

Meteorological Reports are transmitted by mail at the same rate as printed matter, *i.e.* at 1 cent for 4 oz., and on the same conditions. The report may be inclosed in an envelope with a one cent stamp, provided that the envelope be *open*, or in a one cent postal wrapper with the ends not inclosed. The envelope or wrapper must not contain any matter of the nature of a letter; and, of course, no communication that does not properly form part of the report must be written on the form.

Each form of Daily Register should be transmitted to the Central Office as soon as possible after the expiration of the period for which the form is adapted; thus, the Weekly Forms I. and 20 should be mailed, if possible, on Monday of the following week; the Monthly Form 17 and the Rain Form on the 2nd or 3rd of the following month; and Forms A and A₁ on every third, or every alternate day.

Observers who are furnished with self-registering anemographs should forward to the Central Office all the register papers taken off the cylinder of the instrument, and also the *written* record of the direction and velocity of the wind at every hour. The papers taken from the cylinder should be inclosed in the wrapper or envelope that contains the regular returns of the other observations; but the written record of the wind should be sent as soon as the form on which it is entered has been filled up, and, if convenient, by a different mail from that which carries the cylinder papers, to provide for the contingency of one or the other being lost.*

Returns of every kind should be carefully compared with the originals by *two persons*, one of whom should read aloud while the other corrects; the latter of the two operations being done by the more experienced person of the two. The practice enjoined in this article is very important, and one to which, it is feared, sufficient attention has not been given by some correspondents.

(433) Rules for Preserving Uniformity of Notation and for Avoiding Ambiguity in the Registers.—For the sake of preserving uniformity of notation and for the prevention of errors, attention is called to the following rules, to be observed alike in the register books and in the returns:

(1) The sign minus (—) should always be on the *left* of the number

* The observer should write up the hourly record of the wind as soon as possible after the paper is taken from the cylinder, as there is then less danger of the marks being indistinct; besides which, when the facts are fresh in his memory, there is less danger of his mistaking the marks or letters. It is for a like reason, and also on account of the danger of partial obliteration in transit, that the written records are required at the Central Office.