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## ALMANACS.

An Almanac, in the modern sense of the word, is an annual publication, giving the following particulars:—1. The civil divisions of the year. 2. The moveable and other Feasts. 3. The times of the various astronomical phenomena; including, in the latter term, not only those which are remarkable, such as the Eclipses of the Sun and Moon, but also those of a more ordinary and useful character, such as the places of the Sun, Moon, Planets, and principal fixed Stars. 4. The times of High Water and Low Water on the sea coasts. 5. Also, such information on Weather as observation may have furnished.

The first printed Almanac that appeared in Europe was probably the "Kalendarium Novum" of a German astronomer, Johann Müller, or Regiomontanus [his adopted name], and was published for the year 1475, 1494, and 1513, the interval being an entire cycle of 19 years. The King of Hungary rewarded Müller with a present of 800 crowns of gold. The Almanac sold for 12 gold crowns. Yet the demand was so great, that the edition was speedily disposed of in Hungary, Italy, France, and England. Since that time, a chain of such productions can be traced. It is to be regretted that some of them have much encouraged, and largely disseminated, the absurd art of astrology; and it is only within the last few years that Almanac prophesiers have begun to lose their reputation. Now, the religious public discard the opinion that "Partridge," or "Francis Moore," or any other Almanac author, can predict the deaths of princes, the occurrence of wars, or the falling of rain; and believe, that, not the stationary stars of heaven, or the wandering planets, decide or influence the nativities or mortalities, the adversities or prosperities, the dispositions or characters of the children of men, but that God's providence is over all, and that "the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men."

[The present publication (begun last year, and which obtained a very large sale) is designed to supplant those vulgar, indecent, and otherwise vicious Almanacs imported largely from the neighbouring country, by persons more intent on gain than morals; and to afford, not only to the Methodist denomination, but (at the suggestion of many persons during the past year) to the Religious public generally, in the United Province of Canada, a neat, cheap, and useful little book of reference.]

### Results of Meteorological Observations, Ancaster, Canada West.

| 1842.        | THERMOMETER.   |                |                  |                            | BAROMETER.                |                                 |          | RAIN.   |                       |                     |                    |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|              | Mean<br>9 A.M. | Mean<br>9 P.M. | Mean<br>of both. | Highest<br>in<br>the Month | Lowest<br>in<br>the Month | Mean<br>Height<br>in<br>Inches. | Highest. | Lowest. | Depth<br>in<br>Inch's | No. of<br>fair Days | Rainy.<br>Showers. |
| January ...  | 30.45°         | 32.10°         | 31.275°          | 53°                        | 12°                       | 28.922                          | 29.46    | 28.50   | 2.45                  | 21                  | 3 7                |
| February ..  | 30.82          | 32.00          | 31.41            | 56                         | 8                         | 28.947                          | 29.37    | 28.40   | 2.2                   | 21                  | 4 3                |
| March ....   | 39.39          | 40.87          | 40.13            | 70                         | 15                        | 29.062                          | 29.45    | 28.55   | 2.48                  | 20                  | 4 7                |
| April .....  | 46.20          | 17.8           | 47.              | 87                         | 33                        | 29.0325                         | 29.39    | 28.55   | 3.5                   | 21                  | 6 3                |
| May .....    | 53.42          | 53.50          | 53.46            | 76                         | 32                        | 29.049                          | 29.43    | 28.70   | 0.9                   | 25                  | 1 5                |
| June .....   | 60.9           | 58.8           | 59.85            | 81                         | 32                        | 29.038                          | 29.36    | 28.74   | 3.6                   | 16                  | 6 8                |
| July .....   | 67.84          | 66.67          | 67.26            | 89                         | 50                        | 29.135                          | 29.40    | 28.83   | 4.8                   | 24                  | 3 4                |
| August ....  | 66.22          | 66.6           | 66.41            | 84                         | 50                        | 29.173                          | 29.40    | 28.88   | 2.7                   | 21                  | 3 7                |
| September .. | 57.7           | 57.5           | 57.6             | 83                         | 32                        | 29.109                          | 29.33    | 28.70   | 3.75                  | 21                  | 5 4                |
| October ...  | 49.13          | 49.71          | 49.42            | 69                         | 33                        | 29.077                          | 29.35    | 28.64   | 1.75                  | 23                  | 3 5                |
| November ..  | 35.23          | 36.2           | 35.72            | 63                         | 12                        | 29.016                          | 29.50    | 28.28   | 4.05                  | 16                  | 6 8                |
| December ..  | 29.06          | 29.5           | 29.28            | 53                         | 10                        | 29.038                          | 29.48    | 28.52   | 4.5                   | 21                  | 5 5                |
| Mean .....   | 47.197         | 47.6           | 47.40            | ...                        | ....                      | 29.049                          | ....     | ....    | 36.68                 | 250                 | 49 66              |

Note.—The quantity of rain is only an approximation, the gauge, which is small, and not in a very good situation, having been fitted up for the purpose of ascertaining how far it was practicable to melt the snow during the low temperature of the winter months, and in this it has succeeded beyond expectation.

Mean temperature of 1835, 45.318; 1836, 43.405; 1837, 44.237; 1838, 45.205; 1839, 47.618; 1840, 47.807; 1841, 47.523; 1842, 47.40:—Mean of eight years, 46.064.