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The Science of Meteorology—Its Utility—The Necessary Instruments and How to Use Them. By MR. THOMAS D. KING, Montreal.

It cannot have escaped the attention of those whose acquirements enable them to judge, and who have the opportunities of examining the state of Meteorological science in England and the United States, that in Canada, more particularly in the Province of Quebec, with respect to the simplest weather reports, the amount of rain fall and the multitude of causes by which the atmosphere is influenced either for the benefit or destruction of animal and vegetable life, we are almost in a state of ignorance.

That a city like Montreal, eminently distinguished for its commerce, for its manufactories, and for its philanthropy, should be indifferent to the progress of inquiries which are so necessary; and that the medical faculty should be dependent upon the observations of persons whose reports are published at their own discretion, is a fact which is well deserving the attention of those who shall inquire into the causes that influence the scientific progress of the neighbouring States. In them are Observatories and Scientific Institutions founded and endowed by private citizens, and supplemented by grants from Congress, for the discovery of new truths, and for the diffusion of these among men. There is also a large staff of private observers, as well as those belonging to the U. S. Army Corps, in all many hundreds, who contribute to Meteorological Science, serving to place in a clear point of view, the connexion of climate with the natural productions of different parts of the earth.

That the state of knowledge in any country will exert a directive influence on the general system of instruction adopted in it, is a principle too obvious to require investigation. And it is equally certain that the tastes and pursuits of our manhood will bear on them the traces of the earlier impressions of our education. It is not therefore unreasonable to suppose that the neglect of