

**SNOW.**

Up to the 31st of December of this same year, snow had fallen on forty six days, amounting in all to 58.96 inches in depth. It was snowing 231 hours, 30 minutes. This amount of snow shows a decrease equal to 58.80 inches as compared with the mean amount of a series of years. This also seems natural when we take into consideration the extreme wetness of the summer.

The first snow of the season of 1858 fell on the 4th of November, and the last snow of spring fell on the 21st of April.

**June Weather Reported from Montreal.**

June 2.—Although in this region the atmosphere has been dull and lowering for a number of days, there were but sprinklings of rain until the 31st of May, when warm showers set in, and June made its entry warm and summer-like with local rains, which will be of immense advantage to the country, while pasture lands will be benefited to an incalculable extent. Seeding time, though later than usual in many parts of Canada, has otherwise been fairly favorable. Since the publication of last circular, the average mean temperature in this city was 5° higher than was noted in that issue (54°); the highest indication 68°, was on the 26th and 31st ult.; the lowest 43°, was on the 26th, the average daily mean being 59°. Until the entry of June ungenial and backward weather predominated over the greater part of the northern hemisphere, notably in some of the Southern States—Virginia, North Carolina, and portions of Illinois. Official statements regarding the condition of the wheat in the United States are, however, generally favorable. There were 16 ocean steamships in port at the entry of June.

June 9.—There were heavy showers of rain here on the night of the 3rd and 4th, since then a rise of temperature has been experienced, the weather of the past few days having been warm and seasonable, vegetation making rapid progress. A thunderstorm passed over the city on the afternoon of the 8th. Indications by the thermometer were, highest 75° on the 1st inst., lowest, 45° on the 2nd inst., with reports of frosts in some sections; average mean of the past six days, 59°. Reports about crop prospects in Ontario are fairly favorable and much more so than in Quebec. There were reported severe storms of wind and rain on the 3rd and 4th inst., in some of the Western States, followed closely by reports of damage to corn in some places; otherwise, however, crop prospects are understood to be favorable. Since last circular was issued unprecedented hail storms were reported as having occurred in the northern counties of the Southern States and in the South West, and now it is stated that in these places the cotton and tobacco crops are destroyed. This, however, it is too early to pronounce upon.

June 16.—The weather is unsettled again and there were frequent snows of rain here yesterday, (15th), a thunder storm occurring at intervals during the day; but the preceding four or five days were clear and pleasant, partly sultry and the first really warm period experienced this year. All kinds of crops are making encouraging progress, and there is the prospect of a bounteous yield. The range of temperature continues upward, but light frosts occurred in the Lower St. Lawrence on the 12th.

The maximum temperature 81° occurred on the 14th inst., minimum 45° on the 11th and 12th days, average daily mean 61°.

Exceedingly variable weather has again been experienced in some of the Western and South Western States. A destructive hail-

storm passed over a region west of Arkansas on Saturday, (10th) and at night a hurricane of wind and rain did a great deal of damage in some parts of Colorado. Damage by river floods was also suffered in Indiana on the 14th inst.

Considerable destruction to railroad property and crops was caused by a rain storm on the last mentioned date in Illinois. Forest fires are now reported to be raging in Wisconsin.

**Briefs.**

Owing to the extreme sensitiveness of the thermometer to changes of weather, it has been frequently proposed to consider its indications as fully equal in importance to those of the barometer; but great caution is necessary in acting on this idea. The accuracy of thermometrical observations depends upon a great many conditions, such as aspect, exposure to the air, elevation above sea-level and above the surface of the ground, all of which are immaterial or can be allowed for in dealing with the barometer.

The term "dangerous winds," used by the U.S. Signal office, has ordinarily a somewhat different meaning according to location of the station. Thus the severe gales of the Atlantic (where the hourly velocity of the wind ranges from 40 to 70 miles) are comparatively very rare on "the lakes," where the limited sea-room causes winds that on the neighboring shores are registered only as "brisk" (i. e., 20 to 25 miles) to become "dangerous." Again, the direction in which the wind is blowing is a most important consideration, and as general experience shows that most danger is apprehended from wind blowing on to a lee shore, the "Cautionary Signals" may very properly be expected to be hoisted only in case such winds are apprehended for the port in question.

This CAUTIONARY SIGNAL is a red flag, by day, and red light, by night.

—Prof. Bury's Ballot, of Utrecht, and others, have shown that we can tell with considerable certainty what wind may be expected to blow at any place if we only knew the readings of the barometer, taken a short time previously, at a number of stations situated within a distance of, say, one hundred or two hundred miles from that place. The rule is—

"Stand with your left hand toward the place where the barometrical reading is lowest, and your right hand towards that where it is highest, and you will have your back to the direction of the wind which will blow during the day."

Thus the wind may be expected to be:—

Easterly	when the pressure is highest in the	north	or lowest in the	south.

Southerly.....do.....east.....do.....west.
Westerly.....do....south.....do.....north.
Northerly....do.....west.....do.....east.

The force of the wind on each day bears some proportion to the amount of difference in barometrical readings noticed between any two stations situated near the place where the wind was felt. Thus we find that it has been shown that a westerly gale hardly ever blows in the British Isles unless, at least a few hours before, the pressure in the north of Scotland is half an inch less in amount than it is on the south coast of England.

**A May Snow-Storm, South.**

DAVENPORT, Iowa, May 23.—A heavy snow-storm at two o'clock this morning set in, and continued four and a half hours. Fully three inches of snow fell, melting quickly by daylight. No such storm is remembered as having occurred before. The nearest to it was on the 7th of May, 1845. Very sharp frosts all round.—*St. Louis Paper.*

**Monthly Report for May, 1882.**

FROM MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

	1882.	1881.
Rainfall for the month of		
May .....	12.45	10.15
Number of days on which		
rain has fallen .....	13	14
Highest thermometer during		
month .....	86°	88°
Lowest thermometer during		
month .....	38°	62°
Average thermometer during		
month .....	65°	72°

Cyclone on the 8th inst. at 7.45 p.m. from S. W. track a mile wide; passed two miles south of here; tore to atoms more than a hundred buildings in this county. Killed a man and a woman and much stock. Forest swept clean; farms ruined.

On the 10th at 6 p.m. from west a sudden storm of wind, rain and hail, thunder and lightning blew down trees and fences, and the hail riddled vegetation. It only lasted about ten minutes, and in that time about 1.20 inches of rain fell. The largest in my experience, and I am 74 years old.

**The Winds and the Weather.**

If we could predict how long the wind was to continue in the direction in which it happens to be, and without altering its velocity; and if we could also predict when, and to what extent, its direction and velocity would alter, predictions re the weather deduced from the direction and velocity of the wind, would be more to be relied on than any, or even all of those mentioned in our articles on "Weather Prognostications." Indeed, the claims to which these prognostications of the weather have to correctness, or rather to the probability of being correct, depend chiefly on their indicating imperfectly, whether the wind be blowing from a wet or dry direction, and whether it be blowing with greater or less velocity. But though it cannot be predicted how long the direction and velocity of the wind may continue without changing, still, by prognosticating upon the supposition that the direction and velocity of the wind will continue as it is, there is more or less probability, at least for one, two, or perhaps three days thereafter, that our anticipations will be correct.

—We believe that electricity in one form or other, will yet be used to render cars frost-proof, and for the transport of perishable matter.

—Thunder and lightning form a strange couple by themselves. They are neither relatives nor friends of the family of cloud. They seem indeed to be barely on visiting terms with its members, for they come to see them very rarely; sometimes even not for months together; they live apart, and show themselves only on great occasions. Their precise situation in the set is rather difficult to define; but it may be said, with approximate exactness, that they are to weather what swearing is to respectability, what cholera is to disease, what a lion is to beasts. It is possible that they may have a use; but, if so, it has not yet been discovered; for, as their tremendous grandeur is out of all proportion with their ordinary effect of turning milk sour, it really cannot be reasonably supposed that they were created solely for that minutely destructive purpose, neither can it be seriously pretended that their object is to furnish proof that mankind can easily be terrified by sudden flame and sound. So far as we can thus far perceive, they appear to be a pure expletive, superb and violent, but like many others of the manifestations of the weather, totally incomprehensible.—*Chamber's Journal.*