

THE SECOND MOON.

Some time ago it was announced that a German astronomer had declared the earth was to have a second moon, which was now in course of preparation. A writer over the signature of "Replek," thus treats of the subject:

It is a well-established fact now among astronomers and mathematicians, that there exists beyond our moon, some hundred thousand miles, making about 850,000 miles from the earth, a ring of matter similar to the rings of Saturn, but being turned edgewise toward our earth, is not visible to us on this globe, but would be to an observer with capacity for vision of one of our large telescopes from Venus or Saturn. This ring is in motion around our earth similar to the moon. All the Primary Planets, as well as secondary (Moons) were in their primeval construction rings, the primary as our earth, moving around the sun. At a certain point of condensation they were disrupted and came together as globes. The rings of Saturn will in time do the same, and become moons. This will also be the case in the one surrounding our earth. It is estimated that it will be about twice the substance of our present moon, but being nearly twice as far distant will only give something like the same amount of light, perhaps one and a half as much. It is also by very accurate calculations believed that the time of disruption or separation and conversion into a globular form, and consequently a new or second moon, is near at hand. In this calculation is taken the advanced condition and requirements of our earth.

It will readily be conceded that it will be a grand addition to our little terrestrial system. But would give us continual daylight and silvery nights, and not only this but would equalize the condition of earth and oceans (as we can then say) which are now perturbed, producing all the disturbed conditions now manifesting themselves on our Planet, like earthquakes, hurricanes, storms, droughts, etc. All would then be peaceful and calm, no earthquakes or the like. Rains would fall in regular and stated periods, the winds blow with gentle and steady breezes, no droughts would parch the land, because the new moon would equalize these causes, which are now produced in the following manner:

The centre of gravity between our earth and the moon is about one thousand miles outside the earth's periphery. About this point the earth and moon move in their monthly gyrations—so the earth does not move evenly about the sun, but makes a corkscrew or spiral motion in connection with the moon, this circulatory movement of the earth being from the centre of the earth some 10,000 miles in diameter. The daily motion of the earth also on its axis producing by the attraction of the moon, all the disturbances before spoken of. This will all be equalized when the second moon appears. As it is now in the form of a ring its effects on the earth are equalized. Not so, however, when it assumes the globular form.

We can, in an article like this, only give a general outline, but will revert again probably to further details. It is probable that many persons now living on our earth will yet see the full proliferation of the new or second moon, and it may happen any hour.

FEMALE TIPPLING.—The habit of drinking is becoming almost as common among the English ladies as it is among the English gentlemen. Any philosopher who chooses to go to a ball, and take his stand near the buffet, or survey the supper-table with an observant eye, will see that the old-fashioned beverages which cooled but not inebriated are, indeed, supplied just for form's sake, but that they have entirely lost their ancient popularity. He will see young women dash off as much champagne and claret in the course of a single evening as would have more than sufficed their grandmothers for a month. The ease and familiarity with which they drink is worthy of the most accomplished frequenter of a New York bar. That the results are not more astonishing is, in itself, a most satisfactory proof of a seasoned head. At dinner, one may notice the same taste for stimulants; the afternoon tea is beginning to be tea and something else. It is rumored that even the taste of spirit is not absolutely unknown to fair lips. Even the youngest maidens have begun to feel the necessity of that brandy-and-water which is prescribed for their overtasked lords. They, too, have become persuaded, to use the doctorial phrase, of the necessity of "keeping up the system." A woman who has been a mother a twelvemonth, if she has got with a near-shot of a plausible and sympathetic physician, soon catches the cant about the disorders of our day being characteristically disorders of the low type. In alarm, lest she should bring up an enfeebled offspring, she flies to the usual spirituous tonics. Brandy-and-water at bedtime is the great disinfectant against the grievous evils of our civilization. It is the supposed secret of a genial life and a vigorous progeny.—*Reynold's Newspaper.*

Old Joe B.—was a quiet old man, but somewhat too fond of the bottle. When in his cups, his ideas tended toward theological matters, which he always avoided in his sober moments. It was Saturday afternoon (Connecticut baking day) and his good wife wanted some wood for the oven.

"Joe, I do wish you would go and split some wood. Here it is nearly two o'clock, and the fire isn't made." Joe went out to execute his commission, but fearing his physical condition was weak, marched to the neighboring tavern to fortify himself therein. He returned home utterly oblivious to all things, save his pet theories. Seating himself on his chair he said:

"I say (hic) Jane, do you (hic) think the Lord (hic) means to burn us all (hic) up in fire?"

His venerable spouse, being exceedingly irate, did not answer. Again he repeated the question. Still an ominous silence.

"Wife, do you think the Lord means to burn us up in fire everlasting?"

"No!" said the now thoroughly aroused housewife; "no; you old fool, not if he waits for you to split the wood!"

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