

lations. Now we will suppose we have reached the moon. A great ball of light stands in the heavens and is thirteen times as large as our moon appears to us. It is the earth, for thus it would appear to us if we were to view it from the moon. Doubtless some of the green shades of summer and the white of winter would be visible from that view-point. If we were to stay on the surface of the moon we should find that the earth was always shining at nearly the same point in the heavens, never changing its position much though every other celestial object seemed to revolve around the moon. This is true because the moon always keeps one face towards the earth. Sometimes, however, its light would be very much more needed than at others, for the sun would shine for fourteen days and then set and remain invisible for a like period. The night-time of the moon would be quite light and the stars would hardly ever be visible if, indeed, they were ever seen at all. During all this long day, equal to fourteen of ours, the lunatics, as we might name the moonites, could play and work, then rest for two weeks of night. Ball would be a slow game upon the moon's surface, for whereas any object falls 16 feet in one second on the earth's surface, this is quite different on the moon. The ball would fall only 2.65 feet in the first second there. The earth is 81 times as heavy as the moon but only 49 times as large.

As we explored the moon's surface, we should find broad valleys which are probably old sea-beds, vast mountain-ranges, fearful gorges and canyons, extinct craters of old volcanoes, in fact, every evidence of a dead world. The moon is now a universal graveyard. Once, it was probably full of life and abounded in living scenery, fertile valleys watered by deep rivers and wooded with luxuriant forests; now there is no water in sea, or lake or fountain. There are no rivers, no rains, and no winds. There is neither breeze nor tempest, for there is no atmosphere.

Let us return to earth, and, with a good field glass or small telescope, take a look at the moon. Some portions are darker than others, the lightest parts are the highest and catch most sunlight. The darker are the valleys because they receive the shadows. If you look closely you will see one spot brighter than all the rest. This is Mount Tycho. It is an old volcano and is the highest in the moon.

I started with spinning-wheels, then tackled the time question, and here I am closing with a lunar crater. I am afraid you will wonder if the old boy hasn't a wheel or two in his head, and perhaps he has. At least he is an earthling and no lunatic.

THE OLD BOY.

## WHAT THE DICTIONARY SAYS ABOUT

# The Month of May.

"What time she walks beneath the flowering May."  
—T. Woolner.

"Birds' love and birds' song  
Flying here and there."  
—Tennyson.

"Ah! my heart is weary waiting,  
Waiting for the May."  
—S. F. MacCarthy.

"Spring o' the year! Spring o' the year!"  
Was there ever a song so gay,  
As the song the meadow-lark sings to me  
When we meet in the field each day."  
—Jean Blewett.

May, the fifth month of the year as at present constituted, during which the sun enters Gemini, consists of 31 days. In America May is considered the last month of spring. In Europe May is considered the first month of summer. The dictionary gives the following explanations of May events, traditions, and flowers:

**May-day:** The first day of May.

**May-bush:** The English hawthorn.

**May-blossom:** The lily-of-the-valley.

**Mayfish:** A killifish, common in shallow bays.

**Italian May:** St. Peter's wreath and pride-of-the-meadow.

**May-bird:** The bobolink, knot, whimbrel, or wood-thrush.

**Maythorn:** The hawthorn, or a tin horn for a small boy to blow on May-day.

**May-hill:** A trying time, so called from the impression that May is a bad month for invalids.

**May-pole:** A pole decorated with flowers or ribbons, around which children circle on May-day.

**May-apple:** The void oblong yellowish fruit of a North-American plant, the mandrake. Called also *hog-apple*.

**May-game:** Sport or play such as one might be expected to indulge in on May-days; hence, sport generally, boisterous fun, frolic, jest.

**May-fly:** An insect which in its young state inhabits water and is long-lived, and in its adult state merely propagates its kind and soon dies.

**May-dew:** The morning dew of May, or strictly of the first of May—formerly supposed to possess remarkable properties, such as whitening linen and preserving beauty.