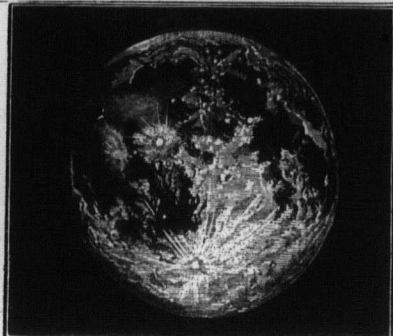




SOMETHING ABOUT THE MOON.

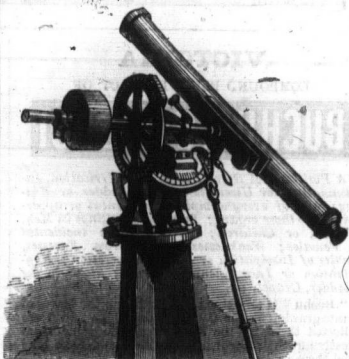
The surface of the moon, as seen from the earth, presents a most irregular grouping of light and shade. The dark portions were named by the earlier astronomers as seas, lakes, &c., and still retain these names, although there is strong evidence against the supposition that the moon, or at least that portion of it presented to us, contains any water. The mountains occur either singly, when they are generally of a circular form, and are called *craters*, or in groups, which are mostly annular, and form a sort of wall enclosing a deep depression or plain, in which are situated one or more conical mountains. The craters are not unfrequently 8 or 10 miles in diameter, and some of the walled plains measure more than 100 miles across. The principal mountain range is the Apennines, which crosses the surface from north-east to south-west, and attains, according to some authorities, an altitude of about 20,000 feet, though Sir John Herschel gives about 2 miles as the probable limit of elevation above the moon's surface. The heights are estimated from a micrometric measurement of the length of their shadows, a method not, in this case, susceptible of much accuracy. The moon everywhere presents traces of volcanic agency, but no active volcanoes have yet been discovered, nor is there any sign of recent volcanic action. Seen through the telescope, she presents a bleak, desolate appearance, without indications of animal or vegetable existence. She appears to be devoid of an atmosphere, or if one exists, it must be of exceeding rarity.

The moon was anciently an object of worship, and even in the 17th century she was supposed, by the common people of England, to exercise great influence over human affairs. The times for killing animals for food, gathering herbs, cutting down wood for fuel, sowing seeds of various kinds, were all regulated by the "age" of the moon, and these set periods were considered to be a necessary part of practical knowledge, and ignorance or neglect of them to be infallibly productive of loss. There were similarly defined periods for taking particular medicines, and attempting the cure of particular diseases. Many such superstitions prevailed till a recent period in the Highlands of Scotland, favourable or unfavourable consequences from any occurrence being predicted according to the age of the moon at the time it happened. Throughout Scotland, the waning moon was considered to have an evil influence, and full or new moon to be the most auspicious season for commencing any enterprise. The same opinion was held in Scandinavia and Germany, and the history of all nations teem with similar superstitions.

The influence of the moon in causing *Tides* has long been well known, and there is some reason for supposing that she produces a similar effect on the atmosphere, combining with other causes in the generation of winds. Those winds which prevail about the time of new and full moon, and at the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, are particularly ascribed to her influence.

On the supposition that the moon might also affect organic nature, experiments were instituted by Mead, Hoffmann, and others; but no certain results were attained. The periodicity which has often been noticed in certain diseases, especially in insanity (hence called *lunacy*), was long supposed to have some connection with lunar influence, and this opinion is held to some extent at the present day. The chemical effects of the moon's rays are, so far as at present known, feeble, though in particular instances they exhibit an *actinism* as powerful as that of the sun. Decomposition of animal matter takes place more rapidly in the moonshine than in darkness, and the moon's rays, when concentrated, have a sensible effect on the thermometer.

In the Edda, we read that "Mundilfari had two children—a son, Máni (moon) and a daughter, Sól (sun);" and in German, the moon is masculine and the sun feminine to this day. It was the same in Anglo-Saxon; although modern English has in this matter followed the classic mythology, in which Phœbus and Sol are gods, and Selene, Luna, and Diana are goddesses.



A VERY STRONG CERTIFICATE.

Victoria Chemical Co.
Toronto.

Ottawa, Ont.

Gentlemen,—Confirming my statement a short time ago, as to the satisfactory results from the use of your Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, I will further add that fresh proofs of the genuine benefits conferred on patients requiring it are constantly coming under my observation; parties to whom I have recommended it, have in a short time with the deepest thankfulness acknowledged the relief they have experienced, and in some cases have asserted that it and it alone has saved their lives. It gives me much pleasure to assure you that I consider your Syrup, the Victoria Hypophosphites, the best preparation of any which has come under my notice for Debility and all Pulmonary Complaints, Bronchitis, Coughs, &c., and believing this I constantly recommend it before every other Compound.

Very truly yours,

H. F. MCCARTHY,
Pharmaceutical Chemist.

Note.—Be particular about the name, and see that you get the *Victoria Hypophosphites*; there are others in the market, but this has been proved to be *Chemically Pure*. See page 22.

ELECTRIC LINIMENT cures all Sprains, &c.

Stands
Niagara
was rais
Sir Isaac
fought
remains
M'Dona
battle,
The f
was bl
who wa
The pre
height i
high; t
and 30
Irishian
general
The eye
est lift
below i
shore i
quill Ri
serenit
the ricl
cottage
Niagam
Americ
by For
savage
cent sh
flood o