

# THE EVENING NEWS

Friday, Dec. 21, 1873.

**Rocky Mountain Meteorology—An Important Problem to be Solved.**

The Weather Bureau has recently occupied the lofty summit of Pike's Peak for its purposes of weather telegraphy. This eminence—fourteen thousand two hundred and sixteen feet above the ocean—is an admirable post for the meteorological service, as well by reason of its location as of its altitude. One of the most important problems of weather science now is to ascertain how far land masses projecting above the sea level are concerned in generating the great storm centers. Mount Washington, lying east of the sea, might finely illustrate the study of this interesting subject, but that any influence or agency it may exert in producing storms is hard to detect, since every storm near by quickly disappears to the eastward, and is but of only out on the Atlantic. But Pike's Peak rises in the middle of the Continent and, lying in the great belt of westerly winds, must, with a little observation, make its agency clearly felt and perceived by the men of the Signal Service station upon it.

The specific problem to which we refer (viz., how far mountainous masses or peaks are to be considered as storm breeders) is exceedingly important to all the future settlers of the Rocky Mountain States and Territories. It is known to mariners around Cape Horn that the icy projecting points of Patagonia and Terra del Fuego, as they arrest the vapor-laden westerly winds, rapidly condense them, and thus originate the furious and continuous gales that rage off that promontory. The revolving winds are there formed and driven westward at enormous speed to the eastward that a clipper ship (the *Sovereign of the Seas*, in March, 1853) has been known to run upon one of them for 4,600 nautical miles in sixteen days, during the first week of May, averaging 311 miles a day, and on other occasions made 411 miles. Although it has been sometimes said "the storm is the child of the ocean," the real agent in originating these gales is undoubtedly the frigid land areas which extract moisture out of the atmosphere, the driving wind and torrential rains, and thus begets the low barometer. Over the entire latitude of California and Oregon similar wind phenomena prevail, as in the Patagonian latitudes, Northwesterly and westerly winds, frightened and surprised with vapor-laden the North Pacific, sift through the passes of the Rocky Mountains, and as they encounter the mighty ice-sheathed pyramids like Pike's Peak they are rapidly condensed, and thus the nuclei of storm and snow tempests are formed.

To clear up the philosophy of the Rocky Mountain storms has been the ambition of many eminent American and European scientific travellers. Undoubtedly it will be found that, among these lofty peaks, of cold sublimity, the storm king of the West, is the one which manufactures the weather for the Mississippi Valley and the eastern side of our continent. The Rocky Mountain country, while often rising so gradually that the traveller perceives his ascent only by the fall of the mercury in his barometer, is lined by many rampart-like ridges, pursuing the direction north of west and south of east, and presenting their axial front to the prevailing vapor-laden westerly winds. It would seem very clear, therefore, by investigating the law of the Rocky Mountain storms, the information would guide the settler in the selection of the best watered lands and the localities best suited for mining, pasture and tillage. As this subject lies at the bottom of our whole continental meteorology it ought to be fully investigated.—*N. Y. Herald*.

## JOCULARITIES.

Praise the sea and keep on land. The old cow thinks she never was a calf.

How many letters will be dated this week?

Atlanta, Ga., has a five-cent bar-room.

Mr. Cushing fluently talks, and General Siebelz gracefully walks, Spanish.—*N. Y. Com. Ad.*

The Cuban Junta and Mr. Patterson are now sadly asking,—"What are the wild waves saying?"

"Collecting interest on what they owe me," is the polite name an Iowa thief gives to his larcencies.

Shoe store advertisements—shoes to suit the times. Rather to "size" fit to suit money.

His mother refuses to allow Prince Arthur to go and fight the Ashantes. He's her own precious.

How to become practically acquainted with the "Rule of Three"—Live with your wife, mother, and mother-in-law.

The question puzzling the juvenile mind is, "Where does Santa Claus stay during the rest part of the year?"

The Kokomo (Ind.) Tribune proposes to publish the names of such as are drunk on New Year's day in that town.

What is the difference between the side of a right-angled triangle and an old maid's teapot? One is a hypothesis, the other a teapot-in-use.

"He was a good man," says an Iowa paper of a deceased citizen, "but then he sometimes sat on the wrong side of the teapot."

A Liverpool hospital refuses to accept a gift of a thousand pounds until the donor gives his name. Not every one would be so particular. Let the donor try it in America, if he wants to get rid of his money.

A Philadelphia correspondent says he recently discovered in the dissecting-room of a medical college in that city the body of one of his acquaintances, an accomplished and lovely lady, who had died suddenly six days before.

A missionary among the freedmen in Tennessee, after relating to his colored children the story of Anna, the slave, asked them why God does not strike everybody dead that tells a lie, when one of the least in the room answered, "Because the there wouldn't be anybody left."

Nice little girl—Oh, Mr. Brown, give me one of the fish you've been catching. Brown (who rather fancied himself, and did, all he敢 to keep up the character) said, "I haven't been fishing my dear! I've been for a row. Nice little girl—Why, Emily was looking at you through a telescope, and said you did nothing but catch crabs." [Brown retires, smiling painfully.]—*Judy.*

—Sir James Colville recently, in London, gave indications that the Colville teahouse, situated via Kildaregate (Hakemstrasse), which raised a novel question, was almost as difficult as the names of the dealers in yesterdays.

A lady in Sullivan, Illinois, was recently granted a divorce from her husband, with forty acres of land as alimony. The same afternoon her former husband applied for a marriage license, and was granted it, the idea being that the lady to the lady of his second choice.

The Chicago Times says a million ball in every church, and claims that better sermons and fresher sermons will be the result.

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Manufacturers of Superior Quality

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