brought into rotary motion, which drives the surface-air away from a centre. The vapor atmosphere is thereby caused to approach the earth's surface, and by thus descending is brought under greater pressure, so as to give off rain at the centre of the cyclone, as explained above.

Having, by a simple way of reasoning, arrived at the conclusion that an atmosphere of pure aqueous vapor must exist outside the atmosphere proper, we should not feel justified in stopping without carrying our idea out in at least some of its consequences, although the following remarks do not concern our immediate subject, the cause of rain. Supposing there was an outer limit to this aqueous atmosphere, the difficulty which would present

itself is, that we should find aqueous vapor alongside of the vacuum of space. It is well known that when moisture is brought into an artificially produced vacuum, the latter gets instantaneously filled with aqueous vapor. How is this experiment to agree with the popular notion that vapor, as well as the other constituents of the atmosphere, is kept within limits round the earth by means of gravitation? If the vapors of the supposed outer border of the atmosphere were prevented from entering space owing to gravitation, how much more would the vapors at the bottom of an artificial vacuum be prevented from filling this space, as the force of gravity is much the greater at the earth's surface than at a supposed outer border of the atmosphere?

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