



Weather Forecast.

APRIL, 1887.

Writing on March 9th, just as we in Canada have experienced the first real break in the almost continued cold that settled down upon us here at the beginning of December; just as the first migratory birds have begun to put in an appearance, and the unprecedented falls of snow—which fell as forecast—have begun to give place to balmy breezes and showers; if I had now nothing else to go by except the laws of general compensation or the theory of weather relationships, I confess that I should perhaps be at a loss to know what to forecast. Why? Because the heat and drought of the summer of 1886 has been followed and fully compensated (as I expected) by extreme cold spells—we recorded 26° below zero here on Jan. 9th, 1887, the coldest for years—and by very heavy downfall. Talk of snow! why it has done nothing else but snow all winter in this section. Railways, roads, streets have all been blocked worse than the oldest inhabitant remembers. But what says Astro-Meteorology concerning April? She says that the month will be warm and dry for the season, with hot, advanced spring weather in the south and south-west, and fine, growing, warm, but dryish terms in the east and north. Vegetation will advance rapidly, especially about the perigee passage of the moon during Good Friday week and the positions favoring mild weather that take place during the last days of the month. The apogee passage of Luna on the 19th, and the opposition of Jupiter on the 21st favor a cold relapse toward wintry weather. Frosts and cool storms may then be looked for. Although the melting of the snow to the north will cause floods in sections, parts of this continent will report a scarcity of water. Navigation will open comparatively early. Below is my forecast by weeks:—

April opens cold, "borrowed days," with snowfalls in Northern sections.

Week ending April 9th: Opens fine, frosts North, cool weather South—High winds, unsettled, dull, dark, rainy, sleety or snowy, according to locality—A spring-like change—decided heat, with thunder showers to the South.

Week ending April 16th: Begins with a brief storm period, probably snow in the Province of Quebec and Gulf—Fine, seasonable, some warm days—Windy and rainy at the close of week, cool to cold, with April showers.

Week ending April 23rd: Enters showery and windy—Cold weather for the season, with snow flurries N. and cool rains S.—Milder, fine, with strong N.W. winds—End of week stormy, with hail and thunder showers in the S.W. and S.

Week ending April 30th: Begins hot and dry for the time of year, with warm winds and generally favorable weather for the crops—Showery, cool and wet at the close.

NOTES.

There may be a scarcity of April showers, but the May flowers will likely be all right.

Indian corn should do well this season as the summer promises quite a few terms of extreme heat. For best times to plant, see Smith's *Planetary Almanac*.

My paper on "Some recent weather relationships," read before the A. M. A., on Dec. 3, forecast: "Much heavy precipitation, most of it probable in the natural winter form of snow during the winter months of 1887." Was I right?

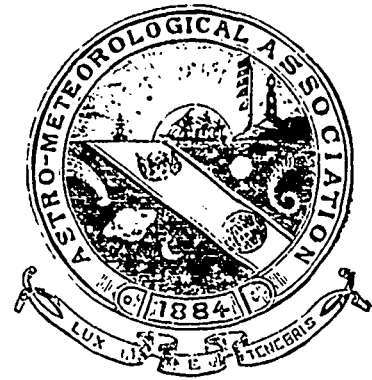
"In the South and South-west, winter," according to my *Planetary Almanac*, was to "end about the 9th or 10th with a mild period." A warm term covered the whole of the American continent on the dates named. At Montreal the general expression was "Spring is here."

During April I recommend proceeding with sowing and planting vigorously, especially on dates recommended in the *Planetary Almanac*. The spring bids fair to continue warm and advanced generally.

It will generally be found that those who talk loudest every spring in anticipation of floods, have some pet theory or scheme for flood prevention, which they wish to present to the public "for a consideration."

It looks as if the "May water" in the St. Lawrence, Ottawa and tributary rivers would be high this season. The immense accumulation of snow has to find its way out by these channels, and the denuded forests now permit the sun to melt it all "with a rush." Beside, there has been but one short thaw all winter, giving but a thin crust of ice in one place to the snow, and the sun will the easier penetrate. Lumbermen take note.

Without anything else to go by, I might easily forecast a "Summer on the warm side" by remembering that the period of sun spot activity is drawing towards a minimum. The past cool to cold summers have been periods of considerable solar activity, and the present period of quiescence is favorable for an excess of warmth.



[In launching forth upon my present venture, I do not know that there is much to explain. I have been told that there is plenty of room for my little monthly, and I have taken my friends at their word. They say that they wish to hear from my associates and myself more often than once a year, and my associates themselves declare that the Astro-Meteorological Association, from being a very "little one" is rapidly becoming "a thousand," and, as it grows in size, strength and beauty, naturally needs a mouthpiece of its own. In future, all who wish to hear of our meetings, papers and general progress will find full information in *ASTRONOMY AND METEOROLOGY*, the recognized organ of the Astro-Meteorological Association.]

Association.

FEBRUARY MEETING.

INAUGURAL AT THE FRASER INSTITUTE—INTERESTING ESSAY ON "PRE-HISTORIC ASTRONOMY."

The twentieth monthly and twenty-first regular meeting of the Astro-Meteorological Association was held at the Fraser Institute, Montreal, on the evening of Friday, February 4, 1887, at 8 o'clock.

There were present: Messrs. Walter H. Smith, (Presiding); Councillor Webster, Secretary Brown, Treasurer Austin, Associates: the Right Rev. B. B. Ussher, A. J. Pigeon, E. W. Beuthner, P. Charbonneau, H. Wray, W. T. Thomas, J. S. Vipond, J. Frutier, A. Hulek, Dugald Macdonald, Sydney Ussher, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Smith.

After routine and the nomination of members for election at next meeting, it was unanimously resolved to appoint the Right Rev. B. B. Ussher, M.D., to the vacancy on the council.

The Bishop having thanked the meeting in a few appropriate words, letters from Vice-presidents Heatwole, (Va.) and Plumadore, (N.C.) were read.

A proposal to hold a fortnightly meeting was negatived, the president having been requested to lecture on Feb. 24, before the Congregational Union of St. Bartholomew's, Montreal.

Attention having been called to the partial Lunar Eclipse on Feb. 8, and a