

If each dry year were followed by a wet year it would be safe to take the average, but this is not the case. Since 1843 the precipitation in consecutive dry years has been as follows :

TABLE III.

Two years,	1881, 1882,	average	25.87	inches.
" "	1887, 1888,	"	26.02	"
" "	1874, 1875,	"	27.04	"
" "	1873, 1874,	"	27.98	"
" "	1872, 1873,	"	28.47	"
" "	1888, 1889,	"	28.74	"
Three	"	1872, 1874,	27.09	"
"	"	1887, 1889,	27.75	"
"	"	1873, 1875,	28.56	"
"	"	1881, 1883,	28.61	"
"	"	1874, 1876,	28.82	"
Four	"	1872, 1875,	27.76	"
Five	"	1872, 1876,	28.38	"
Six	"	1872, 1877,	28.17	"
Seven	"	1871, 1877,	28.82	"
Eight	"	1870, 1877,	30.99	"
Nine	"	1871, 1879,	30.81	"
Ten	"	1871, 1880,	31.49	"

From the foregoing table it is evident that it would not be safe to use the average annual rainfall for the last 54 years in estimating the available yield of water from any given water-shed.

The flow by months, and the average for 10-years and for 54 years, is given in Table IV.

TABLE IV.

Precipitation observed at Toronto Observatory.

	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	Average last 10 Years.	Average of 4 Years.	1874
January	2.79	5.52	3.20	1.93	3.46	3.36	3.13	1.55	2.99	1.67	2.97	2.89	4.04
February	1.82	3.08	4.28	1.68	2.37	3.48	2.65	2.27	3.62	2.27	2.75	2.65	3.06
March	1.22	3.00	1.51	2.80	0.99	1.48	3.03	1.77	4.04	1.32	1.82	2.70	1.65
April	3.05	2.96	1.61	1.37	1.59	2.11	2.31	1.26	4.94	1.33	2.82	2.47	2.34
May	2.25	2.44	0.81	0.85	3.13	1.52	6.32	4.48	3.86	0.30	2.03	2.04	1.80
June	4.19	1.92	2.65	3.99	3.55	4.87	3.05	5.81	1.83	1.08	3.20	2.95	1.80
July	2.10	2.45	0.66	0.86	3.26	4.11	2.16	2.50	2.27	1.61	2.20	3.00	3.35
August	3.92	2.63	2.20	2.91	0.43	3.02	4.83	3.99	5.75	0.38	2.99	2.92	0.88
September	3.62	3.83	1.20	2.29	2.08	1.85	1.70	3.12	1.25	4.48	2.74	2.25	1.55
October	3.73	2.59	1.63	2.67	1.89	4.94	1.70	1.35	3.62	2.35	2.65	2.39	1.42
November	2.15	2.65	2.80	3.01	3.56	4.59	3.66	1.27	2.99	0.61	2.72	3.15	2.11
December	1.98	2.01	3.41	0.83	4.90	1.94	2.88	1.24	4.60	2.41	2.62	3.31	1.16
Year	32.92	35.08	25.76	26.28	31.22	37.37	31.52	29.51	39.72	29.87	31.92	34.61	24.34
								Monthly average,			2.66	2.88	2.03

Monthly average, 2.66 2.88 2.03