

speaks, about Iceland behave, and it is this secondary or gyrotory motion especially that gives us storms. It appears that the valley of the St. Lawrence has the largest number of the storms of any section of the globe, i.e. areas of high and low barometer passing over it. The greater number of American storms originate in the Saskatchewan country or on the south-eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains. A minor number are developed in the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. Our worst storms in summer are traceable to Texas, whereas the winter ones come mostly from the North-west. The Rocky Mountains are such a barrier that it is seldom that a storm of the Pacific crosses them and reaches us. The ultimate course of low area storms is somewhat north of east. The number of well defined low area storms which cross the United States and Canada average eight in each month from May to August inclusive; nine from September to November and in April; eleven in February, March and December, and twelve in January. The average velocity of low area storms fluctuates for the different months between 25 and 38 miles per hour, the maximum being in January. To summarize, low area storms have a wind circulation inward and upward, are elliptical in form, are characterized in their eastern quadrants by cloudy weather, southerly and easterly winds, precipitation, temperature oppressive in summer, and abnormally high in winter, falling barometer, increasing humidity; and are followed by clearing weather, rising barometer, decreasing humidity, and falling temperature in the western quadrants.

Areas of high barometer, or anti-cyclones, in which the barometric pressures are defined by isobars successively higher toward the centre, are about forty per cent. less frequent than low area storms. In winter the advance of these high areas, though always attended by a decided fall in temperature, is for the most part characterized by clear skies, by calms near the centre and light or fresh winds on the outskirts of the area. This condition of affairs permits rapid nocturnal radiation and tends to lower the temperature of the air at the centre of an anti-cyclone.

*(To be continued.)*