

Marine Barometer.

strength may come on without any indication from the barometer: but not anything that deserves the name of a gale. There has never, within our experience, occurred a gale, so heavy as to be of serious consequence to a good vessel, the approach of which has not been indicated by the barometer. But it must be remembered that a high barometer, in this climate, and under the circumstances which I have mentioned, is often indicative of an easterly gale. It is remarkable that, in the gulf and estuary of the St. Lawrence, a high barometer may be considered as the forerunner of wet and foggy weather, which usually accompanies its fall: whilst a low barometer renders it equally probable that dry weather will ensue, since it often accompanies its rise. I am fully of opinion, that the marine barometer is of the greatest assistance in the navigation of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, and that by attending constantly to its state and changes, with reference to the winds and weather which preceded them, combined with the indications afforded by the appearance of the sky, &c., those changes of the wind and weather, which are about to take place, may be anticipated with a degree of certainty sufficient, in most cases, to enable us to avoid being caught on a lee-shore, or in an unsafe anchorage, as well as to regulate our course in a voyage, in anticipation of the coming change.

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