

of vapour present in the atmosphere, as the intimate connexion between them is too prominent to escape observation.

I have, as you will perceive, offered no theoretical deductions, if, as our continental brethren assert, that it does possess such powerful and wonderful properties, it must be evident that the American Association should at once take up the subject, in a way that we may arrive at important conclusions. I should not be justified in expressing a doubt on the labours of others in this Department of Physical Science, neither do I think it fair to offer any conclusions until our observations are more extended, and it is with this intention that I have brought it before the Association, hoping that between now and our next meeting, we may be able to investigate and compare observations so as to give it a proper place in this department of physical investigation.

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ART. XXIX.—*On the Meteorology of the Vicinity of Montreal*, being reduced from Observations taken at St. Martin, Isle Jesus, Canada East, by CHARLES SMALLWOOD, M. D., L.L.D. Professor of Meteorology in the University of McGill College.

Being well aware that many of you are here for the first time in this, our Northern city, and have scanned, and I have no doubt, admired the numerous edifices—those artificial structures erected by the human hand, guided by human skill, and well suited to our wants. I am also aware that many among you have bent your investigations beneath our alluvial and fruitful soil, to contemplate the geology of our rocky formations, and the deposits of by-gone ages, the work of that Divine Architect at whose command those bright and countless orbs that spangle in our firmament were brought into existence, and which forms to the astronomer so many objects for his study;—and I felt it might be interesting to you to know something of our climatology, and it is for this purpose I intend laying before the section some remarks in illustration, reduced from observations taken at St. Martins, nine miles due west of this place, and I shall for this purpose confine my observations to the means reduced from the last septennial period, although the observations on record extend over a much longer period of time.