Robert Bailey Thomas Encyclopedia Article

Robert Bailey Thomas

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Robert Bailey Thomas

1766-1846

American publisher who, in 1792 during George Washington's second term as U.S. president, founded *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, the oldest continually published almanac of its kind. Thomas's *Almanac* presented farming features, astronomical information, and weather data that he calculated using a secret weather forecasting formula said to be 80% accurate. When Thomas died in 1846, he was rumored to be hard at work on his 55th edition of *The Old Farmer's Almanac*.