

Marine Barometer.

Indications of Easterly Winds,

say some tenths above 30 inches, or begins to fall a little, an easterly wind may be soon expected. If to this notice given by the barometer be added a warm hazy atmosphere during the day, and a heavy precipitation of dew at night, with very bright twinkling stars, or a coloured aurora borealis, the approach of an east wind is almost certain. If land be in sight at such a time, and appears much distorted by terrestrial refraction, or if vessels in sight have the relative proportions of their hull and sails changed by the *mirage*, or present double or treble images, such appearances will render the before probable indications of the barometer certain. At the commencement the easterly wind will probably be light with fine clear weather, but this will not last above a few hours if the barometer continues to fall; on the contrary, the wind will gradually increase, and as it does so the sky will become overcast by degrees until it is completely clouded. Rain and fog will follow, and continue during the continuance of the easterly wind with little intermission, until they are dissipated by a fresh breeze from the contrary quarter.

and of N. W. Winds.

If the fall of the barometer, during the continuance of the easterly wind, be very slow, the gale will probably continue, and not be very violent: if rapid, it will probably be of short duration, and of greater strength: at any rate, when the mercury falls towards 29 inches, a change is certainly at hand, and the gale will in general come from the N. W. The strength of this succeeding gale will be in proportion to the fall of the barometer, and to the strength of the easterly gale which preceded it. In such a case, there is seldom many hours interval between the one gale and the other. The east wind generally dies away to calm, and in a very few hours, or sometimes in much less time, the N. W. gale springs up. A heavy cross sea remains for some time from the previous gale. The barometer sometimes begins to rise in the interval of calm which precedes the N. W. gale, at others at its commencement: the fog and rain cease, and the weather becomes quite clear, generally in a few hours, and sometimes almost immediately. The strength of the westerly gale is usually greatest soon after its commencement, and diminishes as the barometer rises, veering gradually to the west and S. W. It is worthy of remark, that the circumstances just mentioned are exactly the reverse of those attending the easterly gale. The latter usually commences with clear weather and a high barometer, light at first

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