

Perry, at Toronto, during the greater part of the intervening time ; and, therefore, beg further time for that purpose. Respectfully submitted,

Jos. T. DUTTON.

Montreal, 31st March, 1856.

The report was received and adopted ; and the Committee allowed until next ordinary meeting to draw up their report.

The following donations were received, and the thanks of the Society ordered to be conveyed to the respective donors :—from Dr. Kingdom, R. C. Rifles, three volumes of Reports, embracing the Meteorology of the United States, from 1826 to 1842 inclusive. From W. Woodwork, Esq., of St. Eustache, two curious specimens of Indian corn.

Dr. Barnston read the following report :

Report of the Sub-Committee authorised by the Committee appointed by the Council of the Natural History Society of Montreal, at a special meeting held 19th March, 1856, to examine the Meteorological Observatory of Charles Smallwood, M. D., at St. Martin, Isle Jesus, C.E. and to report thereon.

On Tuesday, March 25th, the Committee, consisting of the Vice-Presidents, Drs. Workman and Hingston, Mr. Rennie, and Dr. Barnston, assembled at the Council-room of the Natural History Society, and left town at half past three in the afternoon, in company with a few other gentlemen interested in the promotion of Meteorological science. After a somewhat perilous journey over bad roads, they arrived safely in the village of St. Martin, where they were received by Dr. Smallwood, who showed every attention to his visitors, and exhibited the whole apparatus connected with his Observatory, at the same time explaining the nature and uses of each instrument. From the information derived through his kindness, the Sub-Committee are enabled to furnish the Society with the following details, which are by no means so minute and extended as they could desire.

The Observatory is situated in the village of St. Martin, on the Isle Jesus, about nine miles due west of Montreal, in lat. $45^{\circ} 32' N.$ and long. $78^{\circ} 36' W.$, or 4 h. 54 m. 20 s. in time from Greenwich. It is a small square wooden building, conveniently situated in an open space, a few yards N. W. of his dwelling house. It is placed in the magnetic meridian, and its roof is furnished with a sliding shutter, which, when opened, enables him to obtain observations of stars as they pass the meridian, for which purpose a small transit instrument is used. The apparatus to be seen within the building may be described as follows :

Of the *Barometers* there are—1. A Newman's standard, the brass scale of which extends from the cistern to the top of the tube. The tube itself is 0.6 of an inch in diameter internally, and is so contrived that its oscillations can be taken by photography ;—2. A standard by Negretti and Zambé ; and—3. Another instrument with a smaller tube. The cistern of the barometer is 118 feet above the level of the sea.

The *Thermometers* consist of Rutherford & Lixes' self-registering—a standard thermometer where the reading coincides with that existing at the Kew Observatory. There is likewise a wet bulb-thermometer (or psychromatic) from which are deduced the temperature of the dew point, the elastic force and weight of aqueous vapour, and the humidity of the atmosphere.

The observatory also possesses an instrument for registering the intensity of the solar rays, and another for terrestrial radiation—the latter being furnished with a parabolic speculum, possessing 100 inch focus.