

pared with a series of years; the amount of rain which fell in 1859 was 50.035 inches, and in 1860 was 48.132 inches, and the amount of rain in 1861 exceeded by 3.697 inches the average amount compared with a series of years; a very heavy rain storm occurred on the 27th May, it began at 4.25 p.m. from the E.N.E. and

h.m.	Inches.
at 4.45 the fall registered	1.700
4.50 (<i>wind veered to W.</i>)	2.066
4.53	2.333
4.55	2.433
5.00	2.483

and ceased at 5.10 and equalled 2.486 inches, which fell in 45 minutes. The Rivière des Prairies, a branch of the Ottawa, rose very high during May, and a like rise has not been witnessed since 1848. The following table shows the monthly amount and the duration of fall:

	Amount.	Time.		Amount.	Time.
	Inches.	h. m.		Inches.	h. m.
January.....	0.100	4.10	July.....	10.188	79.49
February.....	0.761	17.25	August.....	1.950	12.31
March.....	1.756	52.35	September.....	4.816	66.50
April.....	2.921	60.42	October.....	5.370	69.30
May.....	8.642	49.32	November.....	1.023	32.52
June.....	4.868	56.18	December.....	1.306	31.00

July shows a very large amount of rain but is not the greatest amount on record here for July, but exceeds by 4.456 inches the amount of last July (1860) but is less by 2.026 inches the amount of rain which fell in July 1859, which was the most rainy July on record here; this was accompanied by a very heavy storm and showed an amount of rain equal to 6.374 inches,—the rivers in this neighbourhood rose at this time nearly 2 feet; the rain storm lasted 45 hours and 40 minutes.

Thunder and lightning occurred on 16 days, the yearly mean for a series of years is 14; last year (1860) thunder only occurred on 11 days; there were 43 cloudless days only during the year 1861, the average for a series of years being 57. The prevailing clouds were *Cumulo Stratus* and a rather larger amount of *Cirro Stratus*, giving rise to haloes; and there were but 123 nights suitable for astronomical purposes; this is less by 20 than the number of nights in the year 1860. Snow fell on 45 days amounting to 99.53 inches; it was snowing 365 hours and 54 minutes, which is less by 1.77 inches the average amount for a series of years, but is 38.26 inches less than the amount of snow which fell in 1860, and is 40.57 inches less than the amount which fell in 1859. The last snow of the winter 1860-1 fell on the 17th of April, and the 1st snow of the autumn fell on the 24th October. Winter did not fairly set in until the 23rd of December.

Evaporation.—The amount of evaporation from the surface of water during the 6 months which are recorded is 16.90 inches, which is nearly 1 inch less than the mean amount; the amount of evaporation also from the surface of ice was somewhat less than the average.