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the reporter asked.

Some Scientific Facts

old Superstition.

"What's that got to do with it?"

Of all surviving pseudo-super-stitions that of the influence of the moon on the weather dies the hardest, and the belief that the so-called "changes" of the moon are accompanied or followed by changes in the condition of the terrestrial atmosphere is still to be found among a very large number indeed of otherwise educated and enlightened people. A recent writer in the English Mechanic has examined the grounds of this belief and attributes it to the weather predictions in the almanacs of the early part of the cen-

As to the moon "changing," one would imagine, to hear the majority of people talk, that a "change" of the moon is in some sense cognate with a conjuring trick, in which the performer, after showng that he has nothing in his hand, instantaneously produces an egg, an orange, or a ball from it. Now nothing could well he further from the truth than this, the fact being that the moon is always changing -. 01 second before conjunction she is waning. .01 sec and after it she is waxing, and so throughout her monthly path. When her (celestial) longitude is identical with that of the sun she is said in the almanacs to te "new"; when such longitude differs 90 degrees from the sun's toward the east she is in her "first quarter"; when they are separated by 180 degrees the moon is "full," and when she has traveled to that point in her orbit in which she is 90 degrees to the west of the sun she is said to be said to be said in the almanacs to the sun she is said to be said in the almanacs to the "new"; Manufactured only by the California Fig Syrup Co. San Francisco Cal. is Natures Own True Laxative. This pleasant liquid fruit remedy may be had of W. E. Dement & Co. at lifty cents or one dollar per bottle. It is the most pleasant, prompt and effective remedy known, to cleanes the system; to act on, the Liver, Kidneys and Bowels gently yet thoroughly to dispel Headachs, Colds and Fevers; to cure Constipation, Indigestion and kindred ills. of the sun she is said to be in her "last quarter;" in each case it being assumed that she is viewed from the earth's center. The use of the word "change," then, in connection with her position in these four points of her orbit, is a olecism, pure and simple.

"But," people are heard to say, "as the moon influences the tides, why should it not affect the atmosphere too?" To which the \$86.89. immediately obvious reply is that the tides are a semi-diurnal phenomenon, so that, on this principle the weather ought to change twice a day also—a conclusion too absurd to be entertained. November 17, T. 7; \$500. absurd to be entertained. Nevertheless, the moon does influence the amosphere by causing the production in it of tides so minute as. under ordinary circumstances, to be masked by other fluctuations. The existence of these atmospheric tides was first definitely established by the observations of the late Prof. Daniell, but if these minute tides influenced the weather in the slightest degree, it must change twice a day-a supposition too ridiculous to merit a notice.

The "moon on her back" as a weather sign would be a good deal like the old woman's indigo test—if the dye was pure, "'twould either sink or swim, she disremembered which." Mr. Forepaugh says it's a "dry moon," but in many parts of the country, and many parts of the country, and uniformly in England, the belief SIMMONS LIVER REGULATO prevails that when the young moon is "lying on her back"-in other words, when the line joining her cusps is nearly or quite paral-lel to the horizon, she is "holding water," and rain will certainly follow. How either belief arose it would be idle to speculate, but the explanation of the phenomenon itself is sufficiently simple. In the outset the moon is never much more than five degrees either to the north or south of the ecliptic, Will be on berth at Astoria during July and will take salmon in lots to suit shippers. For freight and rate of insurance apply to BALFOUR, GUTHRIE & CO.

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THE WOON AND THE WEATHER. Two minutes' study of a celestial globe will show how variable is the inclination of the ecliptic to the horizon, and consequently that of the line joining the cusps of the moon also.

Regarding an

Adam Forepaugh sat on a nai. keg on the elevated seats. "Chiof meteorological records cago?" said he; "why, Chicago is greatest show town in the made in h. ance and in England world-and then the moon; why, (where the Gre. "e carefully colenwich observations we've got another week of the for forty years we. phases durlated with the moon's fliced to ing that period) have su. rtever show that no connection wha

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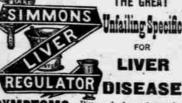
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Finally, the most elaborate com-"A good deal," he answered. exists between them. The solita.

"It's a dry moon. Whenever you observable effect of the moon upsee a moon lie on its back it never on our atmosphere was believed by Sir John Herschel to be exhib-The above conversation fook ited in the tendency to disappearplace last Sunday afternoon, and ance of cloud under the full moon, within thirty-six hours thereafter and this he attributed to the heat the first rain in several weeks was radiated from her surface. - Chica-

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