

SCIENCE AND WEATHER

WHY PROF. HARRINGTON WAS TURNED DOWN AND PROF. MOORE APPOINTED

SECRETARY MORTON EXPLAINS.

He has no Great Opinion of the Scientist who Works for Money--Never Heard of a Hired Scientist Discovering Anything--A Southern Congressman Comes South in the Interest of Harrison--The Texas Negro at the National Republican Convention.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 9. Secretary Morton has no great opinion of the scientists here in the pay of the government. They were all up in arms because he turned down scientist Harrington as chief of the Weather Bureau, and appointed Mr. Moore, who, though experienced in the weather predicting business, is not a scientist in the opinion of the profession here.

The Secretary simply reasoned that last year, out of ten candidates in a competitive examination for a Weather Bureau professionship, Moore stood the highest. "He called the turn," as the Secretary expressed it, "day after day on the toughest winter we ever had." Then again last March Moore foretold 130 cold-air waves, and 115 arrived on time. He warned Florida of the cold snap last December, and although the snap brought ruin, the prophecy was regarded as remarkable. He took good care of the West, also, by predicting twenty-seven sure-enough storms near Lake Michigan out of thirty guesses. This proof that he was not sectional and knew a bad streak of weather before he saw it, together with the facts that he never went to college and was brought up in a job printing office, caused Secretary Morton to warm to him and to recommend his appointment as weather prophet-in-chief. The Secretary did not stop to ask Moore how he foretells the weather.

When asked by a friend if he did not think he was taking a good deal of risk in letting a scientist go, and if he did not underestimate the value of keeping scientific men in Government employ, Secretary Morton said: "Did you ever hear of a man going into a livery stable and hiring a horse and then entering him on a race track and winning anything?"

The visitor had to answer "No." "Well," continued the Secretary, "did you ever hear of a hired scientist discovering anything? Did Watt, Stephenson, Edison or any other man who has really done anything big hire out to the Government?"

"I have a high regard for a truly scientific man," he is reported as saying. "Such a man as that does something for the benefit of the human race, and is of great value. The trouble is that a great many so-called scientists in the government service are like rats in the corncrib, you never see anything of them or hear of them until you tear the crib down."

It is said that an acquaintance asked the Secretary if Prof. Harrington's scientific methods had not been economical. As illustrating Harrington's methods, the Secretary is reported to have related this incident: The forecaster at Baker City, Ore., had not been heard from in three or four days. Prof. Harrington "respectfully suggested" to the Secretary that the forecaster at San Francisco be sent to Baker City to investigate "at an expense of not to exceed \$150." The Secretary telegraphed to Baker City and got a reply that the delay was caused by the telegraph wires being down.

"It would have cost \$150," remarked the Secretary, "to have got this information scientifically. It cost to get it practically 75 cents."

Recently the Supreme Court decided that anchovy paste was not a sauce. A New York firm sued to recover an excess of duties paid upon goods imported as "fish paste." The custom house assessed the goods as "sauces," compelled the payment of taxes at 35 per cent. ad valorem under the term in the tariff act "sauces of all kinds." The Supreme Court in conference decided that the tax was proper, and appointed Justice Gray to write the decision.

and she proceeded to read her distinguished spouse such a lecture upon the cuisine and the constituents entering into it that he began to waver. In a calm and penetrating manner she held up the delicious effects fish paste would have on a tender head of lettuce, and described its palate pulsating delight when freely embellishing chicken salad.

"Sauce, indeed," said Mrs. Gray, "so are sardines and smoked red herring, then."

Next day, when Justice Gray reached the Supreme Court, he called his colleagues together and acquainted them with the feminine view of the sauce question.

"You are all married men like myself," he said, "and maybe you'd better sound your wives before we make a precedent about anchovy and bloater paste being sauce."

This was agreed to, and next day eight Justices of the Supreme Court met and solemnly concurred that the Customs Department of the United States and the Circuit Court of the Southern District of the New York and Webster's Unabridged Dictionary didn't know anything more about what sauce was than a tomtit did about the Pentateuch. It was in this way that the wives of the Supreme Court judges overruled their decisions.

Alfred A. McKethan, of Fayetteville, has been commissioned as ensign in the navy by the President.

The name of the postoffice at Moffitt's Mills, Randolph county, has been changed to Moffitt's.

Rebecca M. Marburn has been appointed P. M. at Dillsboro.

Ex-Senator Bruce, col., has returned from the South where he went on a pilgrimage to help Harrison get the presidential nomination. The talk here is that he promised offices to all influential Republicans, and had the authority to make the promises. "They say" that Alger has had enough experience with Southern delegates.

In connection with the subject of buying and selling votes, this story is told about a Texas negro: This negro was elected a delegate to the last Republican convention. He hadn't a cent. He went to a prominent cotton man for whom he had worked, told the story of his poverty and asked for enough money to pay his transportation to Minneapolis and return.

"I will give you \$75," said the cotton man, "but if you don't come back here with enough money to buy yourself a farm never show your face to me again."

After the convention the colored delegate returned to his Washington county home and bought one of the very best farms in Central Texas, paying therefor \$2,900. Asked where he got so much money he said: "I sell me vote to three different gentlemen."

"But you didn't vote for three candidates for the Presidency?" was asked. "Oh, no," he replied, "I votes for only one and then takes the first train for home."

Dr. G. W. Sanderlin has been called to take charge of the Metropolitan Baptist church that was presided over by the late Gen. Green Clay Smith, until a successor can be appointed.

Mr. Murphy and wife, of Sampson county, have gone to Atlantic City to spend two days.

Dr. G. W. Sanderlin is acting as Auditor for the Interior Department in the absence of Mr. Sam'l Blackwell, the present Auditor.

Mrs. Adams, of Wilson, is visiting her daughter, Miss Fannie Adams of the Treasury Department.

As predicted in my letter some weeks ago, Mr. Isaac E. Avery, son of Justice Avery, has been promoted to the position of vice Consul General at Shanghai. His salary is not increased, but in case of the absence of the Consul General, Mr. Avery would succeed to his duties and pay.



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Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

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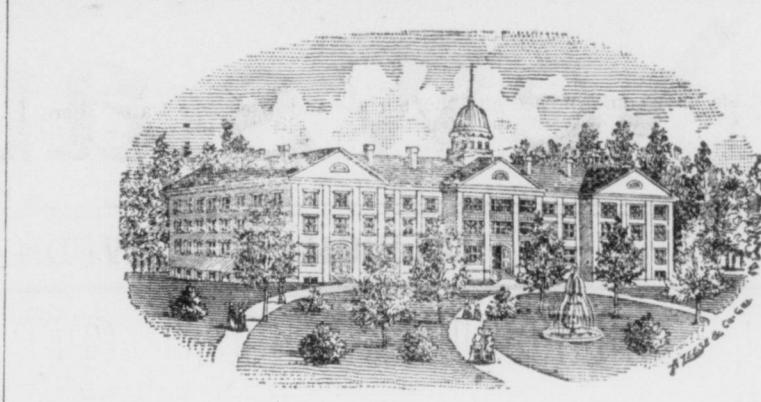
The Spectator of (of N Y) tables for 1895 have appeared, showing the rate of interest earned by the 27 leading life insurance companies. They show that the Union Central Life Insurance Co., of Cincinnati, O., ratio for 1894 is 7.01 per cent, against 5.66 per cent, the highest of any other company, and 4.99 per cent, the general average.

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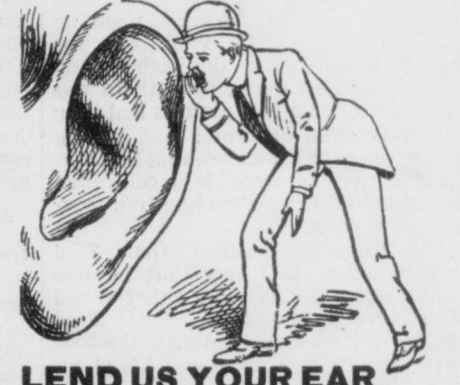
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