

Course of the Winds.

the contrary, cold, wet, and foggy. In the spring, the easterly winds most prevail, frequently blowing for several weeks in succession. As the summer advances, the westerly winds become more frequent, and the S. W. wind may be said to be the prevailing wind in summer in all parts of the River and Gulf. Light south winds take place occasionally; but north winds are not common in summer, although they sometimes occur. Steady N. W. winds do not blow frequently before September, excepting for a few hours at a time, when they generally succeed easterly winds which have died away to a calm, forming the commencement of strong winds, and usually veering to the S. W. The N. W. wind is dry, with bright clear sky, flying clouds, and showers. After the autumnal equinox, winds to the northward of west become more common, and are then often strong steady winds of considerable duration. In the months of October and November the N. W. wind frequently blows with great violence in heavy squalls, with passing showers of hail and snow, and attended with sharp frost.

Thunder Storms.

Thunder storms are not uncommon in July and August: they seldom last above an hour or two; but the wind proceeding from them is in general violent and sudden, particularly when near the mountainous part of the coast; sail should, therefore, be fully and quickly reduced on their approach.

Gradual change of the Winds.

Strong winds seldom veer quickly from one quarter of the compass to another directly or nearly contrary: in general they die away by degrees to a calm, and are succeeded by a wind in the opposite direction. I do not mean, however, by this observation, that they may not veer to the amount of several points. N. W. winds seldom or never veer round by north and N. E. to east and S. E; but they do frequently, by degrees, to the S. W., after becoming moderate. S. W. winds seldom veer by the N. W. and north to the eastward, but sometimes by the south to S. E. and east. Easterly winds generally decrease to a calm, and are succeeded by a wind from the opposite direction.

In the fine weather westerly winds of summer, a fresh top-gallant breeze, will often decrease to a light breeze or calm at night, and spring up again from the same quarter on the following morning: under these circumstances only may a land breeze off the north coast be looked for. I have observed the same off the south coast also, but not so decidedly or extending so

far
nea
obs
and
with
S. W.
coas
morn
wind
uscle
a bre
comm
not l
topsa
ever,
Gales
in qu
9.
the n
follow
conne
St. L
range
rence
those
consta
greater
sudden
may o
change
should
attentio
those c
never
those v
of a gr
weather
consequ
her voy
fine wea