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OZONE.

BY AN AMATEUR IN METEOROLOGY.

(Continued.)

For a long time many believed that Ozone was not to be found in ordinary atmospheric air, and only quite recently has this point been settled, apparently beyond question. The experiments of Houzeau, Schonbein, Andrews, and Lowe, prove that it is almost always, if not always, present in the air, though in ever varying quantities, varying daily and even hourly. Mr. Lowe based his opinion on several thousands of experiments, and he writes, "On no occasion has my sensitive powder test failed to show traces of it, even at a time when the ordinary test-slips have remained for days uncolored."

Dr. Fox says: "Ozone is found in very small quantities at times when the atmosphere is much contaminated with oxidizable emanations, putrid or otherwise, disengaged from decomposing animal and vegetable substances. A moist and calm state of the weather accompanied by a minimum of Ozone, has been considered to lead to the development of fever, in consequence of the accumulation of the products of decomposition and fermentation. The air in this meteorological state becomes contaminated with an excessive amount of poisonous substances, not only on account of the absence of all movement of this medium, but from the want of sufficient Ozone to oxidize them, or to render them innocuous. On the accession of an ozoniferous current, a mitigation in the intensity of such a fever and its gradual extinction have been noted.

As regards the influence of the seasons on the amount of Ozone manifested, most observers have found it to be more