

may prove of great service in tracing the changes of weather over large districts of country; for example, a knowledge of the exact time at which a violent wind commences at a particular place may enable us, with similar observations at other localities, to trace the progress of the disturbance through its whole course from its beginning to its ending.

For more detailed instructions reference should be made to the accompanying blanks and pamphlets.

Of the blank registers two different classes are sent. Those marked No. 1 are intended to record observations with all the instruments, with spaces to include the reductions for "Force of Vapor" and "Relative Humidity," which need not be filled up unless the observer himself prefers to make the calculations, which will otherwise be made at the Institution.

Blanks No. 2 are intended for observers who have no instruments, excepting a thermometer; and if this instrument be broken, or the observer have none, valuable materials may still be furnished by filling up the other columns, and simply noting the beginning and ending of warm and cold spells.

In the accompanying package will also be found blanks for recording periodical phenomena of animal and vegetable life. Such records will be of especial interest, as showing the progress and development of the seasons, and the geographical distribution of species.

In the package will also be found detailed instructions in regard to the collecting and preparing objects of natural history. Specimens of the different animals will be particularly interesting, especially of the small mammals, as mice, moles, shrews, gophers, weasels, rabbits, ground squirrels, marmots, etc. Good skins and skulls of the barren ground bear, the musk ox, and the reindeer, are much wanted.

Attention is especially invited to the collecting of eggs of any and all kinds of the birds which may be met with. The species of most interest are the different eagles, hawks, and owls, snipes, sandpipers, plover, gulls, ducks, loons, grebes, etc. Care should be taken, as far as possible, to secure a parent bird of each set of eggs, for the purpose of identifying the species; either the entire skin being preserved, or at least the head, wing, and tail. If a parent cannot be obtained, the eggs should nevertheless be