

How to Foretell the Weather.

Mr. A. J. DeVoe, of Hecksensack, N. J., sends to the Farmers' Club of the American Institute the following ten short rules, by the use of which, it is said, one in any part of the Northern Hemisphere (north of latitude fifteen) can form an accurate opinion of how the wind and weather are progressing for a hundred miles around him.

1. When the temperature falls suddenly, there is a storm forming south of you.
2. When the temperature rises suddenly, there is a storm forming north of you.
3. The wind always blows from a region of fair weather towards a region where a storm is forming.
4. Cirrus clouds always move from a region where a storm is in progress, towards a region of fair weather.
5. Cumulus clouds always move from a region of fair weather, towards a region where a storm is forming.
6. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the north or north west, there will be rain in less than twenty-four hours, no matter how cold it may be.
7. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the south or south-west, there will be a cold rain storm on the morrow if it be summer, and if it be winter there will be a snow storm.
8. The wind blows in a circle around a storm, and when it blows from the north the heaviest rain is east of you; from the south, the heaviest rain is west; from the east, the heaviest rain is south; from the west, the heaviest rain is north of you.
9. The wind never blows unless rain or snow is falling within one thousand miles of you.
10. Whenever a heavy white frost occurs, a storm is forming within one thousand miles north or north-west of you.

Popular Weather Sayings.

UPON WHAT THE WEATHERWISE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BASE THEIR "PROBABILITIES."

Correspondence of the Boston Journal.

The Chief Signal Officer at Washington is seeking material for a collection of "popular weather sayings, proverbs and prognostics used throughout the country, and by all classes and races, including Indians, Negroes and all foreigners." The readers of *The Journal* may be interested to see a collection made in New Hampshire for his use. The writer does not vouch for the correctness of the prognostics. He gives them as they were given to him, and the reader may judge for himself as to their value. The divisions made by the Chief Signal Officer are twenty-three in number.

1. The sun. A halo around the sun indicates that there will be rain or snow soon. If the sun rises clear and soon goes into a cloud it will rain before night. If the sun shines while it rains, it will rain the next day. A sun dog, or mock sun, indicates that there will be stormy weather very soon.
2. The moon. "One Saturday change is enough for seven years," as there is always a severe storm after it. The nearer the time of the moon's change to midnight, the fairer will the weather be during the seven days following. The nearer to midday the phases of the moon happen, the more foul or wet weather may be expected during the next seven days. The space for these calculations is two hours before and two hours after midnight and noon. A halo around the moon indicates a coming storm. The number of stars seen within the circle shows the number of days before it will occur. If the new moon stands upright, so that the crescent will not hold water, there must be rain, as the water must all descend. If the new moon is horizontal, so that the crescent will hold water, there will be rain, as the water collected will be poured down. Grain should always be sown in the new of the moon, that it may grow with the increase of the moon. The same rule should be observed in planting flower sops. To kill bushes, they should be cut after the full of the August moon, when the sign is in the heart. Pigs and hogs should always be killed during the increase of the moon, or the pork will diminish in bulk while cooking.

8. Stars and meteors. The Aurora Borealis always indicates a change of weather, and if it is very red the weather will be very cold. If there are no falling stars to be seen on a bright summer evening, you may look for fine weather. If there be many falling stars on a fine summer's eve, you may expect thunder and heavy rain.

4. Rainbows. "If you go to the foot of the rainbow where it touches the earth, you will find a pot of gold." When there is a rainbow in the morning, there will be rain soon. When there is a rainbow at night, it will not rain the next day.

"A rainbow in the morning
Is the sailor's warning.
A rainbow at night
Is the sailor's delight."

5. Mist and fog. A sheet of fog along the river in the morning indicates that the day will be a hot one. When the fog settles on the mountain in the morning, it will certainly rain before night. "When the fog goes up the mountain, you may go hunting. When it comes down the mountain, you may go fishing." In the former case there will be fine weather; in the latter, rain.

6. Dew. When you feel the dew falling heavily in the evening, you may be sure it will be fair next day. When in the morning you see the ground covered with webs, covered with dew and no dew on the ground around, it is a sign of rain before night, for the spiders are putting up umbrellas. But others say, "When the spiders put out their sun shades, it will be a hot day."

7. Clouds. If the sky is very red in the west in the evening, the weather will be fair next day. If it is red in the east in the morning, it is a sign of a storm. If in the evening it is deep red low down in the west, and black above, it is a sign of wind. If very black, a very high wind. A mackerel sky in the west indicates rain. If there be a sheep sky, or white clouds driving to the northwest, it will be fine for some days.

"Great clouds like an old mare's tail,
Make great ships carry low sail."

8. Frost. White frosts on three successive nights indicate a thaw. If the ice crack much, you may expect the frost will continue.

9. Snow. When there are black clouds in the north, there will be snow. If on a fair day in winter a white bank appears low in the south, it is a sure indication of snow very soon. If snow fall in large flakes, and they increase in size, there will be a thaw.

10. Rain. If rain commences before daylight, it will hold up before 8 a.m. If it begins about noon, it will continue through the afternoon. If not till 5 p.m., it will rain through the night. If it commences after 9 p.m., it will rain the next day. If it clears off in the night, it will rain the next day.

"If it rains before seven
It will stop before eleven."

If the wind is from the northwest or southeast the storm will be short; if from the northeast, it will be a hard one; if from the northwest, a cold one; and from the southwest, a warm one. After it has been raining some time a blue sky in the southeast indicates that there will be fair weather soon. After it has been raining some time, "if you see enough blue in the west to make a Dutchman a pair of breeches, it will soon clear off."

11. Thunder and lightning. "If it thunder in the morning it will be fearful before night." "Winter thunder is to old folks death and to young folks plunder." It is said that persons in consumption have died during a thunder storm.

12. Winds. A south wind brings rain, a north-east wind a severe storm, and a northwest wind fair weather. If the wind veers round with the sun there will be fair weather. If the wind starts up while it is raining it will blow the rain clouds away and there will be fair weather.

13. Animals. The following are said to be signs of rain: If bats fly low and come into the house; if cattle lie down in the morning and chew the cud; if horses toss their heads, snuff, and are very uneasy; if rats and mice are restless and squeak; if swine are uneasy, grunt loudly and squeal; if cats and dogs eat grass and sheep spring about more than usual. So also the proverbs:

"When the ass begins to bray,
We surely shall have rain to-day."

And

"When the donkey blows his horn,
'Tis time to house your hay and corn."

When in winter pigs rub against the side of their pen it is a sure sign of a thaw.

14. Birds. Before rain cuckoos sing, ducks and other fowl pick up and oil their feathers, guinea fowls are noisy, owls hoot, peacocks squall, quails whistle, crows caw, swallows fly low and water-fowl scream and plunge into the water. If birds flock together in September, it is the sign of a coming storm. If crows are seen going south in the fall, it is a sign of a colder weather; but if they go north, there will be warmer weather. If wild geese come from the north early in the fall, it is the sign of an early winter; if they go north early in the spring, it is a sign that the winter is broken. The Phoebe bird, or pewee, sings before warm weather.

15. Fish. Fish bite best before rain.

16. Reptiles. Frogs and tree toads peep before rain. If a leech be kept in a glass jar partly filled with water, while it lies curled up at the bottom of the jar there will be fair weather, but, before rain, wind or snow it will be agitated and will rise to the surface, and if it comes entirely out of the water you may expect thunder.

17. Insects. Before rain ants are bustling and active, and will carry their eggs from place to place; bees are busy, but do not go far from their hives; crickets sing and try to get into the house; flies are very annoying and bite sharper than usual; and spiders spin gossamer webs in the air. If ants clear their holes and pile the dust high before 11 a.m. it will be fair the rest of the day.

18. Trees and plants. If the leaves of maples and other trees turn up so as to show their under side it is a sign of rain. Dandelions, tulips and other flowers close up before rain.

19. Various objects. When smoke beats down from the chimney, it is a sign of a storm. When it goes straight up, it is an indication of fair weather. If bells, steam whistles, and other sounds are heard more distinctly than usual, rain is near. Before rain, tables may be heard to crack, violin strings will break, corns will be more troublesome, rheumatic pains more intense, and the places when broken limbs have united will ache.

20. Days of the week. If the sun sets clear on Friday night, it will rain before Monday night. If the first Sunday in the month be stormy, all the other Sundays in that month will be stormy also. But others have it, that two other Sundays will be stormy. Important business or agricultural operations should never be commenced on Friday or Saturday. "When there are three days cold, expect three days colder." The first three days of the dog days rule the other dog days, that is, if they be rainy, the others will be, and if they be dry, so will the others be.

21. The months. A thaw may always be expected in January.

22. The seasons. If the spring is wet and cold, the autumn will be hot and dry.

23. Other sayings. "All signs fail in a dry time." W. H.

Meteorological Divisions of the United States.

In accordance with the proposed arrangements, the terms "New England," "Eastern," "Western," "Pacific," and other names hitherto descriptive of the States, will have to be abolished, and the following classification adopted and adhered to in our predictions:—

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania are to be called the North Atlantic States; Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida will be classed as South Atlantic States; Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas will form the Northern Central; and Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Indian Territory and Arkansas the Southern Central States, or "Division." All States and Territories west of the Rocky Mountains are termed the Western Division. The term "Division," is used by the Bureau instead of "States" so that the Territories may be included. This plan may have to be changed when all the Territories are admitted into the Sisterhood of States.