

# MOON AND THE CROPS.

What is Their Probable Relation to Each Other.

Yorkville Enquirer.

What influence, if any, does the moon have on the seasons? This is a long mooted question, and as to how it will be answered by different people depends entirely upon circumstances. For instance, if a man's father believed in the moon before him, then he is pretty apt to believe in it himself. If he was raised in ignorance or disregard of the traditions respecting the moon, then he is likely to continue that way. That is, unless there should happen, at sometime, some incident that serves to furnish strong and convincing evidence one way or the other.

I am not a farmer. I know nothing about the moon. Until recently, I did not know that the first two quarters of the new moon were called the "light," and the last two quarters were called the "dark." All my life I have heard farmers talking of "planting in the moon," but not being able to understand how the moon could exercise influence on crops, I have been disposed to dismiss matters relating to the moon as idle superstition. Recently I have undertaken to investigate the matter, and while I have not been able to learn anything that seems to be of practical value to anybody, the result of some of my inquiries have been somewhat interesting. I know very little more now, however, than I did before.

Not having at hand any literature on the subject, my investigations took the shape of a series of inquiries of different people who were supposed to be more or less versed on the prevailing theories. One of the first men I happened to speak to was a learned minister of the gospel. He said, "Well, I really do not know much about the influence of the moon on the seasons; but I suppose it has some. For instance, if you will read Deuteronomy, xxxiii, 14, where Moses was invoking his last blessings on the children of Israel, you will find this: 'And for the precious things of the fruits of the sun; and for the precious things of the growth of the moon.' Going on to Psalm civ, 19, you will find this: 'He appointed the moon for seasons.'"

Some people believe that every word of the Bible is inspired, and that it means just what it says. I am not going to discuss that now; but I think the good minister for his references. The quotations at least show that the belief with regard to the influence of the moon on crops is a very old one. It is not confined entirely to the ignorant and superstitious. Intelligent people, even if they are unable to give a satisfactory "why," seem to have very good ground for believing as they do.

Next, I made inquiry of a well educated man who had been a farmer all his life; but was not certain as to how much importance to attach to the influence of the moon. He said to me: "Most of my neighbors believed in the moon more than in the seasons, and were not disposed to plant until the moon was right. I wrote to the North Carolina Experiment station and asked them to give me whatever information they might have on the subject. Their reply was to the effect that while there is no doubt that the moon has more or less influence on crops, I had better go ahead and plant whenever I should find it convenient to do so, for they did not think that the influence of the moon was great enough to make much difference."

Several farmers to whom I talked were of opinion that the moon had no influence whatever on the crops; but they were unable to give positive proof or even reasons. Others believed in the moon with exactly the same kind of faith. But while there were many who did not think that the moon influenced crops, there were quite a number who thought it certainly influenced the quality of timber. Nine out of 10 said that timber felled in the dark of the moon would continue wet and sobby, impossible to season, while timber cut in the light of the moon would season quickly and become light and dry. Only a few gave testimony to the effect that they had ever gotten opposite and perfectly satisfactory results from timber cut in the "dark" of the moon. One man, however—and he is intelligent and reliable—said that he had felled timber in the dark of the moon and had it to season as nicely as any he had ever seen.

One of the most positive disbelievers in the moon theory was an old gentleman who is between 70 and 80 years of age. He has been engaged in farming much of his life, and has always been recognized of an unusually investigating turn of mind. He says that he has noted the moon superstition with more or less humor all his life. He calls it a superstition, because he is convinced that it is such, and started on his career with that information as a part of his stock of experience. Here is the story with which he explains his position. "In

his day and time, my grandfather was looked upon by his neighbors as a man of much more than ordinary intelligence. He was not what you would call an educated man; but still he could read and write, and keep accounts, etc. He was a farmer all his life, and up until he was 80 years of age worked in the field at whatever was to be done. He was a great believer in the moon, and what he did not know about the moon's influence on crops, nobody else knew. He would not think of planting, killing hogs or doing anything else that the moon is supposed to have control of, unless the moon was right. After he was forced, by age, etc., to quit his active labors in the field, he continued to direct operations, saw that proper respect was paid to the moon, and kept a careful diary of everything that was done on the farm, showing just where the moon was when different crops were planted. He kept this up for 20 years. He lived to be 101 years of age. Well, about a year before he died, he was entirely converted. To his children, grand-children, friends and neighbors, he repeatedly made this observation: 'Well, now I am a hundred years old, and I have only reached that age to discover what a fool I have been all my life. All this time, I have believed that the moon exercised a most important influence on every crop, and during the past 20 years I have demonstrated beyond a possible doubt that its influence on the crop is simply nothing.' So the old gentleman, who has had the benefit of this experience, is thoroughly convinced that there is absolutely nothing in the moon theory.

Ordinarily this might be taken to settle the whole question; but still I was not satisfied. I had heard of another intelligent farmer who had the reputation of being not only thoroughly informed as to the influence of the moon; but who could give me some facts and figures. I had a talk with him and he got me all mixed up again. "I have been noticing the moon for 30 years," he said, "and it certainly exerts not only a wonderful influence on timber, but on all manner of crops. And why not? Your geography teaches you that the moon influences the tides, and if it influences the tides, why not other things? No, I cannot give you reasons; but I can give you something that is better—I mean facts."

"When I was a young man growing up, I did not believe much in the moon. But one day an old gentleman who did believe in it, gave me the whole theory, etc. I was going to build a fence, and he told me to cut my timber in the light of the moon. It was convenient to carry out his advice and I did as he said; but as I wanted to satisfy myself a little further, I experimented some. I went out in the dark of the moon, cut a pine sapling about 20 feet long and threw it down in a worn-out old field. The next week I cut another sapling, just like the first in the light of the moon, also put it out in the field by the side of the first. At the end of two years the sapling that I had cut in the dark of the moon was so rotten that it would not hold up its own weight, while the other was still sound. I cut another sapling in the dark of the moon and let it lie for two years, at the end of which time, both it and the sapling that I had cut in the light of the moon were rotten. The test was in every way absolutely fair, and the light of the moon sapling lasted just twice as long as the other. "Since then," the gentleman continued, "I have made other tests, not only for my own satisfaction but for the satisfaction of others. For instance I weighed a cord of wood cut in the dark of the moon in August, and found that it is 220 pounds heavier than a cord of wood cut in the light of the moon during the same month. Then I tried it again in December, when the sap was all down, and I found that the difference was only about 110 pounds: the wood that was cut in the dark of the moon still being the heavier."

"It has been my observation that there is very little in the general theory that root crops should be planted in the dark of the moon and other crops in the light of the moon. It is a fact that sweet potatoes, for instance, will make more vines if planted in the light of the moon; but then the potatoes will also be about as good. I invariably plant corn in the dark of the moon, and I find that it will weigh just two pounds in the bushel more than if planted in the light of the moon. As to whether there is any more substance in it, I am unable to say; but it is a fact that the weight is there."

"Again: Cut peavines in the dark of the moon, and they will weigh something like 200 pounds more to the two-horse load than if cut in the light of the moon. I have tried this time and again; but the right time to cut peavines is in the light of the moon. They cure out better and make a much finer quality of hay."

And so it goes. I find some intelligent men on one side and some on the other. Those who believe in the moon differ as to details; but their belief is unshakable. Those who do not believe in the moon are not to be convinced by statements of facts, principally because the facts are not accompanied by reasons.

## W. C. T. U. DEPARTMENT.

Conducted by the Ladies of the W. C. T. U. of Anderson, S. C.

### What One Woman Did.

A working man in the village of Shannon, Ill., spent \$50 in one of the four saloons of the place one evening recently. His wife, justly indignant, sought to punish the saloon keepers. She set a watch over two of the saloons on Sunday and took the name of every man seen entering. Then she went before the grand jury, in session at Mt. Carroll, and entered complaint, giving as witnesses the names of the men who had been seen going into the saloons on Sunday. The sheriff was sent to Shannon after them. He reached there between midnight and daylight, and with the assistance of the local constable, routed out fourteen scared men and served subpoenas on them. They all went to Mt. Carroll and testified, and the grand jury found twelve indictments against one saloon keeper and one against the other. Both pleaded guilty. The latter was fined \$50; the other one fled the town in dismay, and his bonds-men will probably have his fines to pay. The good people of Shannon are hoping the spring election will result in closing all the saloons.

### The Difference.

The young man who thinks he can afford to take two or three glasses of beer or whiskey each day and never miss the sum he spends, would do well to reckon up how much these drinks would amount to in the course of a year. Some ten years ago three young men in Columbus, Ohio, carpenters by trade, engaged to work for a builder, promising to stay with him until a certain piece of work was completed. They were to receive the same wages, and were to draw them as they chose. The work lasted from spring until Christmas. On the final settlement one of the young men, who frequented the tavern and was a pretty hard drinker, found a balance to his credit of \$2.50. The second, who was a somewhat moderate drinker, had \$11; the third, who was a teetotaler, had \$150. The first and second wore very seedy clothes and were in debt. The third had a good suit of clothes and no debt. Surely total abstinence pays! —*Temperance Banner.*

### Who Is Responsible?

A quiet, well-to-do neighborhood is shocked by a horrid crime. An innocent life is sacrificed and other lives are wrecked. "He was drunk," is the explanation. That is the statement of the immediate cause, but does that sum up the case? Is the community innocent? Have the people been active in sustaining the public sentiment against intemperance? Have they, by the enforcement of the laws, done all in their power to prevent the sale of liquors? Have drunken men been arrested and made to suffer for their crime? Have the people, who are themselves temperate, felt that they are responsible for the social customs of their community and the personal habits of those under their care? Do they realize that the individual is, in large measure, the product of the community in which he has been brought up and lives? —*United Presbyterian.*

### Keep Your Top Cool.

It is reported of Armetus Ward that he once offered his flask of whiskey to the driver of the stage on the top of which he was riding through a mountainous section. The stage driver refused the flask in most decided tones. Said he: "I don't drink; I won't drink; I don't like to see anybody else drink. I am of the opinion of those mountains: keep your top cool. They have got snow and I've got brains; that's all the difference."

There's a great deal of wisdom in his remark, "Keep your top cool." Without a sound brain man is not much use to the world. Alcohol, whether in beer, cider, wine, brandy, or whiskey, is a foe of the brain; and when it gets there it inflames it and renders it unfit for use. Be like the honest stage driver and resolve to "keep your top cool." —*Little Folks' Paper.*

### "Only Three."

Many a man has gone to a drunkard's grave because he could not say "No." Daniel and his associates dared to say "No," and would not drink a glass of wine to please the mightiest king on earth, though they were captives, dependent on his mercy and his bounty. What was the result? They were blessed and honored, and their names are known through the ages, while the time-serving wine-bibbers are forgotten long ago. He who stands for the right need not fear what man can do unto him; and honest men will respect honesty and consistency.

When, as a brigadier general, Clinton B. Fisk was in command of the military district of St. Louis, it became his duty on one occasion to officially receive and welcome to that city an eminent major general coming to

take command of the military department. Gen. Fisk, accompanied by an aid-de-camp, met his commander on the east side of the river (there was no bridge then) and escorted him, with his aid-de-camp, across the river by ferry and to the hotel in which he had engaged a suite of rooms for him.

As soon as they were within the parlor—at once assuming the place of host and ready to treat the other officers as his guests—the major general ordered a servant to bring four whiskey punches.

"Only three, if you please, General; excuse me," promptly and courteously spoke Gen. Fisk.

"You'll not refuse to drink with me, will you?" said the superior officer.

"If I should drink now, it would be the first time. You would not advise me to begin now, would you, General?"

"No, God bless you! Long may you wave!" was the gracious and gallant response.

Long has he waved since then, and long will generals and governors and merchants and ministers and boot-blacks and laundrymen—men and women and children of all sects and conditions—thank God for the genial and helpful influence which Gen. Fisk's bright, cherry words and ways have shed upon them. —*The Christian.*

### A Remarkable Operation.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., July 6.—An autopsy was held this morning on the body of Rabbi Louis Ginsburg, who died last night from a knife wound inflicted by a negro on the morning of July 4. The autopsy corroborated the claims of Dr. F. L. Forker, who performed the remarkable operation of sewing the wound in the heart.

Rabbi Ginsburg lived for forty hours after the wound in the heart was sewed up, and death is said to have been due to septic inflammation of the pericardium rather than from loss of blood.

When Dr. Forker reached the place after the tragedy he found the Rabbi nearly dead from loss of blood. During the operation he transfused into the man's veins about three quarts of saline solution to take the place of the lost blood and keep up life. It was then necessary to cut off one of the ribs and push back two others in order to get an opening to perform the operation. Then, in spite of the flow of blood, Dr. Forker, assisted by Drs. L. H. Quackenbush and C. G. Cole, took three stitches in the heart and stopped the flow of blood.

One of the stitches was taken deeply into the muscles of the heart, and the other two through the heart skin. As soon as the operation was performed the Rabbi regained consciousness, and remained conscious up to the minute of his death. —*Philadelphia Ledger.*

### Blood Poison and Cancer Cured by B. B. Trial Bottle Sent Free.

Deadly Cancer of the face, neck, legs, lip, eating cancer or sores, cured by B. B. B.—Botanic Blood Balm. B. B. B. cures by driving the deadly, virulent poison, which causes cancer, out of the blood. This is the only cure and B. B. B. is the only remedy that can do this. In the same way B. B. B. cures Blood Poison whether inherited or acquired, producing ulcers, painful swellings, blotches, pimples, copper-colored spots, falling out of the hair, sores in the throat or tongue, scrofula. B. B. B. has made hundreds of permanent cures, and is a thoroughly tested, powerful Blood Remedy. Cures where all else fails. Tested for 30 years. To prove its curative powers, we send a sample bottle free to any one who writes for it. Large bottles for sale by all druggists for \$1, or 6 bottles (full treatment) \$5. For sample bottle address Blood Balm Co., 380 Mitchell St., Atlanta, Ga.

Dentists in Germany are using false teeth made of paper instead of porcelain or mineral composition. These paper teeth are said to be very satisfactory, as they do not break or chip, are not sensitive to heat or cold or to the action of the moisture of the mouth, and are very cheap.

Persons troubled with diarrhoea will be interested in the experience of Mr. W. M. Bush, clerk of Hotel Dorrance, Providence, R. I. He says: "For several years I have been almost a constant sufferer from diarrhoea, the frequent attacks completely prostrating me and rendering me unfit for my duties at this hotel. About two years ago a traveling salesman kindly gave me a small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Much to my surprise and delight its effects were immediate. Whenever I felt symptoms of the disease I would fortify myself against the attack with a few doses of this valuable remedy. The result has been very satisfactory and almost complete relief from the affliction." For sale by Hill, Orr Drug Co.

Lady—"What! Willy Green, you here fishing on Sunday? I shall tell your father just as soon as I see him." Willy Green—"Well, you won't have to wait long. Here he comes now. He has been back in the woods diggin' bait!"

A diseased stomach surely undermines health. It dulls the brain, kills energy, destroys the nervous system, and predisposes to insanity and fatal diseases. All dyspeptic troubles are quickly cured by Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. It has cured thousands of cases and is curing them every day. Its ingredients are such that it can't help curing. Evans Pharmacy.

### New Yellow Fever Treatment.

NASHVILLE, TENN., July 9.—A letter received to-day by Will T. Hale, of this city, from his son, Charles, now in Santiago, Cuba, gives some insight into the yellow fever situation there. He is an officer in the 5th United States infantry. The letter says: "Since I wrote you last yellow fever has broken out here. It carried off four members of the regimental band in three days, and in two weeks we have lost twenty-seven men out of our regiment. Four of these were of Company M, the one to which I belong."

"One night at 9 o'clock the physicians made us get outside the barracks, with nothing on but the Cuban atmosphere, our guns, belts and one hundred rounds of ammunition. He would not allow us to carry a 'rag' out with us. The next morning our company was divided up into small squads, in charge of a non-commissioned officer, and scattered all about the country."

### In The Police Court—Tried and Judgment in Its Favor.

Some time ago Judge Andy E. Calhoun, judge of the police court of Atlanta, had occasion to pass a sentence that was gratifying to him, and if people will take his advice much suffering will be alleviated. The judge is subject to nervous sickheadaches and dyspepsia. Here is his sentence: "I am a great sufferer from nervous sick headache and have found no remedy so effective as Tyner's Dyspepsia Remedy. If taken when the headache first begins it invariably cures." Price 30 cents per bottle. For sale by Wilhite & Wilhite. Sample bottle free on application to Tyner's Dyspepsia Remedy Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Henry Clews, in talking to some young men on the best way to amass wealth, advised simply adherence to the Biblical command to do with all our might whatever our hands find to do.

You can't cure dyspepsia by dieting. Eat good, wholesome food, and plenty of it.—Kodol Dyspepsia Cure digests food without aid from the stomach, and is made to cure. Evans Pharmacy.

Luther said that if a man were not strong at 20, handsome at 30, learned at 40, and rich at 50, he would never be strong, handsome or rich.

"Haven't you any faith in men, Dorothy?" "Yes, I have faith in them, but I never believe a word they say."

Thomas Rhoads, Centerfield, O., writes: "I suffered from piles seven or eight years. No remedy gave me relief until DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, less than a box of which permanently cured me." Soothing, healing, perfectly harmless. Beware of counterfeits. Evans Pharmacy.

## WILL YOU ?

Before you buy a PIANO see me. I have saved to some of my customers as much as seventy-five dollars in the purchase of ONE PIANO. Such makes as Chickering, Emerson, Stutz & Bauer and Mehlin to select from. None better. As to ORGANS you can save from fifteen to twenty-five dollars by seeing me. Remember, I am in the SEWING MACHINE business, just for fun. You can get prices on any of the high grade makes; and do not forget that I sell any 40c Tobacco in 10 lb. Caddies for 30c. The finest Sperm Oil 5c. per bottle. Nothing but new, select stock. Remember the place—M. L. WILLIS, South Main St., Anderson, S. C.

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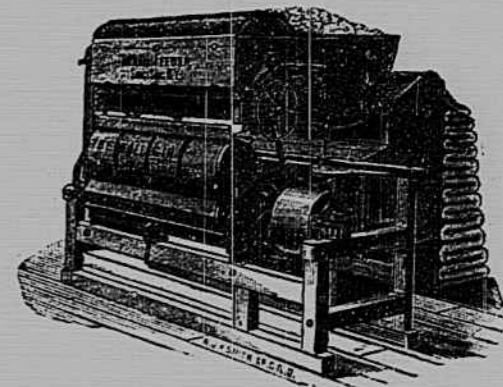
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The demand for this celebrated Gin grows with each year. They satisfy the Ginners as to speed and durability and the customer with the out-turn and sample. Mr. T. F. Drake ginned nearly 800 bales with a 60-Saw Hall last season without paying a cent for repairs, and he has a Gin that gives him perfect satisfaction.

Among the advantages of the Hall Gin are the Iron Cove (patented), the Curved Seed Board, the Flanges on side of Cove to throw roll from the Roll Box Plate and prevent all friction on the ends; the Linter for holding seed in roll; to clean seed; it is next to impossible to break the roll; the Self-Opening Boxes are on all the Gins.

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Premium List in every package. Cut out your Lion's Head and get valuable premiums free.

Does not harm Lion Coffee in its store, send us his name and address that we may place it on sale there. Do not accept any substitutes. WOODSON SPICE CO., Toledo, Ohio.

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Are always complete. Yours to please,

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## MOLASSES, MOLASSES.

If you need a Jarrel of Molasses you can't afford to buy until you have seen us. We have just received a big lot—all grades—and know we can please you in both quality and price. Also, new lot of—

Shoes, Dry Goods and Notions

That we will sell cheap, and we have a few Shoes and other Goods that we are still selling at 50c. and 75c. on the dollar. Here are only a few prices:

Muscovado Molasses..... 33c. per gallon.  
Good Molasses..... 12c. per gallon.  
Good Coffee..... 12c. per gallon.  
40c. Tobacco in 10 lb. Caddies for..... 30c.  
Jeans Pants..... 40c.  
Shirts..... 15c.

**FLOUR, CORN, MEAT, LARD, Etc.,**  
AT BOTTOM PRICES.

Yours for Business,  
**MOORE, ACKER & CO.,**  
EAST SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE—CORNER STORE.  
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They that want the best and prettiest to be obtained in Diamonds, Jewelry, Silver and Plated Ware, Watches and Clocks that will keep time and are backed with a guarantee, Fine China and Glassware and beautiful Novelties, know that to Will. R. Hubbard's is the place to go. They that want honest treatment know that this is the place to find it. All Goods are just as represented, and are fully covered by guarantee.

The young man who has a girl and wants to keep her goes there. Hubbard will help you keep her. The young married couple goes there to beautify their little home. Hubbard beautifies it for you. The rich people go there because they can afford it, and the poor go there, also, because they can afford it.

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