of changes in the weather; it was Ju-
piter's privilege to assemble the clouds
and to dart the thunder-bolts. The
lucky and unlucky days of the lunar
month belong to astrology, and not to
meteorology. Bouvard, Arago, and many
others have proved, by long series of
observations, that the moon does not
affect the weather. Labor in vain! The
majority of sailors interpret the moon's
age, each according to his own private
rule of belief. The only effectual refuta-
tion would be to strike at the root of the
evil in early youth, and make school-
children repeatedly recite and copy truth-
ful sentences, such as: "It is ridiculous
to believe in sorcerers, witches, were-
wolves, and red moons." "It is not true
that the new moon changes the weather,
that the full moon sets up the clouds,
that thunder-bolts are made of stone,"
and other ideas of the vulgar creed. Ac-
curate knowledge of facts might thus be
promoted by a catechism of things not
to be believed.

The dairymen north of this city are
seriously alarmed concerning an
epidemic that has broken out among
their cattle. From eating dew-covered
white clover, a certain highly expansive
gas is formed in the bovine stomach which
penetrates to all parts of the animals
bodies, causing death in a few hours.
There is only one known remedy, and
that is to thrust a knife into the sides of
the afflicted cattle just behind the shoul-
der blades. This affords an outlet for
the gas and brings instant relief. Cattle
suffering from the gaseous complaint
look as though they had been fed on
compressed yeast. The dairymen have
associated themselves together for mutual
protection, and by adopting this method
manage to prevent a very extensive
mortality, though probably a hundred
cows have died from the disease thus far.
The gentle herdsmen now go around
with long, keen knives, which they slip
into the sides of their cows when occasion
requires. The cornfield subdivisions
north of the city have been converted
into immense clover fields, and it is here
the grazing kine are encountering the
death-dealing white variety. Dairymen
call the disease "clovering." It has not
yet attacked the pumps, and the milk
merchants do not feel entirely disheart-
ened.—[Indianapolis Journal, May 14.]

THE PIOCHE WEEKLY RECORD.

VOL. XVI.

PIOCHE, NEV., SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1878.

NO. 12

A BOY'S ACCOUNT OF HOW HAR- MONY WAS RESTORED IN A DISTURBED FAMILY.

[Worcester Gazette.]
My teacher wants me to write a com-
position on soap. I like to write com-
positions better than arithmetic, cause
I can write lots of it out of the encyclo-
pedier—I wonder why they can't call
that thing a dictionary, or something
that you can pronounce without hearing
your jaw crack—but I don't see much
soap in it. It says 'soap is a compound
formed by the union of alkalis with
oils and fats.' That's a blamed lie (my
big brother, who is looking over my
shoulder, says no it ain't, it's an alkali,
and then he luffed), and if I was an en-
cyclopedier man I would know better than
that.

Soap is stuff you wash with and make
bubbles with. Strikers use soap to rub
on the railroad tracks or grease, and that
stops the engine from going cause the
wheels run round just like a horse to a
treadmill what they saw wood with up
at the depot. I like horses, but I
wouldn't like to be a treadmill horse.
I'd like to be a striker, cause it must be
fun to grease the tracks with soap and
see the train stop and the passengers
and engineer get out and talk.

The most I know about soap is Mon-
days, cause mother she washes on Mon-
days and father stays over to the store.
I always go off Mondays and stay away
from home as late as I can. My mother
on washing day gets up blue, and by
nine o'clock she is red, by ten o'clock
she is cross, and by eleven o'clock she
is mad.

One day, when my mother was look-
ing red and wild and gritting her teeth
and rolling up her sleeves and firing
chairs at the dog and yelling at the hens
—that's what she always does when she
commences to wash—the grocery man
he drove up to the door and h'isted out
a box of soap and shoved it in the door.
I knew it was from father, cause mother
had been growling at him for not get-
ting better soap.

Well, I crawled off about the usual
time, but I noticed father lying around
like, outside of the house, as if he was
watching the effect of the soap. When-
ever mother made an unusually big
spatter in the wash-tub, he would climb
off to the barn and wait till things got
quiet, and then he would sneak back
and look into the windows.

I met Ananias Tompkins while I
was looking in the village, and he said,
let's go fishing; so I went back to the
woodshed to get my lines. I went in
awful quiet and thought no one heard
me, but it was about noon and the fire
had gone down, and mother came out
for wood to stoke it up. I heard her
coming, and when I remembered what
mother was on washing days I com-
menced to shake. I tried to hide, but
she seen me; but I never got such a
start like I did when she didn't take me
by the nape of the neck and sling me all
round the woodshed. No she just said
poor boy, you must be hungry, and I
said you bet I am, and she said come in
and get some dinner, and I went in and
got some dinner, and it wasn't bread
and water and last Saturday's potatoes
neither, but a real dinner.

Then father came creeping in, leaving
all the doors open behind him, so he
could scoot out if she tried to comb his
hair with the washboard. He shied
when she came in, and I got in a corner
'cause I hadn't any idea father would
get off without being rubbed down with
a broomstick; but marn just went up to
him kind of easy and said, "Don't be
alarmed, Edward, I know I have not
been the wife I should be to you on
Mondays, but I no longer have to under-
go the terrible ordeal of a big wash with
incompetent soap."

Then father hugged her and said,
"I'll live on soap hereafter. I'll paper
the rooms with it. I'll put soap shingles
on the roof. I'll fill the cellar with it.
I'll feed it to the hens. I'll have soap
furniture put in the spare room, I'll
stoke the pennies on Sunday to send soap
to the heathen. I'll—I'll—" You'll eat
your dinner," said mother and she sat
him down in a chair, and you would
have thought his throat was soaped.
"It's like a romance ain't it?" said he.
"My son," said he, "give over your
childish ideas of being a circus man and
direct your budding intellect to soap."
Father is wild to get me into a soap
factory. He's got in another lot of soap,
and mother ain't so much as soiled at
him since. That's all I know about
soap.

The Germania prints the text of the
settlement between the Roman Catholic
hierarchy and the republic of Colombia,
by which the priests have been restored
to the exercise of their ecclesiastical
functions. The point at issue between
the parties was the extent of the au-
thority of the state in Church affairs.
The clergy of the republic sign the fol-
lowing declaration: "We declare that
by our adhesion to the protest of our
bishop against the laws decreeing the
supervision of divine worship, and
against the banishment of some bishops,
we have only fulfilled a duty of con-
science. But we did not and do not in-
tend by this act to disturb public order
in the slightest degree. Farther, we have
no intention of refusing the state that
obedience which we owe to it according
to the prescriptions of religion and mor-
ality, and as servants of the Catholic
Church. On the contrary, our office im-
poses upon us the duty of striving to
maintain peace, and of instructing the
people in this sense, as we do by this
declaration." Suits against all priests
who sign this declaration are withdrawn,
and they are restored to their positions.

TEST OF TRUE FRIENDSHIP.

There is no sentiment so difficult to
test as that of "True Friendship," and
yet how often men think they are sur-
rounded by real friends, when all is hol-
low and selfish in the regard and the
favors of their acquaintances towards
them. "A friend should bear a friend's
infirmities," these are very pretty id-
as about friendship, but they are but as
the outline of one wave compared with a
panorama of the whole ocean. They
give no definition of a thing almost
indefinable, and which the divining rod
of no eloquent philology has yet
pierced to its core.

We may give, however, a more perfect
idea of it, by saying that a true friend is
never non-committal; never lacking in
zealous consolation and advice when we
apply to him in sorrow or doubt for
counsel; never halting or simulating
when he is to judge between us and an-
other friend; never dumb when he hears
us reviled in our absence; never wordy,
when we are present; in our praise or
blame; always as ready to act and think
regarding us; and as clear as a mirror,
and steadfast as the sun; that his candor
and uniformity, his stability, faith
and distinctness are always an ark of
safety and solace. This is true friend-
ship; here is a true friend. How few
and far between are they. How many
selfish and vague characters there are,
wrongly exalted to an eminence like this.
When we start in life, friends appear
everywhere; "but old birds are hard to
be caught with chaff." The colors of
the rose die from their characters; and
as the soul of the self immolated Hindoo,
appears the horrible deformity of the
Juggernaut, whose wheels have crushed
him into view of the wild and immortal
beauty of the real God, so glare the
threadbare fabrics, who retro once we
looked for affection and faith. So rare
is fidelity that dogs are universally treas-
ured for their chief trait; and love with-
out it is trained into hatred and a curse.

Reader, if among your acquaintances,
you detect in any one the above gems
of a rare and noble nature, remember that
they are the nucleus of the brightest
graces of human character, and be-
come the object of their benignity, if you
care.—[New Age.]

New York Tribune: A quaint old
rustic friend of President Lincoln, talk-
ing the other day of Lincoln's life at Old
Salem, and his liking for Miss Rutledge,
whom he was engaged to marry, said that
when she died, "Lincoln took it so much
to heart that we thought he would go
crazy. He wrote mournful verses from
Burns' poems with chalk on the fence,
and hummed sad songs for a long while.
Mary Todd was a nice girl, but she
couldn't hold a candle to Ann Rutledge."

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an assessment (No. 1) of Five Cents (5c) per
share was levied upon the capital stock of the
corporation, payable immediately in United
States gold coin, to the Secretary, at the office
of the Company, Room 15, No. 310 Pine street,
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Any stock upon which this assessment shall
remain unpaid on Monday, the 10th of
June, 1878, will be delinquent, and advertised
for sale at public auction, and unless pay-
ment is made before will be sold on Monday, the 8th
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