

# Jeffersonian Republican.

THE WHOLE ART OF GOVERNMENT CONSISTS IN THE ART OF BEING HONEST.—Jefferson.

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**Jeffersonian Republican.**

## Lines to an Indian Air.

BY R. MONCKTON MILNES, ESQ., M. P.

Slumber, infant! slumber

On thy mother's breast;

Kisses without number

Rain upon thy rest:

Fair they fall from many lips,

But from her's the best,

Slumber, infant! slumber

On thy mother's breast.

Slumber infant! slumber

On the earth's cold breast;

Blossoms without number

Breathe about thy rest;

Nature, with ten thousand smiles,

Meets so dear a guest.

Slumber, infant! slumber

On the earth's cold breast.

Slumber, infant! slumber

On an angel's breast;

Glories without number

Consecrate thy rest:

Deeper joys than we can know

Wait upon the blest.

Slumber, infant! slumber

In thy heavenly rest!

## Espy on Rain.

The first report of Professor Espy on meteorology has been laid on our table. It gives a very succinct account of his theory of rain; and, as this is a subject of general interest, we shall endeavor to present it in a few words.

It must be familiar to our readers that Professor Espy has, for many years, asserted that rain can be produced by large fires. His opinion was verified, last summer, on several occasions, both in Pennsylvania and elsewhere.—The rain began immediately over the fire and extended nearly thirty miles to the east, while not a drop fell to the west. Judge Catron, of the U. S. Supreme Court, testifies, in the report, that he saw a heavy rain occasioned by a fire in the forest on the Cumberland mountains. Several years ago, too, when the woods of N. Jersey were on fire, heavy rains came up.—The Indians of Paraguay have long been accustomed to set the prairies on fire in a drought. Availing himself of this fact, Professor Espy proposes a scheme, in the report before us, by which the climate, so far as it depends on rain, may be made more equable. The summer rains, he contends, are local, unlike the winter storms. This he proposes to remedy by the following plan:

1st. Let masses of timber to the amount of forty acres for every twenty miles be prepared and fired simultaneously every seven days in the summer, on the west of the United States in a line of six or seven hundred miles long from north to south, then the following results seem highly probable, but not certain until the experiment is made: A rain of great length north and south will commence near or on the line of fires; this rain will travel eastward; it will not break up till it reaches far into the Atlantic ocean; it will rain only a short time in any one place; it will not rain again until the next evening; it will rain enough and not too much in any one place; it will not be attended with violent wind, neither on land nor on the Atlantic ocean; there will be no hail nor tornadoes; there will be no destructive floods, nor will the waters ever become very low; there will be no more oppressive heats nor injurious colds;

2d. The storms are accompanied with a depression of the barometer near the central line of the storm.

3d. This central line of minimum pressure is generally of great length from north to south, and moves side foremost to the east.

4th. This line is sometimes nearly straight, but generally curved, and most frequently with its convex side towards the east.

5th. The velocity of this line is such, that it travels from the Mississippi to the Connecticut river in about 24 hours; and from the Connecticut to St. John, Newfoundland, in nearly the same time, or about 36 miles an hour.

6th. When the barometer falls suddenly in the western part of New England, it rises at the same time in the valley of the Mississippi, and also at St. John, Newfoundland.

the farmers and mariners will always know before the rains when they will commence and when they will terminate; all epidemic diseases, originating from floods and subsequent droughts, will cease; the proceeds of agriculture will be greatly increased, and the health and happiness of the citizens will be much promoted. These, I say, are the *probable*—not certain—results of the plan proposed; a plan which could be carried into operation for a sum which would not amount to half a cent a year to each individual in the United States; a plan which, if successful, would benefit in a high degree not merely the landsman, but every mariner that plies the Atlantic. If this scheme should appear too gigantic to commence with, let the trial be first made along the Alleghany mountains; and let forty acres of four ten-acre lots be fired every seven days through the summer in each of the counties of McKean, Clearfield, Cambria and Somerset, in Pennsylvania; Alleghany, in Maryland; and Hardy, Pendleton, Bath, Allegheny and Montgomery, in Virginia. The ten-acre lots should be, as nearly as convenient, from one to four miles apart in the form of a square; so that the upmoving column of air which shall be formed over them may have a wide base, and thus may ascend to a considerable height before it may be leaned out of the perpendicular by any wind which may exist at that time.

"The summer rains at present are local, and of a very limited extent; and though they travel towards the east, like the winter storms, they are not extensive enough to cover the whole country; hence, portions of the country are liable to be parched with drought and hot weather. "May it not be possible that this irregularity is in part produced by the irregular burning of fallows and prairies, thus producing partial and irregular rains; interrupting the wide extended and general rains which would otherwise take place, as they do in winter?"

"There is at present, and will be for many years to come, a vast amount of timber cut down and burnt every summer, in the western parts of the United States; enough, perhaps, to produce the wide extended and uninterrupted rains so much desired without any expense. Until the government of the United States can be induced to carry into effect the above plan, I earnestly recommend to all persons who have fallows or other large masses of combustibles to burn, save them till the first very dry spell in the summer, and to ensure simultaneous action, let all west of west longitude 87 degs. set fire to their materials only on a Thursday, those west of 90 degrees in the morning at ten o'clock, and those east of 90 degrees at six o'clock in the evening; and let all east of 87 degrees set fire to their materials only on Friday, those west of 77 degrees at ten o'clock in the morning, and those east of 77 degrees at six o'clock in the afternoon; and in no case let any fallows be burnt unless there has at least a week elapsed without rain."

Professor Espy says, that after these general rains, partial rains cannot take place for some time. He earnestly invites all persons, who have materials to send the result of their observations to the Surgeon General's Office, Washington. Appended to the report are the following generalizations on storms, which are the results of observation.

1st. The rain and snow storms, and even the moderate rains and snows travel from the west towards the east, in the United States, during the months of January, February and March, which are the only months yet investigated.

2d. The storms are accompanied with a depression of the barometer near the central line of the storm.

3d. This central line of minimum pressure is generally of great length from north to south, and moves side foremost to the east.

4th. This line is sometimes nearly straight, but generally curved, and most frequently with its convex side towards the east.

5th. The velocity of this line is such, that it travels from the Mississippi to the Connecticut river in about 24 hours; and from the Connecticut to St. John, Newfoundland, in nearly the same time, or about 36 miles an hour.

6th. When the barometer falls suddenly in the western part of New England, it rises at the same time in the valley of the Mississippi, and also at St. John, Newfoundland.

7th. In great storms, the wind, for several hundred miles, on both sides of the line of minimum pressure, blows toward that line, directly or obliquely.

8th. The force of the wind is in proportion to the suddenness and greatness of the barometric depression.

9th. In all great and sudden depressions of the barometer, there is much rain or snow; and in all sudden great rains or snows, there is a great fluctuation of the barometer.

10th. Many storms are of great and unknown length from the north to the south, reaching beyond our observers on the Gulf of Mexico and on the northern lakes, while their east and west diameter is comparatively small. The storms, therefore, move side foremost.

11th. Most storms commence in the "far west," beyond our most western observers; but some commence in the United States.

12th. When a storm commences in the United States, the line of minimum pressure does not come from the "far west," but commences with the storm, and travels with it towards the east.

13th. There is generally a hull of wind at the line of minimum pressure, and sometimes a calm.

14th. When the wind changes to the west, the barometer generally begins to rise.

15th. There is generally but little wind near the line of maximum pressure, and on each side of that line the winds are irregular, but tend outwards from that line.

16th. The fluctuations of the barometer are generally greater in the northern than in the southern parts of the United States.

17th. The fluctuations of the barometer are generally greater in the eastern than in the western parts of the United States.

18th. In the northern parts of the United States, the wind in great storms, generally sets in from the north of east, and terminates from the north of west.

19th. In the southern parts of the United States the wind generally sets in from the south of east, and terminates from the south of west.

20th. During the passage of storms, the wind generally changes from the eastward to the westward by the south, especially in the southern parts of the United States.

## A Western Place Hunter.

A friend writing from Washington early in March gives us this pleasant sketch of a 'Sucker' office-seeker: "Dickens might draw some laughable caricatures from the live specimens of office-hunters now on hand here. The new President has just advised them all to go home and leave their papers behind them, and such a scattering you never saw! One fellow came here from Illinois, and was introduced to a wag, who he was told had great influence at court, and who, although he was destitute of any such pretensions, kept up the delusion for the sake of the joke. The Sucker addressed the man of influence something in this wise: 'Now, stranger, look at them papers. Them names is the fist in our town. There's Deacon Stiles; there aint a piouser a man in all the county; and there's John Rogers, our shoemaker; he made them boots, and a better pair never tramped over these diggins. You wouldn't think them soles had walked three hundred miles of Hoosier mud, but they have though, and are sound yet. Everybody in our town knows John Rogers; just you go out to Illinois and ask him about me; you'll find out how I stand. Then you ask Jim Turner, our constable, what I did for the party; he'll tell you I was a screamer at the polls. Now I've come all the way from Illinois, and on foot too, most of the way, to see if I can have justice. They wanted me to take a town office to home, but I must have something that pays beforehand; such as them charges as they call 'em; I haint got but seven dollars left, and I can't wait; just get me one of them charges, will ye? Tell the old man how 'tis—he'll do it. Facts is, he must; I've aint the office; d--d if I haint.'"

VERY NATURAL.—An exchange paper says that on a recent occasion, when a marriage ceremony was about to be performed in a church in a neighborly town, and the clergyman desired the parties wishing to be married to stand up, a large number of ladies immediately arose!

The St. Louis Reveille declares the following to be a "well-authenticated fact which occurred at Holton, in Maine."

In old New England long ago,  
When all creation travelled slow,  
And nought but trackless deserts lay,  
Before the early settlers' way,  
A youth and damsel, bold and fair,  
Had cause to take a journey where  
Through night and day, and day and night  
No house would greet their wearied sight;  
And, thinking Hymen's altar should  
Precede their journey through the wood,  
They straightway to a Justice went—  
By love and circumstances sent!

The Justice—good old honest pate—  
Said it was quite unfortunate,  
But at that time he could not bind  
These two young folks of willing mind,  
For his commission—sad to say—  
Had just expired—but yesterday!  
Yet, after all, he would not say  
That single they should go away;  
And so he made them join their hands  
In holy wedlock's happy bands,  
And "just a little" he would marry—  
Enough perhaps, to safely carry—  
As they were in connubial mood—  
"Enough to do them through the wood!"

The following is decidedly the best hit at the modern mode of puffing quack nostrums into notice, that we have seen lately.

## An Entire New Medicine.

OIL of Brickbats, and Compound Unadulterated Concentrated Syrup of Paving Stones—manufactured only by the editor of the Port Gibson Herald, and sold by the regular authorized Agents.—*Cin. Inquirer.*

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITERS.  
CERTIFICATES.  
Calcutta, June 3d, 1840.

Mr. Rock:—I died last night, but while the undertaker was placing me in the coffin, a vial of your Essential Oil burst in his pocket and streaming down my face, I opened my eyes, sneezed, and arose. The shroud having received a portion of the Oil, instantly took root in the floor, and expanded into beautiful cotton stalks, each filling with bursting pods. The coffin rose on end, sprouted forth shoots, and grew into a magnificent mahogany tree which burst off the roof of my house, and waved in the evening breeze its luxuriant branches, amid which monkeys chattered and green parrots fluttered their fan-like wings.

I remain your revived friend,  
AUGUSTUS ROWSER.

Roaring Rapids, Ky., July, 1843.

Mr. Rock:—It gives me great pleasure to inform you of a wonderful event caused by your Essential Oil. I am engineering on the Salt River Railroad, and was proceeding with a train of cars from Skunksborough to this place, when the engine suddenly stopped. On examination, I found that the wheels wanted greasing; this seemed unlucky, as I was unprovided with the article, but remembering that I had a vial of Essential Oil in my coat pocket. I drew it out and anointed the hubs—instantly the cars were off, at the rate of 150 miles per hour; being left alone on the road, I swallowed the rest of the Oil, started on foot, and arrived at the station two and a half seconds later than the train.—While the cars were passing at this unparalleled rate, a negro belonging to Mr. Roorback, attempted to cross the track, two miles in advance, but ere he had effected his object, the train was upon him. The front wheels ground him to atoms, but as the hinder ones passed, a drop of the Oil oozed from the hubs and fell upon him. He instantly rose, restored, sound in mind and limb—except a slight contusion on his right shin—as before. So instantaneous was the whole affair, that the pain, though excruciating, lasted but the 200th part of a second! This information may be relied on, as the negro himself is willing and anxious to swear to every word. Your sincere friend,  
P. STRETCHER.

Truth—it's nothing else.

"Why am I like Texas?" said the blooming Miss Star to a bashful wooer, who did not spunk up, as the saying is. "I don't know," said the verdant one. "Because I am a lone star." Then said Mr. Knight, brightening up, "allow me to propose Annexation."

Lines  
WRITTEN IN A BIBLE.

A gift from thy mother, my own fair boy:  
'Tis the true source of happiness, peace and joy;  
May its beautiful precepts thy footsteps guide,  
And keep thee, through life, on Virtue's side.  
This book, impell'd by a mother's tears,  
May it speak to thy heart in after years;  
And when thee rests 'neath the lowly sod,  
May it teach thee to place thy trust in God:  
May thine, belov'd, be a blessed lot—  
And oh! may the giver be never forgot!

Combat of a Monkey and a Serpent.

The following curious account of a combat between a monkey and a cobra de capella, was related to me by an old friend in Bengal, who heard it from a gentleman who had witnessed the fact at Panta, some thirty years ago. The monkey inhabited a large banyan tree, and was preparing to ascend it, when he perceived a large cobra near the root. On every attempt to approach the trunk, the snake reared his crest to attack him, and, as the monkey moved on the other side, the snake in like manner changed his ground, so as always to intercept his advance to the tree. The monkey on this quickened his movements, danced from side to side, and occasionally rushing directly at the snake as if to seize it, kept it in a state of continual action and alarm for nearly two hours.

At length the cobra, apparently tired out, lay stretched on the ground. The monkey now walked leisurely before it, watching its motions all the time with the utmost vigilance, and gradually lessening the distance between them, till he arrived within a reach of a single bound, springing on his enemy, before he had time to rear his head, grasped him firmly by the neck. The snake instantly enveloped him in his folds, but the monkey, retaining its hold, seized a brick-bat, (a part of the ruins of an old pagoda at the foot of the tree,) and coolly set himself to work to rub it against the head of the snake. This operation was continued with the most determined perseverance, till he had utterly destroyed all vestige of the head, reducing it to confused mass, when, disengaging himself from the now inert folds, he threw it from him, and sprang up to his wonted roosting place in the tree. After this, it can scarcely be questioned, that the monkey was not perfectly aware of the dangerous character of the snake, and also knew well the formidable power which his enemy possessed, and could in an instant put forth his destruction. It also appears to prove that larger animals, unlike the smaller ones, and small birds, are incapable of being acted upon by the power of fascination.—*Medical Times.*

A SINGULAR DEVELOPMENT.—A most extraordinary affair has occurred at Tooting, England. A person who had lived in that place more than half a century, part of the time as cook to a lady, and six years as the wife of Robert Welsh the parish clerk, died at the age of 83, and was discovered to be a man. He had regularly partaken of the sacrament, and was religiously buried as "Sister Ann Walsh." Many parties wished to keep the matter secret, but a woman named Fleicher, who was at the laying out, had sworn to the body being that of a man, and it would be disinterred according to law.

It is stated that a child was born in Boston, a few days since, with a natural bustle on its back. "Goodness gracious what a country."

If you can't stand before the truth, you must fall, as the man said when he knocked his wife down with the bible.

RATHER ODD.—The Pottsville Tariffite of the 2d inst. says: A suspicious looking fellow was watched a few nights since near Churchtown, Lancaster county, and upon being interrogated as to where he intended lodging, said he knew not where, but was anxious to get in somewhere, as he had a short time previous cut his throat. He was immediately taken in the house by his interrogator and upon examination his throat was found horribly lacerated, having five gashes cut in it. He had nothing in his possession but two rusty nails with which, it is supposed, he committed the deed.

Strawberries were for sale in the Charleston market as early as the 23d of March.