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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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THE GULF STREAM SOURCE OF MOISTURE

Since our "lows" and "highs", the storms and fair weather areas, almost all come from a westerly direction we do not always concede to the warm waters of the Atlantic their due credit for the rainfall of the East. Just as the water for the Pacific and mountain states comes from the Pacific, off which the moist winds blow, so the moisture for the eastern two-thirds of the continent largely comes from the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf Stream as primary sources. True it is that south or south-east winds do not prevail here, as on the Pacific slope, but just as sure is it that without these southerly winds, either touching the ground or riding aloft over winds of other directions, no rain or snow of consequence can occur in the East.

If "lows" pass too rapidly for the indraft from the south to reach across the central and northern states the precipitation must be light, but if they advance leisurely great quantities of moisture arrive from the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf Stream, and heavy rains or snows descend.

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