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AUTUMN.

BY MRS. JULIA H. CAMPBELL.

New out into the autumn woods,  
And seek the leaves grow sore;  
Now out into the autumn woods,  
For their decay is o'er.  
The falling green that mottled them,  
Shrinks from the north wind's breath—  
Then out into the autumn woods,  
And we'll be at the death!

The pleasant breath is plenty,  
And the summer heat is dead;  
She smells the leaves grow sore,  
Borne by the autumn wind.  
Bird-Quakers! why weepst thou  
The sunset on thy wings!  
Poor creature! 'tis the livery  
Of all departing things!

The dawn deer gazeth wistfully  
Into the wind-raked vistas,  
Then down the forest stiles turns  
His melancholy eyes.  
Now whisp'ring! hush! the chase is up,  
And 'tis he himself who runs—  
He himself the game he follows;  
He himself, ere they 're done!

Oh, Autumn is a conqueror!  
He wears a frosty crown;  
The fearful army of Heaven,  
He makes his all his own.  
His banner's on the battlement,  
And waving 'neath the flag,  
He smothereth in the pulse of night  
All the forest trees.

The hickory and the tulip tree,  
Have shed a golden crown;  
He touches them rustles,  
And scatters 'neath the sun.  
The maple placeth on the boughs  
A sign of wondrous awe,  
She waves her signal flags to Heaven—  
But Heaven has sent the foe!  
What matters it if they die like kings,  
Back to their ancient throne,  
With waving plume, and scarlet robe,  
And fall regally on?

\*This bird can scarcely be distinguished from without.

Free Notes—John Hancock.

Among the remarkable men whose names will for ever stand part and parcel of the "Declaration of Independence," Hancock, whose bold signature first strikes the eye, was, perhaps, all things considered, one of the most remarkable. He put most at risk, so far as fortune and its appearances were concerned, for he was the richest man in the country. He inherited the business and fortune of a millionaire uncle, and was the Abbot Lawrence of his day. When he was first elected to the Provincial Legislature, Adams said to a friend, "Boston has done a wise thing to-day—she made that young man's fortune her own," and the prophecy was literally fulfilled, for he devoted it all to the public use.

The contrast between him and Adams was very great: Adams was poor, and held in great contempt, the style and show of fortune. Hancock kept a magnificent equipage, such as is not known in America; his apparel was embroidered with gold and silver; he rode with six beautiful horses—he was fond of dancing, music, routs, parties, rich wine, dinners, and all that kind of things, called elegant pleasures.

But how he estimated the goods of fortune and concomitants, in comparison with the cause of liberty, is illustrated by the following anecdote:

During the siege of Boston, Gen. Washington consulted Congress as to the propriety of bombarding the town. Hancock was President, and after the reading of Washington's letter, a motion was made to go into committee of the whole, to enable Mr. Hancock to give his opinion, as he was deeply interested—all his property being in houses and real estate. He left the chair and addressed the chairman as follows: "It is true, sir, that nearly all I have in the world is in the town of Boston; but if the expulsion of the British troops and the liberty of my country demand that they be burnt to ashes, I desire the order, and let the cannon blaze away."

These men were made for the times; cool, steady and deliberate principles show in them all; they were ready to take the "spoiling of their goods," to insure us a better inheritance.

The Grave.

As green vines and beautiful flowers grow over ruins, nourished by the dust of their own decay, so life and hope and immortal beauty spring up from the ashes of the grave.—The Guardian.

## SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE.

### How the National Observatory

IS SERVING THE INTERESTS OF THE FARMER AS WELL AS OF THE MARINER.

Mr. Editor:—You are aware that a few years ago, I commenced to overhaul dusty sea journals, and to get my sea-faring friends to explore garrets for retired sea-charts—old sea chests are very apt to contain old log-books—thinking that from these sources, observations of great value might be obtained touching the winds and currents of the sea; provided these observations were brought together, compared, and discussed.

With the materials thus obtained, I went quietly to work, and with the assistance of Lieut. Whiting, U. S. N.—an admirable draftsman—constructed a sort of sample chart, that navigators, whose assistance I intended to ask, might have correct ideas as to what I proposed to do.

They understood the object at once, appreciated the undertaking, and in true sailor style, came forward with offers of a helping hand "right off the reel."

Thanks to these bold seamen, I have now not less than one thousand American merchantmen engaged daily in collecting, from all parts of the navigable ocean, materials for the "Wind and current charts," as the series is called.

The only way by which we can hope to obtain a correct knowledge of the laws which govern the general circulation of the atmosphere, is by an extensive and extended series of observations such as this is.

On the land, you have the exceptions; the winds are interrupted in their course by mountain ranges, or are turned aside by deserts and highly heated sandy plains. But away out upon the blue waters, where there are no irregularities of surface, and no unduly heated districts to interfere with the general laws which can rule the winds, there we see them in operation.

Upon the study of these laws, I have been closely engaged. It would be in vain to hope for an interpretation of them, unless with the assistance of such zealous and patient co-laborers as are the officers of the navy who are engaged with me upon the work, and their task would be a fruitless one, unless they had numerous and oft-repeated observations in the most parts of the ocean to guide them.

These materials are afforded by American ship-masters, and to my mind, it is one of the most beautiful moral spectacles that was ever beheld, in this voluntary assistance rendered by more than a thousand sailors—freemen, all—in the conducting, according to a regular system, a series of observations in all parts of the world, at all hours of the day and the night, in the storm and the calm, for the advancement of science. This is an undertaking which Solomon's exchequer could not have borne; yet here, in Republican America, it is undertaken at the instance of a subordinate officer of the navy, without power or patronage of any sort, and without cost or expense to any public fund whatever. Never was there before such a corps of observers engaged in concert upon any subject of philosophical research. It speaks well, does it not, for the American sailor? It is an offering made by him to his country in acknowledgment of the effect of her free institutions upon his mind.

But what, you and your readers are saying to yourselves, what have these investigations and the work at the Observatory, to do with farming and planting?

They have almost as much to do with agriculture as with navigation; and they concern the husbandman as much as the ship-owner. The winds are everything to the sailor; and climate is all in all to the farmer, for the one can get along quite as well without a breeze, as the other can without rain. And those who live on dry land must have winds to bring to them, from moist places, the rain and dews of heaven. The vapor which is first condensed into clouds over our heads, and then into fruitful showers for the husbandman, was taken up from the sea, and brought to its place of precipitation by these winds whose courses and laws these sailors are assisting me to find out.

The task is far from being completed; yet the undertaking has already been so far crowned with success, that any one who will study the results of these observations as developed in the charts, can tell in what part of the world it is now the rainy, and in what part the dry season. He can point out to you the rainless districts. He can show you the basins on the land in which the quantity of rain that falls exceeds the quantity of water that is taken up again by evaporation. He can distinguish these basins from those in which the precipitation and the evaporation are equal. He can pick out for you the hot climates and the cold; and tell you what places have a warmer and what a colder climate than that which is due their latitude. And furthermore, he will explain to you the causes of all these phenomena; and show

you, by the charts, evidence not to be mistaken, that the winds of heaven and the currents of the sea are as obedient to law and order, and as harmonious in their influences, as are the planets and the morning stars in their orbits and song of praise.

He finds a current of warm water running from the Gulf of Mexico, over to the shores of Europe, and tempering the climate there. He finds a stream counter to this, bearing down icebergs, and bringing a stream of cold water along our own shores; he discovers like phenomena in other parts of the world. With these charts spread out before him, he will explain how these streams of warm water so modify the temperature that, in certain parts of the world, as in Oregon or Norway, if you wish to change your climate, you must not change your latitude, but your longitude. Differences of climate there are soonest reached, not by traveling north or south as with us, but by traveling east or west.

He will perceive that the winds which circulate over America, are for the most part fresh from the ocean, while those which cross Africa come mostly over the land from Asia, upon whose high mountain tops they have precipitated all their moisture. Hence he will tell you, that Africa for the most part is a dry country; America, in comparison, a wet one. And in proof of this, he will point you to the arid plains there, and to our great rivers here, as the Amazon and the Mississippi, maintaining that the quantity of water annually discharged by them, is but another expression for the difference between the amount of rain which falls in, and the amount which is taken up from, the valleys that are drained by these rivers. The charts teach him to regard rivers, in one respect at least, as great rain gauges set up by nature for her own manifold purposes.

He will show you how the waters that run down the Amazon river and its tributaries, are taken up by the winds of heaven from the Atlantic Ocean, and carried in invisible streams through the air, to the sources of these rivers in the upper country; and he will almost prove to you, from the reasoning of the charts, that the waters which run down the Mississippi river are evaporated from the Pacific Ocean, and brought by the clouds and the winds across the mountains, to fertilize and fructify that teeming valley.

And then, with a hymn in his heart, he will sing you in silence his song of praise; and whisper you that these investigations have, in his mind, converted the Andes, the Cordilleras, the Sierra Nevada, and other lofty mountain ranges of the continent, into everlasting monuments of the wisdom and the goodness of God.

Ask him, how? and he will show you that the N. E. and the S. E. Trade Winds, having blown across the broad Atlantic, reached our shores charged with moisture, which moisture, as it gradually loses the heat that holds it in a state of vapor, is as gradually precipitated over the plains and valleys until it reaches the tops of those snow-capped mountains—on which the last drop of water that that very cold temperature can wring from these winds, is precipitated. Those winds then tumble down into the valleys beyond, as in Peru, cold and dry winds without moisture enough in them to make rain of. Now if the Andes and Rocky Mountains had been stretched along the eastern instead of the western coasts, their chilly heights would still have condensed from these winds all their vapor, and all of this prolonged western slope would have been what the abrupt Pacific declivities are, rainless and barren districts.

In these charts, too, he will acknowledge at least one of the offices which the Great Desert of Sahara performs in the grand and beautiful system of cosmical arrangements. For by these observations, though made far off at sea, he will see that when the sun is pouring down his rays with greatest intensity upon those arid African plains, the regular course of the Trade Winds over a large portion of the Atlantic is altered, and that instead of blowing from the Desert, they blow directly towards it—so great is the rarefaction there. These winds, coming from a tropical sea, are necessarily loaded with moisture; and being turned back, they precipitate their showers along the western coasts of intertropical Africa, divide the seasons there into wet and dry, and make that country habitable for man.

Bearing in mind these and the other facts which are told by the charts, and collecting a few philosophical principles, we shall see how directly these investigations at sea bear upon the productive capacities of climates on the land.

These principles are; that the hygrometrical state of the atmosphere, as well as the state of the climate as it regards temperature, is an element in the adaptation of climate for this or that article of agricultural produce. That by raising the temperature of the atmosphere, its capacity

for moisture is increased—and that by cooling it, its capacity for moisture is diminished—and consequently, that when an atmosphere, charged with moisture at a given temperature, is subjected to a higher temperature, it will deposit none of that moisture either in the shape of dew, fogs, rain, or any other of the forms of precipitation. And finally, that each agricultural staple, and every fruit of the earth, require a peculiar combination of wet and dry weather for its most vigorous growth, and for its most perfect development—and that where these combinations are found with soil to suit, there is the place most favorable for the cultivation of that plant, whether it be corn or cotton, sugar, coffee, rice, tobacco, hemp, grapes, &c.

We often hear it said, "good grapes are grown and excellent wines are made in Europe, and along the parallels of latitude upon which we dwell; why, therefore, should we not plant the vine, cultivate the grape, and produce our wines here also?" Upon such a process of reasoning, large sums of money have been wasted, both by governments and individuals, in attempting to introduce the culture of this or that staple in districts and regions, where it is only necessary to know whence comes the winds that supply those districts and regions with moisture, in order to decide as to the adaptation of such climates for such staples.

England has expended large sums in attempting to introduce the culture of cotton in India. Now if her wise men had had the advantages of the facts with regard to the winds which these Yankee sailors are gratuitously collecting for me in every sea, they would have seen at once, that though the plant may grow, it will not flourish there. The winds there come for a part of the year from the sea, and for the other part from the land, consequently at one season, they bring too much, and at another too little moisture for the plant.

Cotton may grow along some of the sea coasts of Africa, and along narrow strips of New Holland; but there are no extensive regions in the world adapted, I speak not of artificial appliances (as irrigation) to the vigorous development of this plant, except in China, the United States, and the valleys of the Amazon and the Rio de la Plata. The winds which circulate over these countries, come from the same relative places: they come across the sea, and bring to the land continually fresh supplies of moisture, which is daily deposited in plentiful showers in this or that place.

Tea will grow in Brazil; but that grown in the climate of Rio will be to the tea of China a little worse than the cotton of India is to our sea island. Mr. Smith is not wrong in supposing that good tea may be grown in South Carolina. Indeed, my investigations upon the wind and currents of the sea give reason to believe that if the soil be thin, tea may be grown as high up as Virginia and Tennessee, if not higher. But whether it can be profitably grown is another matter. To pick 13 lbs. of leaves in China, a day, is the work of a man. His wages are about six cents a day. After this, the tea has to be passed through the various processes of heating, popping, rolling, drying, &c., before it is ready for the market; all of which as practised in China are tedious and troublesome, and would be, here, expensive operations. I speak not of what Yankee ingenuity may do in the way of curing and gathering by machinery.

My investigations also show—always supposing the soil be there—that cotton, sugar, coffee, rice, and tobacco, and indigo, with spices, drugs and balsams, of infinite variety and great value, may be grown from the mouth of the Amazon all the way up to the base of the Andes—and they point to the valley of that river and its various tributaries, as one of prodigious capacities as far exceeding those of our great and greatly boasted Mississippi valley, as this exceeds that of the Hudson. The valley of the Amazon is rich, wide, and fruitful beyond measure.

These investigations also indicate what, upon inquiry I learn is the case, that there is a wet and dry side to the Allegheny Mountains—that in some parts of the range, the eastern, and in others the western side is the dry side. Good grapes I am sure will grow on these dry sides, and it is probable that they would make good wine.

We know how powerfully the presence of abundant moisture in the atmosphere affects the flavor of our delicate fruits; at certain stages of the crop a few days of rainy weather will destroy the flavor of the strawberry, the peach, &c.; and we know that the grape requires sunshine and dry air to perfect its secretion. The finest grapes in the world are grown in the valley of the Caspian sea, where Humboldt tells us the air is so pure that the most finely polished steel may be exposed in its open air for days and days without having its lustre tarnished. This is but another expression for a low dew point or a dry atmosphere. The low evaporation and

precipitation, as in our own valley of the great Salt Lake, are exactly equal.

Though there may be here and there under the mountains of Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, &c., small districts adapted to the production of wine, these charts "of the winds and currents of the sea," indicate that there is on this continent a large district, the climate—for I know nothing of soils—of which is admirably adapted to the culture of the grape. That climate is in Northwestern Texas, and the region thereabout.

I may be excused from mentioning another discovery with regard to the culture of the peach and other fruits, to which I have been led by experiments with the thermometer on a fleece of wool. I procured a bit of tanned sheep-skin with the wool on, placed it with the woolly side up, in a bucket as though I intended it for a hen's nest; I then put a thermometer in it with the bulb in the bottom of the nest, and set it out in the open air. This thermometer, of certain clear nights in August, when the thermometer on the outside of the nest and also in the open air stood at 75° and when that in the nest during the day had ranged as high as 150°, was found to stand at 42°.

This explained to me the reason of our finding in the low lands and bottoms the earliest signs of frost in autumn, and the latest in spring. These are the places, therefore, which in clear weather, when radiation is active, are the hottest in the day and the coolest in the night. And if you plant the peach there, they will force its blossoms in the day, and nip them with their frosts at night.

Now, on the hill tops and sides, the weather is cooler in the day and warmer in the night when radiation is active—consequently the hill tops and sides will not force the buds so soon, nor make frosts, nor kill the fruit, when the bottom will; and therefore the hill tops and sides, not the bottoms, are the places for orchards. There is a ridge about Washington upon which the peaches seldom fail, when failure is common to orchards planted a short distance from it on either side.

Traveling last summer through the beautiful valley of Wyoming, I noticed near Wilkes-Barre that with the fine mountain ridges close at hand, the apple orchards were all in the river bottoms—the worst possible place for them—and on inquiry was told (what I knew would be said without asking) that it was a poor fruit country—wet it with water that has been standing in the open air for sometime, and long enough to take the temperature of the air; after the bulb has been wet for about five minutes, and exposed to the open air, note the thermometer. At the time the wet bulb is noted, note also, as in the other case, the thermometer in the shade.

In the course of a short time, your agricultural societies would find these observations of great value. I have no doubt you, Mr. Editor, would publish them with pleasure, and so serve the community and oblige your friend,  
M. F. MAURY, Lieut. U. S. N.  
National Observatory,  
Washington, June, 1850.

It affords us much pleasure to lay before our readers the foregoing letter which has been addressed to us by Lieut. Maury of the National Observatory. We feel confident they will share with us the satisfaction we have enjoyed in its perusal.

Such observations as those recommended, if conducted with care, can not fail to be useful to farmers in every section of our country. May we not hope—indeed, add our earnest entreaty, that they will second Lieut. Maury in the praiseworthy efforts he is making for the benefit of agricultural science? In that catholic spirit which distinguishes all men of true science, Lieut. M. does not confine his attention within the verge of his own immediate profession, but freely tenders to others all the discoveries he has made in his pursuit.

The subject above discussed is eminent practical, when it comes to be considered in all its bearings. Our own observation and reflection tell us that it is so. And it is, how invaluable the gift that enables us to know where we may most profitably till and reap! The allusions made to the various attempts at the forced culture of grapes, cotton and tea are very apt, and their truth is further verified by what we often see passing around us in our own State, where not only vegetable but animal life is but too often sought to be pushed forward in atmosphere uncongenial to its existence. In that great staple, the wheat crop, we see numerous diseases blighting its growth and shortening its yield. The fly, the scab, the smut, the rust are some of them. If we can by careful observation of wind and weather avert or mitigate these evils, are we not gainers by the process? It was but the other day that in walking over the wheat field of Mr. Gilmer of Albermarle, he pointed out here and there spots in its rolling surface on which the Hessian fly had "encamped" and effectually destroyed the growth. Mr. G. attributed this to the southwesterly winds which prevail in the fall and deposit the germ of the insect wherever they blow. This opinion was apparently confirmed by the situation of infested spots which was on the southwesterly slopes.

Now as to that wholesale destroyer, the rust: who has yet discovered the means or mode of escaping its ravages? At the very moment we write, large districts in our State are suffering the severest consequences from it. The theories accounting for its presence are variant in the extreme. From the county of Gloucester, situated

near the sea, we hear of devastation on the largest scale, and no complaint of drought. From Halifax county, a reliable farmer brings intelligence of the like destruction effects, and states that no rain had fallen for nearly six weeks. We have seen one field much given to rust on the Eastern slope, and very little tainted elsewhere. Another crop in the same neighborhood is free from it, except in the bottoms where the soil is moist. Perhaps the observations suggested by Lieut. M. may lead to something which will solve these mysterious differences. Comparisons between different annotations—the reaction of mind upon mind—the analysis of conclusions arrived at by each, would, it seems to us, bring about some definite and fixed theory and thereby enable us to lessen evils now bearing heavily upon us.

The remarks upon the best situations for orchards for different species of fruit, will be appreciated, as their truth is known, by "the oldest inhabitants." Lieut. M. proposes, by scientific investigation, to deduce new truths from observation of phenomena with which we are already familiar.

We shall take pleasure in complying with his suggestion of publishing from time to time such private meteorological observations as may be made by any of our friends.—Southern Planter.

For the Lewisburg Chronicle.  
THE MARINER'S GRAVE.

The mariner's grave in the beautiful sea—  
Where the forgotten billows are moaning so sweet  
When the lowlands are dark and the lowlands are  
Oh, where is the spot like the mariner's grave?

The pearl is his pillow, the sea-wind his bed,  
With the sunset stars hovering each over his head—  
The foaming white surge his eyelids are,  
And the mountains are high round the mariner's grave.

Away from the fury and din of the shore,  
His chambers are still and the hurricane's roar;  
But the music that's floating from wave to wave  
Is the water-sprite's song of the mariner's grave.

The hand of the rudder will never leave  
The coral-reef tomb where the sailor is laid;  
When the tempests of timber and steel run and rave,  
The spray will leap high round the mariner's grave.

How to get to Sleep.  
How to get to sleep is, to many persons, a matter of high importance. Nervous persons, who are troubled with wakefulness and excitability, usually have a strong tendency of blood to the brain, with cold extremities. The pressure of blood on the brain keeps it in a stimulated or wakeful state, and the pulsations in the head are often painful. Let such rise and chase the body and extremities with a crash towel, or rub smartly with the hands, to promote circulation, and withdraw the excessive amount of blood from the brain, and they will fall asleep in a few moments. A cold bath, or sponge bath, and rubbing, or a cold run, or a rapid walk in the open air, or going up and down stairs a few times, just before retiring, will aid in equalizing circulation and promoting sleep. These rules are simple, and easy of application in casestore cabin, and may minister to the comfort of thousands who would freely expend money for an emolvent to promote "Nature's sweet restorer, to my sleep."

The Home of Taste.  
How easy it is to be well—to be clean! How easy to arrange the rooms with it's most graceful propriety! How easy it is to invest our houses with the truest elegance! Elegance resides not with the upholstery or the draper; it is not in the mosaics, the carvings, the rose wood, the mahogany, the candelabra, or the marble ornaments; it exists in the spirit presiding over the chambers of the dwelling. Contentment must always be most graceful; it sheds serenity over the scenes of its abode; it transforms a waste into a garden. The home lighted by these ministrations of a mother and brighter life may be wanting in much that the discontented desire; but to its inhabitants it will be a place far outwining the orientals in glory and brilliancy.

The Modern Press.  
The superiority of the modern forms of the School over the ancient, is by no means as striking as that great triumph—and parent of triumphs—of modern over ancient ages, THE PRESS. What a sorry figure would the establishment of the fraternal co-partnership of the Scribner & Co. exhibit—the crack publishing house of Augustan Rome—win their few hundreds of unwieldy volumes of rolled parchment, painfully transcribed with a reed or iron pen, beside our Harper & Brothers, whose mere advertisement catalogues would furnish more pages, than all Augustan Rome ever published. Much the same figure which the squadrons of Persian and Grecian barques, which fought the sea fight of Salamis, would exhibit beside the modern "Ironclads" and "Peace makers," who achieve the Trafalgars and Navarinos of our day. President Jefferson's immortal squadron of gun-boats might have vanquished the whole navy of all antiquity in a single fight.—D. D. Wheeler.