

are the results contained in the meteorological tables, they can only be considered as approximations; because an uniform method of making observations has not yet been adopted. Those who are conversant with thermometrical observations, know what influence the situation in which the instrument is exposed, and the materials of which it is constructed, exercise upon the results which it indicates—and how guarded we ought to be in adopting comparisons made with different instruments, and placed in different situations. Of the influence of the materials, the party had an opportunity of convincing themselves, by placing two of Mr. Keating's thermometers in the same situation with that of the surgeon at Fort St. Anthony. The latter instrument consisted of a glass tube attached to a brass plate, on which the graduation was marked; one of Mr. Keating's was known to be a good instrument; it had been made in Paris and had its division on a slip of paper enclosed in a glass tube: the other thermometer was a small pocket one, made by Mr. Fisher of Philadelphia, and was provided with an ivory scale. The usual exposure of the surgeon's thermometer was to the south-west. The two others were placed close to his. The results are indicated in the following table.

		Fisher's.	French.	Surgeon's.
July 4, at noon,	- - - - -	91°	89°	99° F.
Do.	3 o'clock, P. M. - -	96	96	106
Do.	8 do. do. - -	78	78	78
July 8,	4 do. do. - -	119	118	128

This proved, that when exposed to the direct rays of the sun, or to their reflection by the parade ground, the thermometer with the brass plate was uniformly ten degrees higher than that made entirely of glass, though at other times it stood at the same elevation. At the time these observations were made, the surgeon was absent. At Fort