

Lore of Weather Signs

SOME PROVERBS AND WISE OLD SAWS

For the purpose of separating the true from the untrue weather sayings, the United States government officials have recently made a comprehensive investigation of English weather lore, and have published the traditions which may be of truthful guidance to an American. They have raked over the whole language and separated the wheat from the chaff. In addition they have printed laws which they themselves have enacted to govern their predictions. The work has been done under the supervision of Edward B. Garriott, Professor of Meteorology, and Willis L. Moore, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau.

The following proverbs, for example, are given to show how one may predict a change in weather by the action of the atmosphere on various things:

When walls are unusually damp rain is expected.

Horses sweating in the stable is a sign of rain.

Doors and windows are hard to shut in damp weather.

Fires sting and are more troublesome than usual when the humidity increases before rain.

Sailors note the tightening of the cordage on ships as a sign of coming rain.

Sensitive plants contract their leaves and blossoms when the humidity increases.

A piece of seaweed hung up will become damp previous to rain.

A lump of hemp acts as a good hygrometer and prognosticates rain when it is damp.

Tobacco becomes moist preceding rain.

When rheumatic people complain of more than ordinary pains it will probably rain.

When the locks turn damp in the scaphouse surely it will rain.—American Indians.

If corn, wounds and sores itch or ache more than usual rain is likely to fall shortly.

When matting on the floor is shrinking dry weather may be expected. When matting expands expect wet weather.

Ropes shorten with an increase of humidity.

Three foggy or misty mornings indicate rain.

Quarries of stone and slate indicate rain by a moist exudation from the stones.

Salt increases in weight before rain.

A farmer's wife says when her cheese salt is soft it will rain; when getting dry, fair weather may be expected.

If metal plates and dishes sweat it is a sign of bad weather.—Pliny.

Three foggy or misty mornings indicate rain.—Oregon.

A rising fog indicates fair weather; if the fog settles down expect rain.

Fog from seaward, fair weather; fog from land, rain.—New England.

Hoarfrost indicates rain.

Heavy frosts bring heavy rain; no frosts, no rain.—California.

The larger the halo about the moon the nearer the rain clouds and the sooner the rain may be expected.

When the perfume of flowers is unusually perceptible rain may be expected.

When the mountain moss is dry and brittle expect clear weather.

Sunflower raising its head indicates rain.

Rainbow in morning, shepherds take warning.

Rainbow at night, shepherd's delight.

Rainbow at night, sailors' delight.

Rainbow in morning, sailor's take warning.

Rainbow in the morning shows that shower is west of us, and that we will probably get it. Rainbow in the evening shows that shower is east of us and is passing off.

Snakes expose themselves on the approach of rain.

In dry weather, when creeks and springs that have gone dry, become moist, or, as we say, begin to sweat, it indicates approaching rain. Many springs that have gone dry will give a good flow of water just before rain.

—J. E. Walker, Kansas.

Drains, ditches and dunghills are more offensive before rain.

Floors saturated with oil become very damp just before rain.

Guitar strings shorten before rain.

Human hair (red) curls and kinks at the approach of a storm, and straightens after the storm.

Lamp wicks crackle, candles burn dim, soot falls down, smoke descends, walls and pavements are damp, and disagreeable odors arise from ditches and gutters before rain.

Pipes for smoking tobacco become indicative of the state of the air. When the scent is longer retained than usual and seems denser and more powerful it often forebodes a storm.

Soap covered moisture indicates bad weather.

It has well been known that animals are able to foretell storm or fair weather with an instinct practically unknown to man. Many sayings are based on the actions of beasts, birds, fish and insects, and here are a few which the Washington weather prophets regard as true:

Dogs making holes in the ground, eating grass in the morning or refusing meat are said to indicate rain.—Colonel Dunwoody.

All shepherds agree in saying that before a storm comes sheep become frisky, leap and butt or "box" each other.—Folklore Journal.

When horses and cattle stretch out their necks and sniff the air it will rain.

Horses as well as other domestic animals foretell the coming of rain by starting more than ordinary and appearing in other respects restless and uneasy.

Hogs crying and running unequally up and down with hay or litter in their mouths foreshadow a storm to be near at hand.—Thomas Willsford.

Kine, when they assemble at one end of a field with their tails to windward often indicate rain or wind.

When birds of long flight hang about home expect a storm.

Migratory birds fly south from cold and north from warm weather. When a severe cyclone is near they become puzzled and fly in circles, dart into the air, and can easily be decoyed.—North Carolina.

When birds cease to sing rain and thunder will probably occur.

Birds and fowls oiling feathers indicate rain.

If fowls roll in the dust or sand rain is near at hand.

Bats flying late in the evening indicate fair weather. Bats which squeak flying tell of rain tomorrow.

If cocks crow late and early, clapping their wings occasionally, rain is expected.—Ex.

HOOSIERISMS

Little Items of Interest
All Over the Length and
Breadth of Indiana.

Marshall Takes Office in January.
Thomas R. Marshall will take office as Governor on January 11, 1908.

Building Good Roads.
Nine gravel roads will be constructed in Hamilton county at a cost of \$80,000.

Awful Death of Baby Boy.
Robert Heath, 3 years old, fell into a tub of hot suds and was scalded to death at Anderson.

Only Nine for Higen in Old Home.
The official vote in Pike county gives Thomas L. Higen, Independence League candidate for President, only nine votes. Higen is a Pike county man.

To Vote on County Option.
Plans are already under way to circulate a petition for a vote on local option in Grant county, the leaders in the movement desiring to act while the people are still agitated over the liquor question.

Her Peculiar Accident.
Miss Anna Lanagan, stenographer for Mayor Shattuck, of Brazil, while dressing, stepped on a bar of soap, which threw her to the floor, breaking her right arm.

Dynamited the Postoffice.
Burglars dynamited the postoffice at Lowell and got away with stamps and money amounting to \$800.

Tendered Sigmund a "Shower."
In honor of his approaching wedding Sigmund Eichel, of Evansville, was carried by six of his friends to the Ohio river and given a severe ducking. After the ducking he was driven to Howells, where, in dripping clothes, he was married to Miss Lucile Arnold.

Water Famine Affects Mines.
Word has come to the Indiana Railroad Commission that a water famine prevails in the mining districts of southern Indiana. The water supply at the mines has been exhausted and water is now being shipped from Terre Haute, Evansville, Vincennes and other of the larger cities in that section of the State. It is impossible to get a sufficient supply in the small towns near the mines.

Tobacco Chewing Kills Horse.
Hayden Davis, a well-known Lawrenceburg racehorse trainer, lost a valuable running horse, Osterman, which was addicted to a habit of tobacco chewing. The animal was an inveterate tobacco chewer. When Davis turned the horse out in a pasture it jumped a fence and got into the barn of a tobacco raiser in Logan township, and ate so much of the weed that death resulted.

Strange Water Phenomenon.
A hill on the farm of G. W. Barrett, near Charlestown, which has been as dry as tinder, owing to the long drought, suddenly began to sweat muddy water. The oozing from the sides of the hill continued until a clear stream began to flow. It is believed that an underground river flows from the east under Jeffersonville, and is the source of the city's present water supply.

Foe of Fish and Game Law.
The Rev. John H. Hill, a Democrat, who was elected to represent Bartholomew county in the lower house of the next General Assembly, is a foe of the fish and game laws. He believes that it is the God-given right of every man to fish and hunt when he pleases, and it will be one of the aims of his work in the Legislature to secure the repeal of the fish and game laws.

Waited Twenty-five Years for Bride.
The marriage of Miss Alice Davenport, aged 35, to William Toney, 45 years old, of Charter Oak, does not tell the whole story. They were children together and became engaged, but the marriage was prevented by the objections of the girl's parents, who did not believe young Toney capable of supporting a wife. Toney decided to make his fortune, and Miss Davenport had promised to wait for him. After twenty-five years he returned to claim his bride.

Girls, Here's a Chance.
An unusual freak of nature is noticeable in a two-acre field of corn in Lewis township, Clay county, owned by Mayor Shattuck, of Brazil, every ear of which is a deep, rich red in color. All the ears are long and well developed. It is whispered that the girls of Lewis township are insisting upon an old-fashioned corn-husking when the crop is harvested, reviving a custom in danger of becoming obsolete. If Mayor Shattuck has an eye to thrift he may act on the suggestion. The presence of red ears should bring out every youngster in Lewis township, for that matter, in Clay county.

Lid on at Ft. Wayne.
Sheriff Jesse Grice, of Ft. Wayne, issued a statement explaining his position in the prize fighting game, and said he would arrest every one present at a fight in Allen county. He is still acting under orders of Governor Hanly and the proposed Gardner-Morgan Thanksgiving day fight there will not be held.

Wagers on the Election.
About \$187,000 was wagered on the election in Indianapolis. One man won \$12,000 on Marshall at practically even money.

Tippecanoe Monument Dedicated.
Tippecanoe battlefield monument was dedicated Saturday at Lafayette.

State Commercial Clubs to Meet.
State Federation of Commercial Clubs meets at Richmond Nov. 18 and 19.

Guinness Trial Is On.
Whether Mrs. Bella Guinness is alive or whether she died in the fire that killed her three children is the question that proves most interesting at the trial of Ray Lamphere, which began at Laporte Monday. Lamphere is charged with the murder of Mrs. Guinness and her children. His attorneys declare that they will disprove the charge against him by proving that Mrs. Guinness herself is alive. The story of the fifteen murders at the Guinness farm is being retold at the hearing. Attorneys for the defense say they have discovered startling evidence. The prosecution declares that new evidence connecting Lamphere with the atrocities of the murder farm will be introduced.

Some Facts About Hoosierdom.
Mrs. Mary Stubbs Moore, State Statistician, has prepared some facts about Indiana for her biennial report that are of interest and will be of considerable value as reference. The facts deal with the size, wealth, railroads, history, schools and religion of the State. Some of the statistics are set out in the following table:

Indiana Territory was organized July 4, 1800.

Indiana was admitted as a State December 11, 1816.

Indiana's first Constitution was adopted June 29, 1816.

Indiana's present Constitution was adopted February 10, 1857.

Indiana's greatest length is 276 miles.

Indiana's average breadth is 140 miles.

Indiana's land area is 35,885 square miles, or 22,965,400 acres.

Indiana's lakes cover 469 square miles or 300,160 acres.

Indiana's population in 1905 is estimated to be 2,775,708.

Indiana has 92 counties, 88 cities and 363 incorporated towns.

Total taxable property in Indiana in 1907 was \$1,767,815,487.

Assessed valuation of real property in 1907, \$1,000,600,950.

Assessed valuation of personal property in 1907, \$428,450,338.

Assessed valuation of corporate property in 1907, \$248,764,199.

Indiana had 18,252 miles of free gravel roads in 1907.

Indiana had 7,142.48 miles of steam railroads on January 1, 1908, assessed at \$197,881,282.

Indiana had 1,763.16 miles of electric railroads on January 1, 1908, assessed at \$21,666,768.

Indiana has but two counties (Ohio and Switzerland) without railroads.

Number of factories in Indiana in 1905 was 7,912.

Indiana had \$11,526,026 invested in factories in 1905.

The number of wage earners in factories in 1905 was 154,174.

Indiana paid \$72,178,259 in wages in factories in 1905.

The value of Indiana's factory products in 1905 was \$394,165,828.

Indiana's coal output in 1907 was 13,250,715 tons.

The output of oolitic limestone in Indiana in 1907 was valued at \$3,673,905.

Indiana produced 5,103,297 barrels of oil in 1907, valued at \$4,489,213.

Indiana farms are assessed at \$660,172,175.

Indiana ranks fifth in the production of wheat and sixth in the production of oats and corn.

In 1908 Indiana produced crops as follows:

Wheat, 2,059,339 acres, yielding 32,746,145 bushels.

Oats, 1,528,502 acres, yielding 31,268,570 bushels.

Corn, 3,884,980 acres, yielding 120,447,582 bushels.

Potatoes, 66,884 acres, yielding 4,143,084 bushels.

Timothy, 1,317,455 acres, yielding 1,835,244 tons of hay.

Clover, 1,157,675 acres, yielding 1,972,169 tons of hay.

Tobacco, 12,736 acres, yielding 9,102,985 pounds.

Peas, 27,546 acres.

Onions, 5,640 acres.

Clover seed, 104,761 bushels.

Butter, 37,331,528 pounds.

Cheese, 349,764 pounds.

Poultry, 1,355,669 pounds.

Eggs, 62,648,508 dozen.

Apples, 997,800 bushels.

The total membership of the various religious denominations in Indiana in 1907 was 1,902,145.

The total value of church property in 1907 was \$24,628,001.

Indiana has a school fund of \$11,818,433.49, composed of the following:

Common school fund, \$8,583,757.11;

congressional school fund, \$2,473,143.64; university fund, \$761,532.74.

The total value of school property in Indiana, including desks, apparatus, etc., is \$33,792,339.83.

The number of teachers in 1908 was 16,571 and the number of pupils enrolled 531,731.

Didn't Like the Whiskers.

A young woman, who refused to tell her name, called a Columbus newspaper office the other day. She wished to know who had been elected Governor of Indiana, and when assured that Marshall had won, she gasped. "Why, I bet on Watson," she said. "I bet a kiss against a pound of candy that Watson would be elected." The reporter ventured the suggestion that her part of the bet ought to be easy enough to pay. "I would not mind so much about the kiss," she replied, "but the man who won wears whiskers."

For the Present.

It was the wife's birthday. The husband stopped over at the breakfast table and gently gave her 30 kisses with one to grow on. "There, darling," said he, "I guess that will do for the present." "Oh, John," she whined, "I think you might have given me some other present too."—Kansas City Telegram.

Feats of Penmanship

A King's Biography on a Grain of Wheat

The feat of writing the Lord's Prayer upon a space which a sixpence would cover is so familiar as to cease to be wonderful; but one cannot resist a tribute of genuine astonishment to a man who can write the whole of our national anthem along the thin edge of an ordinary visiting card, and who has actually penned biographies of King Edward and several members of his family upon a tiny grain of wheat. Such a microscopic "calligraphist" is M. J. Sofer, a French gentleman, who, we should say, could safely challenge the world to rivalry in his own field of penmanship.

Perhaps more wonderful still are the portraits of celebrities which M. Sofer produces out of their biographies. His presentment of the Czar, for instance, is not only a clever likeness, but every stroke in it is a part of the continuous line of the Russian Emperor, in letters so minute that to the unaided eye they seem part of an ordinary pen line, while the artist is at present engaged on a similar picture of King Edward which will be made up of his biography, containing 44,000 letters.

There has probably never been a time when this art of minute penmanship has not exercised its fascinations. In Cicero's time, about 2,000 years ago, the whole of Homer's "Iliad" was copied so microscopically that it was placed in a nut shell, and a few centuries later an artist wrote a short poem and enclosed it in a hollow grain of corn, while still another penman in these long-gone days actually wrote a verse of Homer on a grain of millet.

Pedotti, a fourteenth-century Italian, performed the most astounding feat with his pen. He wrote a poem of 100 lines on a space no larger than his little finger nail; made an elaborate landscape sketch, including a shepherd and a drove of sheep, which a grain of corn completely covered; and penned a long treatise on poetry in such minute letters that the manuscript had the appearance of a close series of perfectly straight lines; while he dedicated to Urban VI, a history of the Papacy, which took the form of an excellent likeness of the Pope in whose honor it was written. Urban was incredulous when he was assured by the artist that the portrait was composed of more than 12,000 words in the form of a consecutive history, and exclaimed, as well he might, "Why, this is nothing less than a miracle."

But Italy has no monopoly of these minute calligraphists. Many centuries ago, Peter Bales, an English Chancery clerk, we learn from the Harleian manuscripts, transcribed the whole of the Bible in such small compass that he was able to enclose it in a walnut. "The nut holdeth the book," we are told: "there are as many leaves in his little book as the great Bible, and he had written as much in one of his little leaves as a great leaf of the Bible." And, not to be outdone by Peter Bales, another Englishman, of the seventeenth century, one Henry Mason, copied the whole of "Paradise Lost" and enclosed his manuscript in a hen's egg.

As we have seen, M. Sofer is by no means the first pen artist who has made a portrait the medium of a long narrative. At the British Museum there is to be seen an excellent likeness of Queen Anne, little larger than half a sheet of note paper, every delicate line of which is made up of words and sentences, the entire narrative being sufficient to fill a small volume; and at St. John's College, Oxford, there is a head of the martyred King Charles I. which, although to all appearance a delicate engraving, is similarly composed. With the help of a microscope you can read in the lines of the face and the ruff the whole of the Psalms, the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.

HIS EDITORIAL QUICKLY READ.

New York Paper Tells Good Story on Southern Journalist.

A certain editorial writer on the staff of a Southern newspaper was inclined to diffidence during certain periods of conviviality, and caused thereby much concern in the breast of the foreman of the composing room just prior to the moment when the forms must go to press. But the writer was a part owner of the paper and could not well be discharged, since he occupied the position of managing editor. Many times the editorials were late and the paper delayed in going to press, but the delinquent writer always made good after a fashion. Finally he hit upon a scheme when he was called upon at the last moment for "copy" that may, in all justice to expediency, be called the art of genius.

The hour was very late and no leading editorial had gone to the composing room. In frantic haste, the form man sent for the editorial writer, and only after half an hour was he located—in a nearby saloon and much the worse for his dalliance there. He grasped the intelligence that he had forgotten his leading column, and made his way as fast as he could to his office. Snatching a piece of copy paper in one hand, he caught up a copy of the New York Times with the other, and from it clipped a leading editorial, which he pasted on the paper. Then he wrote:

"We cannot agree with the New York Times when it says:—

The editorial of the Times was copied, the paper went to press, and the editor back to the saloon.—New York Times.

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PARIS FASHION HINTS.



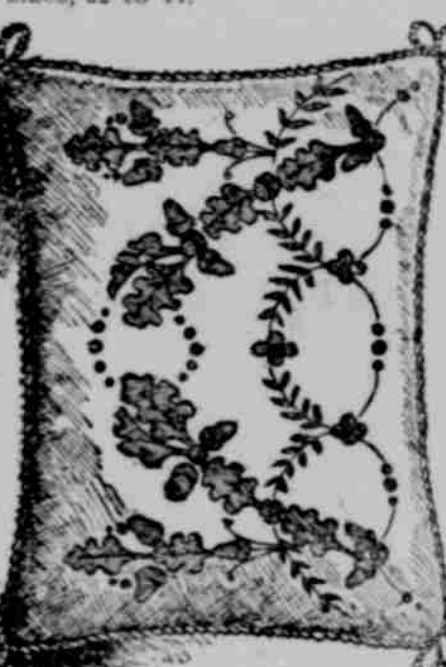
2160—Ladies' Chemise or Combination Cover and Short Petticoat Shipped On Over the Head. Lanes downe muslin, Persian lawn, Jaconet nainsook, or Chin cambric are all used for these undergarments, which are usually trimmed with insertions, beading and edging. 4 sizes, 32, 36, 40 and 44.

2609—Childs' Night-Dresser, with Front Yoke, Bishop or Plain Sleeve and with or without Feet. Canton flannel, French flannel or flannellette cambric, madras or Persian lawn are used for this pattern, which closes down the centre-back. 5 sizes, 1 to 12 years.

2612—Ladies' Two-Piece Petticoat Skirt, in Sheath Style, with Habb Back and with or without Flounce. Black-and-white striped silk with a wide flounce of fine lace and a ruffling of black satin ribbon has been used for this fashionable petticoat. 3 sizes, 22 to 34.

2117—Ladies' Chemise. This is a pretty and simple pattern for nainsook, Jaconet, Persian lawn or laces downe muslin, the neck and armholes edges scalloped and embroidered by hand. 4 sizes, 32, 36, 40 and 44.

2606—Ladies' Two-Piece Corset Cover. For flouncing or other goods. If made of Persian lawn, nainsook, Jaconet or China silk and trimmed with lace insertion and edging this is a jaunty little garment to wear under the shirt-waist of batiste or thin silk. 7 sizes, 32 to 44.



573—Acorn design for an attractive sofa pillow. Fashion Editor, 400 Century Building, Indianapolis, Ind. Inclosed please find 10 cents. Please send Paris Pattern No.

Size
Name
Address

Her Case.

"Yes," said Hennepeck, "I married her because I thought her the most even tempered woman I had ever met."

"And now you know that she isn't quierled his friend."

"Well—not exactly. She's very even tempered—always mad about something."—Pittsburg Post.

Always the Way.

"Richness used to complain because he never got what he wanted to eat."

"I suppose now that he's a millionaire he's all right."

"Not at all. He now complains because he never wants what he gets to eat."—New York Press.

He Made Good.

Trotter—When young Biffins left college a few years ago he declared he was going to forge his way to the front. Did he make good?

Homer—As a forger, yes. He's now occupying a front row cell in the penitentiary.—Chicago News.

A Natural Explanation.

She (complainingly)—These guests you have for the shooting do tell such old jokes.

He (consolingly)—But you must remember that the fall is the proper season for chestnuts.—Baltimore American.

Mortality.

Half the people in the world die before the age of sixteen. Only one in a hundred lives to sixty-five.

The Piano.

The tone of a piano is best when the instrument is not next to a wall.

Quoddy Head.

The most eastern point of the United States is Quoddy Head, Me.

There is no faith without some feeling for our fellows.

The only way to use a great opportunity is to serve it.

The worst thing about any deed is its fruitfulness.