

globe? Think of the very marked change we had a week ago to-day, that storm; it was on the 22nd, new moon or "change" was on the 18th. Furthermore "Old Probabilities" knew that change of weather and storm were coming, for the day before it was about 700 miles to the southwest of us, and our weather generally comes from the west. A beautiful example that of simultaneity of "change of moon, change of weather."

But this is not all. Popularly, there are four changes of the moon in a month, although the new moon change holds, I think the principal place as weather changer. We thus have a "change of moon" every week through the four quarters, so that we have four yanks of the weather crank per month, simultaneous over the whole world. It is so rational, is it not? The whole scientific world or at least the whole world of meteorologists is trying to learn to predict changes of weather by studying the dynamics of the atmosphere, the dynamics of the sun, the rotational effect of the earth, the modifications by land and sea, and yet has failed to discover so simple a rule as "change of the moon, change of weather." As I have already said, in reality there is a change of the moon every day, every instant, which shows the absurdity of selecting any one or four changes as being more potent than others, which are continually taking place.

This superstition of the moon and weather is deep-rooted, I admit. It exists over the whole earth, amongst civilized and uncivilized peoples. If any of these moon-weather wise would take the trouble to note the state of the weather day by day, and compare such with the phases of the moon—or change of the moon—they would soon discover the unreliability of any prediction they might make, in short, would find what scientists have found by close study and observation in every civilized country over the globe that there is absolutely no connection between the moon and weather.

Now, this belief in the influence of the moon on the weather, I venture to say, has not for many generations been evolved by any person from his own recorded observations, but it has been handed down from generation to generation, from father to son, from mother to daughter, and it is so much easier to believe a thing than to try and find it out for yourself. If by chance, change of moon is immediately followed by change of weather, the fact is riveted in the mind to perpetuate the tradition, and if it doesn't fit—well, it's forgotten. Hence, we have the spectacle, the sad, the deplorable spectacle, in this year of grace 1912, in this age of enlightenment, of men and women clinging to this false weather-god. And who are these people that entertain this belief, are they only our ignorant, our common plebians? No, you will find included, men who are intelligent, who are