

during the preceding three years ; but the auroras that were observed on the nights of the 7th May and 17th November were far more brilliant than any recorded during these three years. The number of nights in which it would have been possible to see auroras, had such existed, was 189, compared with 233 for the year 1853. On 26 of these nights aurora was distinctly visible, compared with 57 for 1853.

CLIMATOLOGY.—With a view to the prosecution of enquiries relative to atmospheric phenomena, our Legislature, in the session of 1853, very wisely inserted the following clause in the Grammar School Act, providing that meteorological registers be kept at all the Senior County Grammar Schools in Upper Canada : “ And whereas it is desirable at all seminaries and places of education to direct attention to natural phenomena and to encourage habits of observation ; and whereas a better knowledge of the climate and meteorology of Canada will be serviceable to agricultural and other pursuits, and be of value to scientific enquirers ;—Be it therefore enacted, that it shall be part of the duty of the master of every Senior County Grammar School to make the requisite observations for keeping, and to keep a meteorological Journal, embracing such observations and kept according to such form as shall from time to time be directed by the Council of Public Instruction, and all such Journals or abstracts of them shall be presented annually by the Chief Superintendent of Education to the Governor General with his Annual Report.”

Each of the schools referred to was to be furnished on or before the end of September, 1854, with the requisite instruments and books and forms, but owing to an unavoidable delay they have only now been obtained. The instruments first selected in the United States were found to be unsuitable ; and upon consultation with Colonel Lefroy, so long and favorably known in connection with Her Majesty's Magnetical Observatory in Canada, and with whom this provision of the Grammar School Act originated, the Chief Superintendent deemed it advisable to have new instruments prepared in England expressly for the Department. Improvements, which experience in this climate had suggested, were adopted, and a range as low as 35° and 40° below zero was given to the thermometers. The instruments here enumerated were all tested by James Glaisher, F.R.S. They were also examined and approved by Colonel Lefroy, and in addition subjected to a winter's test at the Provincial Magnetical Observatory, Toronto.

One Barometer, either a standard, or one of a second quality ; a