SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Barone Cottage (Rothesay), County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49′ 50″ N Long. 5° 1′ 45″ W, Distance from Sea 8/10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of January 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month.	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. No.	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays No.	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No. —— 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No. —— 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No. —	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount (0—10), and Species.	—— P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 8 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density.	OZONE. 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month.
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°																								
1	30.330	41	30.140	40	39.8	37			39	36.5	37.5	35.2	SE		E				055														Cloudy & Fine	1
2	30.016	40	29.936	40	38.5	33.6			34.3	33	35.5	34	SE		E				—														Dull hazy & chilly	2
3	29.800	36	29.896	39	37.5	30.6			33	31.2	37	36	NE		E				450														Dull — Sleet	3
4	29.934	40	29.934	42	~~40.5~~ 50.5	37	18		48.8	48	39.8	39.2	E		E				810														Dull blowy & wet	4
5	29.550	46	29.340	48	50	37			49.2	48.2	47.2	45.5	SSE		SW				340														Stormy & wet early	5
6	29.370	48	29.580	48	49.5	37			46.5	45	44.8	43.3	W		NW				160														½ clear chilly	6
7	29.464	45	29.900	42	46	37.5			43	40.3	39	36.3	SSW		calm				335				Moon halo ⊙										Cloudy & damp	7
8	29.700	44	29.800	48	51	38			47	46.5	50	47	WSW		SW				118														Dull mild & damp	8
9	29.760	50	29.970	49	52.5	44.5			52	49.5	46.5	44.5	SW		SW				166														do do	9
10	29.900	49	29.800	49	48	41			47.2	44.8	43.5	42	SW		SW				200														do & Blowy	10
11	29.620	42	30.072	45	45	33			33	33	37	36	W		NW				200														½ clear snow hail	11
12	30.260	42	30.300	45	45.5	35.5			41.3	39.8	45.2	43.2	NW		W				080														⅓ " Showers	12
13	30.272	46	30.230	47	46	43			44.5	43.3	45.2	44.5	W		W				125														Dull & mild	13
14	30.160	49	30.350	51	48.6	44			48	47.2	48	47.2	WNW		W				040														Cloudy mild & damp	14
15	30.460	48	30.536	56	49	44			46.5	45.5	47	46.5	W		W				—														Dull & mild	15
16	30.500	50	30.480	51	50	41.5			44	43	42.2	41.5	W		SW				—														do do	16
17	30.392	47	30.370	50	46.6	40.2			42.2	41.5	6.3 18.8	45.3	calm		calm				050														do & damp	17
18	30.340	49	30.300	50	48	42			46.8	44.2	45.3	43.3	SSW		SW				070														do "	18
19	30.260	50	30.150	50	49	44.3			47.5	47	46.5	46	SW		SW				210														do "	19
20	30.050	48	29.850	50	51.2	44			46	43	47	46	W		SW				098				Fierce gale 11.50 P.M.										½ clear showery	20
21	30.150	45	29.830	48	51.3	41			44	40.8	50.5	45.5	W		SW				375				do Rain Thu & lightning										Heavy clouds & changable	21
22	29.680	49	29.560	48	52.2	39.5			44.2	43.3	41	39.3	WSW		W				600														Dull & wet	22
23	29.140	46	29.022	46	47.3	35.5			40.8	39.8	41	38.3	SE		W				590														Dull	23
24	29.494	41	29.330	42	44.3	32			32	31.0	43	41	NNW		SW				320														½ clear slight snow sho	24
25	29.072	42	29.030	40	40.5	31			37	34	31.5	31	W		SW				030				Stormy, Rain Thunder & snow										½ " " "	25
26	28.642	38	27.344	42	45	30			32	30.5	31.5	31	SE		SW				085				Town flooded Fierce Storm										Dull change?	26
27	28.274	37	28.514	38	41	30			35	32	34	33	W		W				110														½ clear Snow Showers	27
28	29.100	38	29.512	40	40.8	33			35.6	35	38.2	36.2	W		NW				442														½ clear Snow clouds	28
29	29.324	39	29.370	45	51	34			35	35	43	40.5	SE		W				805														Dull Shut Drain	29
30	29.290	45	29.500	44	51	34			42.5	39.2	40.5	36.5	W		W				030				Thunder P.M.										½ clear Hail Showers	30
31	29.550	42	29.274	44	45.5	39.5			40.5	39.2	40	39.5	SW		E				320														Dull & damp	31
Sums.	1343	15	1424	12	48	125			47	159	48	157							⅞ 214																		
	23.454	132	22.670	177	44.123	4.2			58.3	11.1	67.2	16.3							28																		
Means.	29.757	44.3	29.731	45.7	46.9	37.6			41.9	40.4	42.2	40.5																								
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																																				
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																				
"Corrected Means."																																				
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	" cirrus.	ms.	" meteors.
ci.-cu.	" cirro-cumulus.	n.	" nimbus.
ci.-s.	" cirro-stratus.	r.	" rain.
cu.	" cumulus.	h r.	" heavy rain.
cu.-s.	" cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	" continued heavy rain.
d.	" dew.	s.	" stratus.
f.	" fog.	sc.	" scud.
fr.	" frost.	s.	" sleet.
h.-fr.	" hoar-frost.	s.	" snow.
h.	" haze.	so.ha.	" solar halo.
h. d.	" heavy dew.	sq.	" squall.
hl.	" hail.	sqs.	" squalls.
l.	" lightning.	t.	" thunder.
li. cl.	" light clouds.	t. s.	" thunder storm
li. sh.	" light showers.	w.	" wind.
lu. co.	" lunar corona.	g.	" gale of wind.
lu. ha.	" lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction †† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.757 − .042 = 29.715

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction †† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.731 − .045 = 29.686

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.700

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 29.827

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = 30.536

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = 27.344

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 3.192

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, = 52.5

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, = 30.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 22.5

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 46.9

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 37.6

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 9.3

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 42.2

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 42.0

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 40.4

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 38.4

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .233

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation = 100),** = 88

RAIN fell on 28 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 7.21

WIND. Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
SUMMARY.											
A.M.		11	5	3	4	15	1		1		
P.M.			5			12	9	3	2		
Mean.		0	1	3	2	2	8	2	1		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely* a *minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(Signed) James Kay H.K. H.K.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40¼° and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc.

Ozone.

The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{N.W.}_{4}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Baron Cottage Rothesay, County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49' 50", Long. 5° 4' 5", Distance from Sea 8/10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of February 1881.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.___ (inches)	Attached Thermometer (°)	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___ (inches)	Attached Thermometer (°)	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No. (°)	Min. No. (°)	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays No.___ (°)	Min. on Grass. No.___ (°)	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb. (°)	Wet bulb. (°)	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb. (°)	Wet bulb. (°)	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.___	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	___ P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches. (°)	No. 12 inches. (°)	No. 22 inches. (°)	Temperature of WELL at depth of ___ feet. No. (°)	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density. (°)	OZONE. ..... 0—10. 9 A.M. 9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month
1	29.240	42	29.664	40	41	34.3			36.3	35	32.2		ENE		E				.235												Dull bly & wet - Slt	1
2	30.128	37	30.160	38	39.2	28.5			26.8	28	36.3	33	NNW		SW				.590												Clear & frosty	2
3	30.030	42	30.016	47	47.5	35.5			30	45	46	45	W		WSW				.070												Dull bly & mild	3
4	30.064	49	30.086	56	50	45.3			45.2	47.3	48.5	47.3	W		W				.046												Dull hazy & damp	4
5	30.046	50	30.014	51	49	35.5			47.8	46	46.6	46	W		SW				.220												" do "	5
6	29.940	49	29.824	52	47	43			47	45.2	45	42.8	SW		W				.106												" do & mild	6
7	29.994	45	30.000	46	46.3	32.3			46.2	33.8	32	30.5	NW		SW				~												3/4 c Beautiful damp	7
8	29.728	40	29.364	43	44.5	30.5			35.2	32.5	43.2	42.8	E		S				.490												Dull hazy & mild	8
9	28.920	45	28.744	48	48	40			36	46.5	40.5	36.6	S		S				.186												1/4 c Dull & wet	9
10	28.810	43	28.980	43	42.5	36.6			47	35.6	38.5	35	SSW		WSW				.020												Dull - gale	10
11	29.134	40	29.380	43	42.3	35.3			39.2	33.5	39.8	37	SW		SW				.265												1/2 c	11
12	29.260	44	29.316	46	48	39.5			36.5	45.3	46.8	45.8	S		S				.195												Dull gale	12
13	29.434	47	29.778	46	47.5	39.5			46.6	44.8	41.5	40	SSE		calm				.210												Dull bly wet & mo	13
14	29.924	45	30.156	45	48	39.3			46	40	40.2	38.5	SW		E				.033												1/2 c	14
15	30.084	43	30.120	41	44.5	36.3			41.5	37.6	36.5	33.2	ESE		E				~												Clear bldy & wet	15
16	30.060	40	29.936	39	41.5	35.5			40.3	33.8	35.5	32	SE		ESE				~												1/2 c bldy & wet	16
17	29.860	39	29.762	39	38.5	35			37.8	35	36.2	35.2	ESE		E				.590												Dull wet & Slt	17
18	29.700	40	29.650	40	42	35			37.5	37.3	39	36	E		E				.115												do	18
19	29.580	40	29.480	41	40.5	34.5			38.5	34	40	29.3	NE		SE				.410												do	19
20	29.400	43	29.110	44	47.5	39			36.5	41.5	46.3	45.5	SSE		S				.570												do fair PM	20
21	29.270	43	29.280	42	47	34			44	36	39.5	38	SW		SW				.480												Thunder SE 4 P.M. Lightning after dusk do Slt Hoarfrost	21
22	29.230	42	29.320	44	46.5	34			41	36.6	41	39.6	SE		SW				.020												1/2 c fine	22
23	29.206	43	29.180	48	42.5	37.5			37	39.2	39.3	38.5	SE		E				.100												Dull & mild	23
24	29.490	43	29.651	45	47	32.6			40	36.5	41	39.6	SW		SW				.025												1/2 c fine	24
25	29.780	44	29.840	48	49	35.5			39	42.3	35.3	33.5	NW		calm				~												1/2 c fine	25
26	29.904	44	29.924	43	43	30			45.2	33	37	33	calm		SE				~												1/2 c fine	26
27	29.900	40	29.910	42	45	35.5			35	34	39	36.5	SE		SE				~												1/2 c change	27
28	29.944	43	29.880	42	42	33.5			38	34	33.3	30.5	SE		SE				~												1/2 c do	28
29	29.850	42	29.884	42	34	30.5			37.5	31.3	30.5	29.8	SE		E				.485												Dull - Snow P.M.	29
30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32.2																											30
31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—																												31
Sums.	14.135	9	14.146	12	15.6	11.9			16.7	11.8	11.8	15.9							5.461																	
	18.906	87	19.409	124	131.3	163.5			11.5	14.9	279.3	228.2																								
Means.	29.652	43.0	29.669	44.3	44.5	35.6			40.4	38.4	39.6	37.7																								
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.	.000		.000																																
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																			
"Corrected Means."																																			
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	" cirrus.	ms.	" meteors.
ci.-cu.	" cirro-cumulus.	n.	" nimbus.
ci.-s.	" cirro-stratus.	r.	" rain.
cu.	" cumulus.	h r.	" heavy rain.
cu.-s.	" cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	" continued heavy rain.
d.	" dew.	s.	" stratus.
f.	" fog.	sc.	" scud.
fr.	" frost.	sl.	" sleet.
h.-fr.	" hoar-frost.	s.	" snow.
h.	" haze.	so.ha.	" solar halo.
h. d.	" heavy dew.	sq.	" squall.
hl.	" hail.	sqs.	" squalls.
l.	" lightning.	t.	" thunder.
li. cl.	" light clouds.	t. s.	" thunder storm
li. sh.	" light showers.	w.	" wind.
lu. co.	" lunar corona.	g.	" gale of wind.
lu. ha.	" lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction †† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.652 — .038 = 29.614

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction †† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.669 — .042 = 29.627

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.620

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 29.747

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = 30.160

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = 28.744

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 1.416

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, = 50.0

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, = 28.5

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 21.5

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 44.5

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 35.6

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 8.9

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 40.0

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 40.0

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 38.0

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 35.4

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .207

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** =

†† **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), = 84

RAIN fell on 22 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 5.46

WIND.	SUMMARY.										
Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.	1	1	5	6	5	5	3	2	1		
P.M.			8	4	4	7	4		2		
Mean.	0	1	7	5	4	6	3	1	2		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(*Signed*) James Kay H. R. H. R.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's LOUVRE-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40¼°, and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Clouds.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

2, W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher

4, st.

2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Ozone.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{\frac{S.W.}{4}}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Aurorae Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To

Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,

Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,

EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Baron's Cottage, Rothesay, County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49.5' Long. 5° 1.5', Distance from Sea 8/10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of March 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month.	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.___	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS. Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays No.	Min. on Grass No.	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.—
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°							
1	29.860	42	29.980	42	37.5	30.3			34.3	33.5	37	35.3	SE		SE				050
2	30.012	40	29.900	41	40.3	35.5			37	34.5	36	33.3	SW		SE				120
3	29.500	37	29.430	39	36	32			32.5	32	34.2	33.5	S	E	calm				837
4	29.616	38	29.616	40	40.2	32.2			37.2	36.5	36.3	34.5	NE		NW				015
5	29.840	41	30.000	44	46.5	32.5			39.8	37.8	42	41.3	WNW		calm				—
6	29.950	44	29.760	46	50	41			46	44.2	44.2	43.5			SSW				215
7	29.636	45	29.730	52	46.3	40.3			44.2	43.8	41	40	SSW		WSW				205
8	29.600	44	29.312	43	47.3	37.2			39	38	38.5	36	S		SSR				090
9	29.270	43	29.030	43	46.5	35.5			40.2	36.2	40.6	37	SW		SE				080
10	29.044	44	29.080	41	45.8	34			38.2	34.2	36	34.5	W		WSW				110
11	29.264	40	29.316	40	43.5	30			38	34.5	39	35.6	SE		SE				080
12	29.380	42	29.460	44	44	37			40.5	39	43	41	SE		S				176
13	29.570	44	29.550	47	47.5	43			45.6	45.3	47	46.3	S		S				115
14	29.630	48	29.660	49	49	45.3			47	45.5	46.5	45.5	S		S				050
15	29.790	48	29.852	48	50.6	45.3			46.5	46	48.3	45.3	S		E				125
16	29.864	49	29.824	53	61.5	45.5			55.2	50.3	53	49.6	SE		calm				~
17	29.824	52	29.774	50	55	46			49.5	47.3	46.5	46	SE		calm				246
18	29.600	49	29.664	49	49.5	41			45.2	44.3	43.3	40.5	SE		SW				490
19	29.800	47	29.370	48	53.5	37			46	42.5	44	40	WSW		SW				280
20	29.260	45	29.572	44	46	36.5			40	39	38	36.2	W		NW				105
21	29.044	43	29.020	45	47	33.5			40.5	38.5	40.2	38	NW		NW				065
22	29.810	44	29.924	46	48.2	36			44.3	42.8	39.2	36.2	S		NW				030
23	30.036	44	30.070	46	48.5	36.6			44	40.3	38	37	W		calm				~
24	30.056	44	29.982	46	51.3	32.3			44.3	42	43.3	40.5	SW		SW				090
25	30.020	44	30.090	47	47.6	41			42.8	42	42	40.3	SSE		calm				~
26	30.190	44	30.220	42	43.2	36			40.3	37.3	37.2	34.3	E		E				~
27	30.214	42	30.140	42	41.3	36			37.3	35.3	37	33.8	E		E				~
28	30.100	43	30.070	42	42	35.5			37.6	35.3	37.3	35	ESE		E				~
29	30.030	43	29.910	44	47.3	35.5			41.3	38.5	40.2	37.2	E		S				~
30	29.704	43	29.1180	43	45.6	39			42.2	39.2	39.3	36	SSE		SE				~
31	29.236	42	29.310	43	41	36			40.5	37.5	36.2	34.5	SE		SE				—
Sums.	14116	12	15133	12	49	36			49	1610	1655	1388							95
	22.520	118	21.996	149	199.5	224.3			57.0	303.1	246	267.7							3.574
																			21.3574
Means.	29.726	43.8	29.710	44.8	46.4	37.2			41.8	39.8	40.8	38.6							
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.	-.009		-.010			+1			+1	+2	+1	+2							
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																			
"Corrected Means."						37.3			41.9	40.0	40.9	38.8							
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19

Days of Month.	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	___ P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No.___ 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No.___ 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of ___ feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density.	OZONE. ..... 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month.
						°	°	°	°	°				
1													Dull & damp	1
2													Cloudy fine & chilly	2
3													Rain all day	3
4													Dull & mild	4
5													1/2 clear fine	5
6													Dull & mild	6
7													do	7
8													do	8
9	⊙	Moon halo											1/2c blowy dull	9
10													do showers	10
11													do	11
12													Dull heavy showers	12
13													" blowy dull	13
14													" " mild	14
15													Wet-am mild	15
16													3/4c fine	16
17													Cloud wet P.m.	17
18													wet am wet P.m.	18
19													3/4c fine	19
20													Gale wet am	20
21													1/2c fine chilly	21
22													1/4c showers	22
23													Cloudy am 1/2c P.m.	23
24	⊙	Sun halo											1/2c fine	24
25													Dull & mild	25
26													Dull & hazy	26
27													Dull & chilly	27
28													1/2c cold dry	28
29													1/2c frost & fine	29
30													Dull cold do	30
31													Dull cold shut & rain	31

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.		m.	*denotes* meteor.	
ci.	"	cirrus.	ms.	"	meteors.
ci.-cu.	"	cirro-cumulus.	n.	"	nimbus.
ci.-s.	"	cirro-stratus.	r.	"	rain.
cu.	"	cumulus.	h. r.	"	heavy rain.
cu.-s.	"	cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	"	continued heavy rain.
d.	"	dew.	s.	"	stratus.
f.	"	fog.	sc.	"	scud.
fr.	"	frost.	s.	"	sleet.
h.-fr.	"	hoar-frost.	s.	"	snow.
h.	"	haze.	so.ha.	"	solar halo.
h. d.	"	heavy dew.	sq.	"	squall.
hl.	"	hail.	sqs.	"	squalls.
l.	"	lightning.	t.	"	thunder.
li. cl.	"	light clouds.	t. s.	"	thunder storm
li. sh.	"	light showers.	w.	"	wind.
lu. co.	"	lunar corona.	g.	"	gale of wind.
lu. ha.	"	lunar halo.			

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction ††) for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.726 − .041 = 29.685

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction ††) for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.710 − .043 = 29.667

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.676

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 29.803

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = 30.220

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = 29.014

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 1.206

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the 16 th, = 61.6

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the 11 th, = 30.2

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 31.4

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 46.4

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 37.3

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 9.1

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 41.8

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 41.4

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 39.4

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 36.9

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .220

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity,** (**Saturation** = 100), = 85

RAIN fell on 21 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 3.57

WIND. Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.		1	4	8	9	2	5	1	1		
P.M.		4	6	6	3	2	4	6			
Mean.	0	1	4	7	7	3	3	3	3		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by _____

(*Signed*) _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation. The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer. Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers. The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers. Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers. The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer. The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer. In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40¼°, and 40⅞°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature. The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers. No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind. Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction. A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure. The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges. Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day: If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls. Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds. Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine. The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers. As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea. A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells. The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Ozone. Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{S.W.}_{4}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity. Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks. The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Borcales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons. Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Direction of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

Rothesay
March 1884

To

Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN.

Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,

EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Barone Cottage, County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49' 50" Long. 5° 4' 5", Distance from Sea 8/10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of April 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.___	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays. No.	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.___	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	___ P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of Well at depth of ___ feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density.	OZONE. 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°													°	°	°		°						
1	29.250	44	29.390	46	52.2	34.3			45.6	43	45	42	SE		SE				010													½ Clear cloudy Hail Showers	1
2	29.470	47	29.490	47	48.2	42.6			46	43.2	43.5	43	SE		calm				300													Dull " wet	2
3	29.474	47	29.360	51	59	38.5			49	47.5	49	47	~~SSE~~ NE		E				365				Thu 4 – 5 Thunder									Dull & mild	3
4	29.330	49	29.320	50	56	44			45.2	44.5	47	44.5	SSE		SE				030													Dull & Cloudy	4
5	29.036	48	29.160	49	52.5	42.5			45.5	44	47	43.5	SE		SSE				050													2c ¼cloudy	5
6	29.210	48	29.530	50	56	39.5			47.3	46.2	45.5	43	S		SE				~													¾c "	6
7	29.516	47	29.600	51	59	39.5			46	42.5	46.5	45	ENE		~~SW~~ S				~													¾c " fine	7
8	29.840	53	29.940	52	57	36.5			48	44.2	43.5	41.2	W		calm				~				Sun halo ◎									¾c " fine	8
9	29.970	49	29.972	50	53	41			46	44	46	44	ENE		ENE				~													¾c " fine	9
10	30.020	49	30.000	50	58.5	37			45.5	42	42.3	40.2	E		NNW				~													¾c " fine	10
11	29.986	49	30.022	48	55.3	36			49	44.8	43.3	41.2	NW		E				~													Cloudy fine	11
12	30.094	50	30.100	49	57	35.5			48	42	44.5	39.5	NNW		NW				~													¾c fine	12
13	30.180	51	30.210	50	57	36.3			51	44.5	44	40	E		E				~													¾c	13
14	30.200	51	30.190	51	57	34			49	44	45.3	41	NE		NE				~													¾c cloudy P.m.	14
15	30.076	50	29.920	50	55	41.3			48.6	44.2	43	39.3	NNW		calm				035													¾c Showers	15
16	29.862	49	30.000	47	54.6	38			48.2	45	42.2	39	~~NE~~ SE		E				~													Cloudy & fine	16
17	30.120	46	30.150	46	51.6	38			44	41	41	39	E		E				~													do do	17
18	30.056	47	29.900	48	48	37			41.3	37.3	47	38.5	SE		NW				~													Dull cold	18
19	29.850	51	29.880	51	57	40.3			50	45	46.5	44	NW		NW				~													¾c mild fine	19
20	29.934	50	29.968	49	57	41.5			48	44.5	43	39.5	NE		ENE				~													¾c fine	20
21	30.000	47	30.010	48	54	39.3			43.6	39.5	43.5	39.5	ENE		ESE				~													Cloudy fine Showers	21
22	29.990	46	29.944	47	48	38			43.2	40.3	42	40	E		calm				130													Dull & Cloudy	22
23	29.870	47	29.840	44	42.5	38.5			39.3	38.6	40.5	39	NE		E				013													Dull & damp	23
24	29.834	43	29.844	45	47	37			41	38.3	41	38	E		SE				~													Dull & Drizzly	24
25	29.864	44	29.808	47	51.5	38			43	38.5	42	39.5	NE		calm				~													¾c hazy & fine	25
26	29.700	48	29.660	49	55.3	36			44	41	39.3	38	ESE		calm				~													½c " "	26
27	29.724	47	29.860	49	56.2	37			44.5	40	44.5	40	E		E				~													½c " "	27
28	29.970	50	29.900	49	54	37			47	41.5	41.5	38.5	NE		NE				~													¾c " " Showery	28
29	29.762	49	29.572	50	53.6	38			43	40.6	45.2	43	NE		S				325													¼c " "	29
30	29.462	49	29.640	49	50.5	40.2			44.3	41.8	43	40	W		SW				145													¾c Showery & hail Showers	30
31																																				31
Sums.	23.650	15 11 6	24.180	16 11 3	26.2	14	11.35	16 5	174.1	16 5	73.5	17 8	11.76	17 6	2.99	14 4			1.403	3 14																		
Means.	29.788		29.806		48.7		53.8		45.8		42.4		43.9		41.0																						
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.	000		000																																	
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																				
"Corrected Means."																																				
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	" cirrus.	ms.	" meteors.
ci.-cu.	" cirro-cumulus.	n.	" nimbus.
ci.-s.	" cirro-stratus.	r.	" rain.
cu.	" cumulus.	h. r.	" heavy rain.
cu.-s.	" cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	" continued heavy rain.
d.	" dew.	s.	" stratus.
f.	" fog.	sc.	" scud.
fr.	" frost.	s.	" sleet.
h.-fr.	" hoar-frost.	s.	" snow.
h.	" haze.	so. ha.	" solar halo.
h. d.	" heavy dew.	sq.	" squall.
hl.	" hail.	sqs.	" squalls.
l.	" lightning.	t.	" thunder.
li. cl.	" light clouds.	t. s.	" thunder storm
li. sh.	" light showers.	w.	" wind.
lu. co.	" lunar corona.	g.	" gale of wind.
lu. ha.	" lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction ‡‡ for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.788 — .053 = 29.735

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction ‡‡ for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.806 — .054 = 29.752

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.744

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 29.871

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the 13 th, = 30.210

Lowest Do. Do., on the 5 th, = 29.036

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 1.174

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the 3 th, = 59.0

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the 14 th, = 34.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 25.0

"Corrected **Mean**" **of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 53.8

"Corrected **Mean**" **of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 38.4

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 15.4

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 46.1

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 44.8

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 41.7

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 38.1

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .230

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), = 77

RAIN fell on 10 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 1.40

WIND. SUMMARY.

Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.	2	7	10	5	2	0	2	2	0		
P.M.	1	2	10	4	3	1	0	3	6		
Mean.	2	4	10	4	3	0	1	3	3		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
‡‡ *Practically*, though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(Signed) James Kay

M.R.

M.A.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

One of the chief objects that the Scottish Meteorological Society proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation. The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer. Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is Fortin's Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers. The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers. Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers. The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer. The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer. In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40½°, and 40⅝°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature. The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers. No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind. Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction. A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure. The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges. Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rain-fall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls. Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds. Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with
2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second
4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher
2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine. The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers. As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea. A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells. The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Ozone. Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{N.W.}_{4}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity. Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks. The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Aurorae Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons. Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Peass,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,	25	
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,	29	
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To
Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,
Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,
EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Barone Cottage (Rothesay), County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49' 50" N, Long. 5° 4' 5" W, Distance from Sea 10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of May 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. No.*	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays. No.	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No.—— 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No.—— 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.—	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount (0—10), and Species.	—— P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of —— feet. No.——	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density.	OZONE. —— 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°																							
1	29.300	47	29.312	46	48.5	37.3			45	43.5	38	36	SSW		SW			270															Heavy shwr & hail shwrs	1
2	29.330	47	29.264	46	48.6	37.3			44	41.2	41	39.5	SW		SW			243															Cloudy & heavy shwrs	2
3	29.032	47	28.900	46	47	37			44	41	40.3	38.5	WSW		W			450															do do	3
4	28.910	45	29.176	47	51	37.5			39.6	39	38.3	36	NW		NW			040															½ clear & showers	4
5	29.300	49	29.500	47	53	35.3			49	43.8	42	38.8	NW		NW			~															½ " heavy & cold	5
6	29.662	50	29.830	50	52.2	37			47.5	46.5	39.3	37	NW		NW			~																6
7	29.784	46	29.460	47	49	32.2			44.2	41	49	44.5	SE		SW			475															Bluey & cool P.m	7
8	29.562	49	29.690	49	49	34[illegible]3.3			47.3	44.8	46	45.2	SW		SW			350															Dull & damp	8
9	29.734	50	29.944	52	55	44			52	51	48	47	W		S.W. calm			165															" Showery	9
10	30.000	52	30.000	54	56	47			53	51.8	49.5	48.5	SW		S			062															" mild & wet am	10
11	29.910	55	29.800	57	67	46.5			54.2	51.3	50.2	48.8	ESE		E calm			~															½ clear fine	11
12	29.900	57	29.240	54	59.6	46.3			55.8	50	48	46	WSW		SW			~															Bluey	12
13	29.864	55	29.600	52	54	38.3			53	50	49.6	45.2	SE		SSE			185															Dull bluey & cold	13
14	29.540	53	29.854	52	56	44.5			51.3	49.8	45.5	48	SW		WSW			286															Bluey showers	14
15	29.664	52	29.710	54	56	48			50.5	49.3	50	47	W		WSW			080															Dull bly & damp	15
16	29.664	52	29.560	54	57	45.2			48.2	47.2	54	52.2	W		SW			570															" "	16
17	29.444	53	29.356	52	55	44			50	49.5	45	42.2	SSW		SW			130															" heavy & wet	17
18	29.590	51	29.770	51	53.6	40.5			48.2	44.2	44.8	42	WSW		SW			~															½ c bluey & fine	18
19	29.830	51	29.900	52	56	36.5			47.5	44.5	44.5	43.2	SSW		E			080															Dull showers	19
20	29.984	51	30.140	51	53.6	36.2			50.8	~~46.6~~ 45.5	45	42.2	W		SW			100															½ c hail & sleet showers	20
21	30.212	51	30.184	52	52.5	40.5			50.3	48.2	48.2	47.2	S		S			350															Dull bluey & showy	21
22	30.280	52	30.310	56	63.2	47			53	51.2	49	47	SSW		NW			~															½ c fine	22
23	30.254	57	30.160	60	71	41.3			61	53	58	53	NW		NW			~															Clear & warm	23
24	30.136	59	30.136	59	69	50			60	55	55.5	51.5	ENE		SE			~															" & fine	24
25	30.158	55	30.194	55	61.5	45.6			53.5	50.2	48.5	45	E		ENE			~															¾ c bluey & fine	25
26	30.280	55	30.300	55	64.2	42			52.2	46.2	52.5	48.2	NE		NE			~															Clear & fine	26
27	30.310	55	30.264	57	70	44			57	50.6	54	48.3	ESE		NE			~															" warm	27
28	30.296	56	30.280	59	67.3	42.5			51	46.6	53.3	49.2	NE		NE			~															" "	28
29	30.286	55	30.200	55	62.5	45			52	47.5	48.8	45.5	NE		E			~															" "	29
30	30.134	53	30.100	57	58.5	45.5	AB		50.5	46.5	~~51.2~~	48.5	SE		SW																		Dull & mild	30
31	30.136	55	30.050	58	63.6	48			56	50	50.5	46.5	SSW		NW																		Clear & fine	31
Sums.	14.137	13	13.114	14	166	157			126	129	16.7	187								3.036																
	25.486	65	25.884	86	230.7	61.3			21.6	239.9	237.5	157.7								Tc																
Means.	29.822	52.1	29.835	52.8	57.4	42.0			50.7	47.7	47.7	45.1																							
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.	000		000																																
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																			
"Corrected Means."																																			
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					

Sum Rain

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.		m.	*denotes* meteor.	
ci.	"	cirrus.	ms.	"	meteors.
ci.-cu.	"	cirro-cumulus.	n.	"	nimbus.
ci.-s.	"	cirro-stratus.	r.	"	rain.
cu.	"	cumulus.	h. r.	"	heavy rain.
cu.-s.	"	cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	"	continued heavy rain.
d.	"	dew.	s.	"	stratus.
f.	"	fog.	sc.	"	scud.
fr.	"	frost.	s.	"	sleet.
h.-fr.	"	hoar-frost.	s.	"	snow.
h.	"	haze.	so.ha.	"	solar halo.
h. d.	"	heavy dew.	sq.	"	squall.
hl.	"	hail.	sqs.	"	squalls.
l.	"	lightning.	t.	"	thunder.
li. cl.	"	light clouds.	t. s.	"	thunder storm
li. sh.	"	light showers.	w.	"	wind.
lu. co.	"	lunar corona.	g.	"	gale of wind.
lu. ha.	"	lunar halo.			

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.822 ..... − .063 ..... = 29.759

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.835 ..... − .065 ..... = 29.770

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, ... = 29.764

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, ... = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, ... = 29.891

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, ... = 30.310

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, ... = 28.900

Difference, or **Monthly Range**, ... = 1.410

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month**, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, ... = 71.0

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, ... = 35.3

Difference, or **Monthly Range**, ... = 35.7

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest**, (Col. 5), ... = 57.4

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest**, (Col. 6), ... = 42.0

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range**, ... = 15.4

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, ... = 49.7

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, ... =

"Corrected **Mean**," (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun**, ... =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, ... =

"Corrected **Mean**," (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, ... =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), ... =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb**, (Cols. 9 and 11), ... = 49.2

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb**, (Cols. 10 and 12), ... = 46.4

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point**, ... = 43.4

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour**, ... = ~~.284~~ .283

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air**, ... =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), ... = 81

RAIN fell on 16 **Days; Amount in Inches**, ... = 3.84

WIND.	SUMMARY.										
Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.		3	4	3	6	4	7	4			
P.M.		3	3	1	3	10	3	6	2		
Mean.	0	3	4	2	4	7	5	5	1		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely* a *minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
¶ While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by Thomas Kay

(Signed) Thomas Kay H. K. H. P.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation. The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer. Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers. The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers. Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements,—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers. The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer. The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer. In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40½°, and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature. The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers. No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind. Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

1. As regards Direction.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure. The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges. Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls. Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds. Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine. The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers. As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea. A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells. The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Ozone. Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{\frac{N.W.}{4}}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity. Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks. The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons. Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Directed of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To
Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,
Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland.
EDINBURGH.
BOOK POST.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Baron's Cottage, Astronomy, County of Bute, in Lat. 55°49'50", Long. 5°4'5". Distance from Sea 8 to 10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of June 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.___	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max.	Min.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays. No.___	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.___	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	___ P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No.___ 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of ___ feet. No.___	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density,	OZONE. ..... 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°																										
1	29.704	56	29.440	55	60	43·5			58·6	53·5	47	46.5	S		S.W. W			.370																	Dull & mild	1
2	29.512	54	29.662	56	57.3	44			47	44	51	48·8	W		calm			.025					Thunder P.M.											de Showers	2
3	29.720	56	29.730	59	65	48			55	48	54·3	50	NE		ENE			—																	fine clear warm	3
4	29.764	58	29.860	60	65·3	47			60	47	54	52	SE		NNW			.015																	de de	4
5	29.750	55	29.670	59	55	47·5			49	47·5	51.5	50	calm		W calm			.060																	Dull & mild	5
6	29.624	54	29.646	56	57	45·3			48	45·3	48·5	46·5	ENE		E calm			—																	Cloudy & dull	6
7	29.680	54	29.750	55	60.2	40.3			56	50·3	52	49	S		calm			.215					Rain Thunder											Cloudy	7
8	29.784	54	29.850	58	61.5	44.5			53.3	49	48·5	45	NW		NW			—																	fine Clouds chilly fine	8
9	29.938	57	29.964	57	60	38.3			56.2	49	48	45·5	S		W			—																	fine fine	9
10	30.000	56	29.980	58	62.5	39.3			57	51·5	54.2	53	S		WSW			.040																	Cloudy mild	10
11	29.900	56	30.080	56	60	49·2			54	51·5	50·5	47.2	SSW		WSW			—																	fine Clouds changable	11
12	30.230	59	30.200	60	66	47			57.5	56	56·8	53	SSW		SSW			—																	Dull mild fine	12
13	30.090	59	30.280	58	62	46.3			61.3	58·5	47.3	44·3	SSW		WNW			.440																	Dull wet am fine P.M.	13
14	30.300	55	30.324	55	56.5	43			53	49·3	49	46	WSW		NW			.005																	fine Clouds chilly	14
15	30.300	54	30.280	55	58	46.5			52	48	48·5	45·3	NW		NW			—																	fine " "	15
16	30.234	54	30.200	56	54.5	44·5			52·3	49·6	52·3	51	NW		WNW			—																	Dull " "	16
17	30.174	59	30.170	60	68.6	50			60.5	55·5	53	50	NW		WNW			—																	fine fine	17
18	30.180	57	30.200	60	62·6	43			53·5	48·5	51·5	48	NW		NW			—																	fine " warm	18
19	30.210	57	30.216	60	65	45			56	52	53	49	NW		W			—																	fine " "	19
20	30.220	57	30.212	61	67	47			58	53·5	55	51·2	NE		NW			—																	fine "	20
21	30.194	61	30.170	60	64·8	46			61·8	55·5	56	51·6	WSW		WNW			—																	fine "	21
22	30.112	59	30.100	59	65·3	50·5			59	56	52	48.2	SW		WNW			—																	fine "	22
23	30.048	57	29.930	58	64	46			54	48·5	52	49	W		SSW			.030																	fine Cloudy P.M.	23
24	29.706	58	29.740	59	58·5	49·5			54	53·2	50·5	49	SW		W			.070																	Dull hazy Mist	24
25	29.920	58	30.000	57	69	48			54	50	52.6	50	NW		SSW			.005																	" Showery	25
26	30.000	59	30.060	62	68	51			57	55	59	51	W		calm			—																	Cloudy warm	26
27	30.130	62	30.184	65	74.5	54·5			64	61	58.8	55.5	NNW		calm			—																	fine fine warm	27
28	30.208	67	30.100	70	81	50			70·2	63·2	64	59	ESE		calm			—																	fine "	28
29	29.990	69	29.974	67	74	50			70·3	61	60	56·5	SE		W ENE			—																	fine am cloudy P.M.	29
30	30.016	66	30.084	66	70	55			66	60·2	57	51	E		WSW			—																	Clear & warm	30
31	~~	~	~~	~	~~																																	31
Sums.	29.718	237	29.976	271	1031	198.7			207·5	185.2	187·8	292·3						1·265																					
Means.	29.991	57·9	29.999	59.2	63·4	14·6			56·9	52·8	52·9	14·7																											
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																																						
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																						
"Corrected Means."																																						
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	„ cirrus.	ms.	„ meteors.
ci.-cu.	„ cirro-cumulus.	n.	„ nimbus.
ci.-s.	„ cirro-stratus.	r.	„ rain.
cu.	„ cumulus.	h. r.	„ heavy rain.
cu.-s.	„ cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	„ continued heavy rain.
d.	„ dew.	s.	„ stratus.
f.	„ fog.	sc.	„ scud.
fr.	„ frost.	s.	„ sleet.
h.-fr.	„ hoar-frost.	s.	„ snow.
h.	„ haze.	so.ha.	„ solar halo.
h. d.	„ heavy dew.	sq.	„ squall.
hl.	„ hail.	sqs.	„ squalls.
l.	„ lightning.	t.	„ thunder.
li. cl.	„ light clouds.	th. s.	„ thunder storm
li. sh.	„ light showers.	w.	„ wind.
lu. co.	„ lunar corona.	g.	„ gale of wind.
lu. ha.	„ lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.991 − .079 = **29.912**

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.999 − .083 = **29.916**

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = **29.914**

Correction for height, feet above Mean Sea-level, = **.127**

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = **30.041**

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = **30.324**

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = **29.440**

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = **0.884**

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, = **81.0**

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, = **38.3**

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = **42.7**

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = **63.4**

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = **46.6**

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = **16.8**

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = **55.0**

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = **54.9**

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = **51.2**

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = **47.7**

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = **.329**

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** ... =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), = **76**

RAIN fell on **11 Days; Amount in Inches,** = **1.26**

WIND. SUMMARY. Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.	1	2	3	2	6	2	6	7	1		
P.M.	1	0	2	0	3	2	12	5	5		
Mean.	1	1	2	1	5	2	9	6	3		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.," and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.

† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.

‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.

†† *Practically,* though not *absolutely* a *minus* correction.

‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only.*

" Those "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only.*

" While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."

Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(Signed) James Kay M.A.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Hour of Observation.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

Barometer.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose: after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40¼°, and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Reading of the Thermometer.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Hour of observing Temperature.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

Verification of Thermometers.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

Wind.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

1. As regards Direction.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Rain Gauges.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Snow-falls.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Clouds.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

2, W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second column, an entry of ——— 4, st. ——— will indicate that the higher Cloud 2, cu-st. regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Sunshine.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Underground Thermometers.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of the Sea.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Temperature of Wells.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc.

The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{N.W.}_{s}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Ozone.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Atmospheric Electricity.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Aurorae Borcales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

Remarks.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower, or Ripen.	First Cut or Plucked.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

BOOK POST.

To

Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,

Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,

EDINBURGH.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Baron Cottage (Rothesay), County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49′ 50″, Long. 5° 4′ 6″, Distance from Sea 0 10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of July 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. No.	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays. No.	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No. —— 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No. —— 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°							
1	30.150	64	30.150	67	72	49			64.2	60.3	62	59	NE		SE / SW				—
2	30.140	64	30.050	63	73	55			60	57.5	56	54	SSE		WNW				—
3	30.006	65	29.934	68	76.3	48			64.8	60.2	62	61	ENE		calm				290
4	29.900	67	29.870	65	73	56			65.2	62.2	60.5	60	NE		NE				5.55
5	29.872	62	29.864	65	68	55			59.2	58	63	62.5	NE		ENE				120
6	29.844	66	29.830	67	74	56.5			66.6	63.5	60	60	S		SE				010
7	29.774	63	29.820	64	65.5	53.2			59	58.5	61.3	61.2	SE		SE				250
8	29.850	64	29.850	65	71.3	56			64	63	60	60.5	SSW		SE / calm				002
9	29.830	66	29.736	66	74	55			66	66	62	60	SE		SE				500
10	29.600	66	29.536	65	67	58			66.8	66.5	59.5	59.5	NE		E				1.605
11	29.540	61	29.620	65	66.5	53			56.8	56.8	67	66.8	S		SE				210
12	29.636	61	29.760	64	69	53			59	58.8	58	55	S		SE				005
13	29.750	66	29.620	64	70.3	55.5			67	66.2	58	58	SE		S				100
14	29.600	63	29.634	63	64	53			61.5	61.5	59	59	S		SE				475
15	29.680	60	29.620	62	68	53			57.2	57.2	58	58	S		E				135
16	29.342	62	29.320	60	65	54			56.5	56	57	56.3	S		SSW				200
17	?	60	29.700	58	60	52.3			55.5	55	52.5	52.5	NW		W				453
18	29.764	59	29.930	58	59.3	48.3			57	56	49	48	SW		NW				105
19	30.066	57	30.130	58	64	42			55.2	52.2	50	48.2	NW		NW				—
20	30.114	59	30.016	58	64	41			60	57	55	53.8	NW		SSW				013
21	29.834	57	29.760	57	56	51			53.3	52.5	53.5	53.5	SE		calm				100
22	29.830	57	29.780	58	61.6	51			56	55.6	54.2	54	WSW		SW / calm				080
23	29.630	57	29.550	61	64	52			56	55.5	53.5	52.5	SW		SW / W				—
24	29.530	59	29.750	58	62	49			59	54	52	51.2	W		NW / NE				155
25	29.960	57	30.018	57	60	44			54.5	52.5	49	48.5	NW		W				—
26	29.914	55	29.800	57	60.3	44.5			54	52.8	51	50.8	E		E				300
27	29.884	56	30.034	59	66.5	48			56.2	55	55	53.5	NE		SW / calm				—
28	?	58	29.970	59	59.5	46.5			54	53	54.5	54.3	SE		ENE				005
29	30.020	60	30.110	62	61.2	53			58.2	57.5	55	54.8	ENE		NE				040
30	30.100	59	30.072	62	66	52			57	57	59	59	NE		calm				080
31	30.110	60	30.130	63	66.2	52			57.5	56.3	58	57.5	NNW		SSW				—
Sums.	24 16 10 5	27 0	25 16 11 4	29 6	18 13 4	45		3	177	148	133	139							5 5 6
		30		5 8		98			13	86	55	89							5 7 8 8
									28	23	20	18							
Means.	29.837	61.0	29.838	61.9	66.0	51.3			57.1	57.7	56.6	56.1							
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																			
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																			
"Corrected Means."																			
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19

Days of Month	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	—— P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density, 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	OZONE. —— 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month
						°	°	°	°	°					
1														½ c clear & warm	1
2														¾ c hot	2
3														½ c Thunder 8.50 m	3
4														½ c Heavy thunder 1.30 to 4.30	4
5														½ c Thunder 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.	5
6														¾ c Hot & warm	6
7														Dull & damp	7
8														½ c fine warm	8
9														¾ c warm Coast p.m.	9
10														Dull Thunder 11.40 to 5.40	10
11														Dull ½ c p.m.	11
12														½ c fine	12
13														½ c fine showers	13
14														Dull Thunder 3 p.m.	14
15														Cloudy & fine	15
16														do do	16
17														Dull	17
18														½ c warm & hazy	18
19														½ c heavy & fine	19
20														½ c fine warm	20
21														Dull & heavy	21
22														do do	22
23														½ c change p.m.	23
24														½ c showers, thunder	24
25														½ c cloudy & fine	25
26														Dull showers	26
27														½ c fine	27
28														Cloudy & fine	28
29														Dull mild damp	29
30														Cloudy & mild	30
31														do do	31

Note. The Hygrometer beginning of the month seems to be somewhat Out of time & the wet bulb in some cases a degree above the dry.

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	„ cirrus.	ms.	„ meteors.
ci.-cu.	„ cirro-cumulus.	n.	„ nimbus.
ci.-s.	„ cirro-stratus.	r.	„ rain.
cu.	„ cumulus.	h. r.	„ heavy rain.
cu.-s.	„ cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	„ continued heavy rain.
d.	„ dew.	s.	„ stratus.
f.	„ fog.	sc.	„ scud.
fr.	„ frost.	s.	„ sleet.
h.-fr.	„ hoar-frost.	s.	„ snow.
h.	„ haze.	so.ha.	„ solar halo.
h. d.	„ heavy dew.	sq.	„ squall.
hl.	„ hail.	sqs.	„ squalls.
l.	„ lightning.	t.	„ thunder.
li. cl.	„ light clouds.	t. s.	„ thunder storm
li. sh.	„ light showers.	w.	„ wind.
lu. co.	„ lunar corona.	g.	„ gale of wind.
lu. ha.	„ lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction ‡‡ for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.837 − 8.7 = 29.750

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction ‡‡ for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.838 − 8.9 = 29.749

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.750

Correction for height, feet above Mean Sea-level, =

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, =

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the 1 th, = 30.150

Lowest Do. Do., on the 16 th, = 29.320

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 0.830

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the 3 th, = 76.3

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the 20 th, = 41.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 35.3

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 66.0

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 51.3

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 14.7

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 58.7

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 57.9

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 56.9

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** =

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** =

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), =

RAIN fell on 24 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 5.79

WIND. SUMMARY.

Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.	1	6	3	5	7	2	2	4	1		
P.M.		2	5	5	4	1	5	4	5		
Mean.	0	4	4	5	6	1	4	4	3		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
‡‡ *Practically*, though not *absolutely* a *minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(*Signed*) James Kay

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparablenss among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer.

Weather-Glasses and Ancroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40½°, and 40¾° more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rain-fall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Ozone.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{\frac{N.W.}{4}}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS manifesting variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To
MR ALEXANDER BUCHAN,
Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,
EDINBURGH.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Barons Cottage, Rothesay, County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49′ 50″ N, Long. 5° 4′ 5″ W, Distance from Sea 8 10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of August 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month.	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. No.___	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sunshine No.	Min. on Grass No.	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force.	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force.	Readings of the H.Cmp Anemometer. No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches.	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground: 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of ___ feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at Harbour, and Density.	OZONE. 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month.
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°													°	°	°	°	°				
1	30.050	61	29.800	60	73	54			58.2	57	61	60	NE		NE				085													1/4 Clear fine	1
2	29.694	64	29.800	61	64.3	54.5			59.3	57.3	56	54.5	S		SSW				055													Cloudy, Showers	2
3	29.830	59	29.958	62	62.5	52			57	55	53.5	53	SSW		SW				035													do Showery	3
4	30.080	59	30.154	63	62.2	50			55.5	54.5	55	53	SW		SSW				~													do	4
5	30.150	59	30.090	62	65	50			53	51	53.5	53	SE		SE				~													Clear & fine	5
6	30.090	62	30.050	64	74	53			64	62.5	56.5	57	SE		E				~													do do	6
7	30.050	62	30.090	65	75	54			60	60	60	60	E		W S				~													1/2 clear do	7
8	30.110	64	29.960	67	73	55.5			63	63	64	64	E		NE				110				Thunder & lightning 7.30 P.M.									1/2 " change PM	8
9	29.944	65	29.944	67	75	59			65	64.8	62.5	62.5	NE		NE				——													1/2 " fine AM	9
10	29.916	65	29.858	67	72.5	55			66	64.6	65	62	NE		SW				125													1/2 " do	10
11	29.876	67	29.896	68	74	59			66.6	64.8	62	61	SW		calm				——													1/2 " do Thunder 7.30 to 8 P.M.	11
12	29.864	66	29.844	66	66	56			63.5	61.5	62.5	62	NE		E S				915													Dull Thunder all day SE NE	12
13	29.888	65	29.820	64	67	57			61	60.5	58.2	56	WSW		S				040				Lightning all night									do Showers	13
14	29.860	62	29.950	66	66	52			61.5	56	56	54.5	SW		SW				——													Cloudy & mild	14
15	29.984	62	29.900	61	62.5	52			61	58.3	58	57.5	SSE		SSW				990													Dull & wet all day	15
16	29.922	61	29.914	62	63	56.3			62.3	60.3	57.3	57.3	SSW		SE				240													do do	16
17	29.900	60	29.900	62	67	55.5			60	59.8	60	58	E		SSE				—													1/2 a mild fine	17
18	29.864	62	29.724	64	73	57			63.8	61.5	58.5	56.5	S		S				020													do do	18
19	29.660	62	29.884	62	64	49.5			57	55.8	50.2	48.8	SW		calm				—													1/2 a showery & fine	19
20	29.980	59	29.960	61	69.3	43.5			58.2	55.2	58	56.2	SW		S				015													1/2 a fine drizzly rain PM	20
21	30.154	61	30.154	61	65.5	47			58.2	52.2	54	51	NW		calm				075													Clear & fine	21
22	30.090	60	30.040	62	67	52.5			60.5	59	58	56	SSE		S				—													1/2 a fine	22
23	30.006	62	29.972	65	71.5	55.5			67	63	62	59.2	S		NW				440				Thunder & lightning N PM, NW									1/2 a cool & warm	23
24	29.924	62	29.932	60	63	52.5			61	60.6	55	53.8	SW		SW				100													Dull & showers	24
25	30.040	59	30.150	58	60	44.6			55	50	51	50	NW		NW				100													1/2 a blowy fine showers	25
26	30.068	56	30.010	56	58	44.5			50	49.2	50.2	49.5	W		calm				—													1/2 a cloudy chilly	26
27	29.870	55	29.640	55	54	46.5			52	51	48.5	48.3	N		SE				702													Dull damp	27
28	29.480	55	29.450	56	58	45.3			53.2	50.3	46.6	46	W		calm				040													1/2 a showers	28
29	29.540	55	29.630	56	59.5	41			55.2	52.2	48.6	48	SW		NW				260													1/2 a heavy showers	29
30	29.670	54	29.678	57	60.5	47.5			53	51.8	53	52	SSW		calm				070													Dull & wet	30
31	29.640	55	29.574	55	57	46			56.5	54	46.5	46.2	SW		calm				090													1/4 a showers	31
Sums.	17166	13	19146	12	144	14.6			125	119	146	14.5							4.507																
	28.116	20	27.726	50	182.3	47.7			287.5	226.6	191.1	156.8							20																
Means.	29.907	60.6	29.894	61.6	65.9	51.5			59.3	57.3	56.2	55.1																						
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																																		
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																		
"Corrected Means."																																		
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.		m.	*denotes* meteor.	
ci.	"	cirrus.	ms.	"	meteors.
ci.-cu.	"	cirro-cumulus.	n.	"	nimbus.
ci.-s.	"	cirro-stratus.	r.	"	rain.
cu.	"	cumulus.	h. r.	"	heavy rain.
cu.-s.	"	cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	"	continued heavy rain.
d.	"	dew.	s.	"	stratus.
f.	"	fog.	sc.	"	scud.
fr.	"	frost.	s.	"	sleet.
h.-fr.	"	hoar-frost.	s.	"	snow.
h.	"	haze.	so.ha.	"	solar halo.
h. d.	"	heavy dew.	sq.	"	squall.
hl.	"	hail.	sqs.	"	squalls.
l.	"	lightning.	t.	"	thunder.
li. cl.	"	light clouds.	t. s.	"	thunder storm
li. sh.	"	light showers.	w.	"	wind.
lu. co.	"	lunar corona.	g.	"	gale of wind.
lu. ha.	"	lunar halo.			

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction †† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.907 ..... − .086 = 29.821

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction †† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.894 ..... − .088 = 29.806

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, ... = 29.814

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, ... = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, ... = 29.941

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, ... = 30.154

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, ... = 29.450

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** ..... = 0.704

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, ... = 75.0

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, ... = 41.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** ..... = 34.0

"Corrected **Mean**" **of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), ... = 65.9

"Corrected **Mean**" **of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), ... = 51.5

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** ..... = 14.4

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, ... = 58.7

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, ...

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** .....

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, ...

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, ...

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), ...

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), ... = 57.6 57.8

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), ... = 56.2 56.2

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** ..... = 54.9 54.8

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** ..... = .430 .430

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** ... =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), ... = 90

RAIN fell on 20 **Days; Amount in Inches,** ..... = 4.51

WIND. SUMMARY.

Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.	1	3	3	2	8	7	3	1	3		
P.M.		2	2	3	8	4	1	2	8		
Mean.	0	3	2	3	8	5	2	2	6		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.," and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.

† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.

‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.

†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely a minus* correction.

‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.

** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."

Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(Signed) James Kay H.R. H.R.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Hour of Observation.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

Barometer.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40¼°, and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Reading of the Thermometer.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Hour of observing Temperature.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

Verification of Thermometers.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

Wind.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

1. As regards Direction.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Rain Gauges.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Snow-falls.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Clouds.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Sunshine.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Underground Thermometers.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of the Sea.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Temperature of Wells.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc.

The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{\frac{N.W.}{4}}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Ozone.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Atmospheric Electricity.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Aurora Borealis, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

Remarks.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, manifesting variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Mowed.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To

MR ALEXANDER BUCHAN,

Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,

EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.

Inspected October 11th AB

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Barone Cottage, County of Bute, in Lat. 55°49'50", Long. 5°4'5", Distance from Sea 8/10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of September 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. on Sun's rays. No.	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No. — 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°
1	29.500	55	29.445	56	65	41			57	54	51	49
2	29.450	56	29.534	62	62	45.5			58	55	52.2	51
3	29.566	57	29.580	58	61	47			56.5	53.2	51.3	51.3
4	29.580	57	29.550	58	61.2	43.5			54.2	53	50.5	49
5	29.524	57	29.540	57	61.3	42.5			55.5	52	47.2	46.5
6	29.500	54	29.270	56	62.5	41			55	52	51	50.5
7	29.472	54	29.800	59	60	48			54.2	51.2	53	53.2
8	29.944	51	29.960	59	64	48			56.6	54	55.5	55
9	30.040	61	30.120	62	66.6	54.2			60	59.6	60	60
10	30.160	62	30.180	63	68	59			60.5	60.3	60	59.2
11	30.272	61	30.370	62	68.5	51			65	62.8	55	54
12	30.436	60	30.450	62	68	49			58	57.2	58.5	58.5
13	30.430	59	30.350	59	68.5	48.2			55	54.8	58	58
14	30.320	58	30.230	60	66	50			59	55.2	53	51.5
15	30.164	57	30.140	60	63	50.3			56.2	53.5	54	53
16	30.092	58	30.140	59	60.3	53			56.2	55	56	55.5
17	30.200	60	30.350	60	68.5	54			64	61	55.6	55
18	30.410	60	30.350	61	65	52.5			59.2	58.3	53	52.2
19	30.240	58	30.100	60	64.5	47.2			57.2	56.3	59	57.5
20	29.986	60	29.780	62	68.2	56			58.2	56.6	58	57
21	29.540	60	29.510	58	62	49			59	58	49.2	48.5
22	29.508	57	29.764	55	56.6	46.2			52.3	51.3	47	45
23	29.940	54	29.910	55	57.5	45.6			54	49.8	52	50
24	29.742	55	29.814	56	59	50			55	50.6	52.2	50.6
25	29.760	55	29.714	56	59.5	49			53.5	51	55	52.5
26	29.650	55	29.636	56	57.5	49.5			53	50	51.5	46
27	29.330	55	29.604	56	59	49			52.5	51.6	53.5	48.6
28	29.674	55	29.860	55	57.5	47			53.2	51	47.3	47
29	29.824	53	29.970	52	55	44			51.2	46.3	49.5	46.5
30	29.864	52	29.614	54	55.3	46.2			53	50.2	52.5	49.5
31												
Sums.	15[1]5	12	15[1]3	13	167	154			155	117	135	157
	26.318	26	26.334	26	71.0	25.4			192.2	24.8	101.5	61.1
Means.	29.877	56.9	29.878	58.3	62.4	48.5			56.4	54.2	53.4	52.0
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.	000		000									
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.												
"Corrected Means."												
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Days of Month	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No. — 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	— P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density,	OZONE. 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.	Days of Month
													°	°	°	°	°				
1	calm		calm				200													1/2 clear change P.m	1
2	SW		SW				022													1/4 "	2
3	S		SSW				~													1/2 " fine warm	3
4	NW		calm				110													3/4 c " fine	4
5	NW		NW				~													3/4 " fine	5
6	W		E				400													clear fine Overcast P.m	6
7	WNW		WNW				015													1/2 " fine Breezy	7
8	WSW		calm				290													1/2 " Dull & wet P.m.	8
9	E		calm				025													Dull warm & mild	9
10	S		calm				~													Dull mild and Rain	10
11	ESE		calm				~													1/2 c fine	11
12	NE		E				—													c & fine	12
13	NE		E				—													c & fine (Aurora)	13
14	E		E				—													c & fine	14
15	ENE		E				—													1/2 c Cloury fine	15
16	NE		calm				060													Dull & damp	16
17	E		NW				—													1/2 c fine	17
18	NW calm		calm				—													1/4 c fine mild	18
19	NE		calm				—													do do	19
20	W		SW				—													do do	20
21	SSE		calm				320													Dull & wet	21
22	SW		SW				130													1/4 c Showers	22
23	SW		SW				135													Dull & Showers	23
24	SW		NW				030													1/4 c Cby showers	24
25	SW		SW				130													Dull & Cloury	25
26	W		SW				095													1/2 c Cloury fine	26
27	SW		WSW				225													Dull Cloury Showers	27
28	WSW		calm				685													Dull & wet	28
29	SW		W				080													1/2 c Showers	29
30	SW		SSE				350													Dull do	30
31																					31
Sums.							3.20														
Means.																					
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																					
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																					
"Corrected Means."																					
No. of Column.	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	denotes aurora.	m.	denotes meteor.
ci.	" cirrus.	ms.	" meteors.
ci.-cu.	" cirro-cumulus.	n.	" nimbus.
ci.-s.	" cirro-stratus.	r.	" rain.
cu.	" cumulus.	h. r.	" heavy rain.
cu.-s.	" cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	" continued heavy rain.
d.	" dew.	s.	" stratus.
f.	" fog.	sc.	" scud.
fr.	" frost.	s.	" sleet.
h.-fr.	" hoar-frost.	s.	" snow.
h.	" haze.	so. ha.	" solar halo.
h. d.	" heavy dew.	sq.	" squall.
hl.	" hail.	sqs.	" squalls.
l.	" lightning.	th.	" thunder.
li. cl.	" light clouds.	t. s.	" thunder storm
li. sh.	" light showers.	w.	" wind.
lu. co.	" lunar corona.	g.	" gale of wind.
lu. ha.	" lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.877 − 0.076 = 29.801

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.878 − 0.080 = 29.798

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.800

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 29.927

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = 30.450

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = 29.330

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 1.120

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, = 68.5

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, = 41.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 27.5

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 62.4

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 48.5

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 13.9

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 55.4

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 54.9

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 53.1

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 51.3

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .379

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** =

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), = 87

RAIN fell on 18 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 3.20

WIND. SUMMARY.

Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.		4	5		3	6	6	2	4		
P.M.			5		1	7	3	3	11		
Mean.	0	2	5	0	2	7	4	3	7		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.," and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by { James Kay

(Signed) James Kay

H. P.
H. P.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Hour of Observation.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

Barometer.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40½°, and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40¾°, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Reading of the Thermometer.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Hour of observing Temperature.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

Verification of Thermometers.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

Wind.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

1. As regards Direction.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rainfall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Rain Gauges.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Snow-falls.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Clouds.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Sunshine.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Undergroud Thermometers.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of the Sea.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Temperature of Wells.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc.

The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{\frac{S.W.}{4}}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Ozone.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Atmospheric Electricity.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

Remarks.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Pontticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.
Apple,	
Black Currant,	
Cherry,	
Gean,	
Gooseberry,	
Peach,	
Pear,	
Plum,	
Strawberry,	

CROPS, mantioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,					
Bere or Bigg,					
Oats,					
Wheat,					
Beans,					
Pease,					
Potatoes,					
Turnips,					
Rye Grass,					

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	In Ear or Flower.	Departure.
Cuckoo,			
Curlew,			
House-Swallow,			
Lapwing,			
Plover,			
Sand-Martin,			
Starling,			
Swan,			
Rail or Corn Crake,			

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To
Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,
Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,
EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Baron's Cottage, Rothesay, County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49' 50", Long. 5° 4' 5", Distance from Sea 0 10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of October 6 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.___	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays No.___	Min. on Grass No.___	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.___	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	——— P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No.___ 3 inches.	12 inches.	No.___ 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of ___ feet. No.___	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density,	OZONE. ..... 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°														°	°	°							
1	29.790	52	29.952	52	55	44			46.3	44.8	46.2	44.8	W		SSW SW				015																1/3 clear Showery & fine	1
2	29.804	54	29.590	55	55.3	45			53.8	51.2	51	50.8	S		W				563																Heavy showers	2
3	29.824	52	30.170	51	54.5	46			49	45	45.5	43.5	WNW		NW				020																1/2 c blowy showers	3
4	30.436	51	30.580	53	60.2	43.5			51.2	49	50.8	49	calm		calm				—																1/10 mild fine	4
5	30.670	54	30.658	54	58	44			53	51.8	44.5	43.5	NW ENE		WSW calm				—																Blowy & mild	5
6	30.596	53	30.442	54	61.5	41			52	50	46	45	calm		NW				—																Clear & fine	6
7	30.286	53	30.030	54	62.3	42.5			52	50	49	47.5	calm		calm				360																1/2 "	7
8	29.580	53	29.380	51	50	41			48.5	48.2	44	43	S		W				138																Blowy & wet am	8
9	29.440	49	29.554	48	45.5	39			42.8	41.8	43	41	calm		NW				340																Dull & wet	9
10	29.600	44	29.684	46	47	35			39.5	37	35.5	33	NW		NW				—																1/2 c blowy & cold	10
11	29.664	44	29.804	48	49.8	32.5			43	39	41.3	38.5	NW		NW				—																1/3 c blowy & cold	11
12	29.950	44	30.034	46	50	38			42	38.5	41	38.2	N NW		NW				—																1/2 c " "	12
13	30.004	46	29.884	47	47	38			45	43.3	46	45	WSW		NW calm				100																Dull & damp	13
14	29.990	49	30.080	50	52	45.5			48	45.6	47	45	NW		calm				670																1/4 c fine slight showers	14
15	29.970	53	30.120	53	55	46.5			53.5	53	48	46.5	WSW		W				040																Dull & damp	15
16	30.136	53	30.122	57	56	45			53.5	53.2	53.2	52.5	WSW		W				025																Dull & mild	16
17	30.150	54	20.200	57	55	50			52.6	51.8	53	52.3	SW		W				010																Dull & mild	17
18	20.250	55	30.154	55	58	50			52.8	51.8	53.2	52.5	SW		W				070																1/4 c "	18
19	30.174	52	30.200	52	55	46.5			49.6	46.3	47	46	W		NW				040																Dull "	19
20	30.230	52	30.230	53	53.2	45			49	47	52	51	WSW		calm				—																Dull "	20
21	30.166	53	30.120	54	57	49			52.2	49	50	48	WSW		calm				—																Cloudy fine	21
22	30.064	54	29.954	53	53.6	48.8			52	50.3	49.5	48.3	SSW		S				040																Dull & wet	22
23	29.800	52	29.760	53	54	48			49	46.8	50.5	48.8	S SSE		S				020																Dull hazy fine	23
24	29.862	53	29.990	49	51.6	38.2			47.3	46.5	38.5	37.8	NW		W				150																1/2 c	24
25	29.786	50	29.320	55	55	38			48.3	47	54	53	SSW		SW				640																Dull blowy & wet	25
26	29.240	48	29.350	49	54.5	38.5			43.2	41.5	42.3	39	NW		NW				450																1/4 c gale all day	26
27	29.614	47	29.160	51	51.5	35.5			41	40	51.2	50	W		W				165																Dull & damp	27
28	29.763	49	29.600	48	52	36.2			43.3	40	37.5	36.5	NW		NW				230																1/2 c blowy showers	28
29	29.730	46	29.766	50	47	35.3			44.2	40.2	44.8	43	WSW		WSW				370																Dull blowy "	29
30	29.712	50	29.700	55	57.5	44			48	46.3	55.5	54.2	S		S				155																Dull & damp	30
31	29.700	55	29.742	56	57.5	47			56.5	53.5	53.2	52.5	SSW		SW				1.205																Dull & wet	31
Sums.	.16147	12	14145	13	146	165			158	129	137	148							5.822																			
	28.380	24	28.330	59	121.5	75.5			262.1	199.4	242.2	179.7							53																			
Means.	29.915	50.8	29.914	51.9	53.9	42.4			48.5	46.4	47.2	45.8																									
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																																					
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																					
"Corrected Means."																																					
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							

Heavy dew — Light frost — Dull & damp

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	„ cirrus.	ms.	„ meteors.
ci.-cu.	„ cirro-cumulus.	n.	„ nimbus.
ci.-s.	„ cirro-stratus.	r.	„ rain.
cu.	„ cumulus.	h. r.	„ heavy rain.
cu.-s.	„ cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	„ continued heavy rain.
d.	„ dew.	s.	„ stratus.
f.	„ fog.	sc.	„ scud.
fr.	„ frost.	s.	„ sleet.
h.-fr.	„ hoar-frost.	s.	„ snow.
h.	„ haze.	so.ha.	„ solar halo.
h. d.	„ heavy dew.	sq.	„ squall.
hl.	„ hail.	sqs.	„ squalls.
l.	„ lightning.	t.	„ thunder.
li. cl.	„ light clouds.	t. s.	„ thunder storm
li. sh.	„ light showers.	w.	„ wind.
lu. co.	„ lunar corona.	g.	„ gale of wind.
lu. ha.	„ lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.915 − .060 = 29.855

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.914 − .063 = 29.851

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, ... = 29.853

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, ... = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, ... = 29.980

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, ... = 30.670

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, ... = 29.160

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** ..... = 1.510

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, ... = 62.3

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, ... = 32.5

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** ..... = 29.8

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), ... = 53.9

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), ... = 42.4

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** ..... = 11.5

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, ... = 48.2

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, ... =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** ..... =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, ... =

"Corrected **Mean,"** (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, ... =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), ... =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), ... = 47.8

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), ... = 46.1

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** ..... = 44.2

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** ..... = .290

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** ... = 3.17

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation = 100),** ..... = 88

RAIN fell on 23 **Days; Amount in Inches,** ..... = 5.82

WIND. Direction.	SUMMARY. N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.					6	2	10 8	6	7		
P.M.					4	2	8	9	8		
Mean.	0	0	0	0	5	2	9	8	7		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically,* though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only.*
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(*Signed*) James Kay H. K.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Hour of Observation.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

Barometer.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross-laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed: The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow ...xes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. ...should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Mini... ...st on wooden supports a few inches from the surface ...n an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to ... these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the ...rmometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in glass jackets may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40⅓°, and 40¾°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Reading of the Thermometer.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Hour of observing Temperature.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

Verification of Thermometers.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

Wind.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

1. As regards Direction.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rain-fall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Rain Gauges.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Snow-falls.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Clouds.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Sunshine.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Underground Thermometers.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of the Sea.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, both the depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Temperature of Wells.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc.

The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{N.W.}_{4}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Ozone.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Atmospheric Electricity.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

Remarks.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

The Council recommend Observers, before ... struments, and in repairing old ones, to com... Meteorological Secretary, in order that every i... examined and improved before being used; and th... sary that he should have full power to reject any ... on being presented for comparison, does not affor...

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1880.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To
Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,
Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,
EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Baronie Cottage, Rothesay, County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49' 50", Long. 5° 4' 5", Distance from Sea 8/10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of November 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month.	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. Barometer. * No.___	9 h. A.M. Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.___	9 h. P.M. Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Min. No.	Exposed Bulbs. Max. in Sunbeams No.	Min. on Grass. No.	HYGROMETER. No.___ 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No.___ 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	___ P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount, (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of ___ feet. No.___	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density,	OZONE. ..... 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month.
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°.																										
1	29.690	55	29.770	52	55	45.2			51.2	50.5	46	45	WNW		calm			286															Dull & wet	1
2	29.690	50	29.800	48	47	40			42	40.6	43	40	NW		W			145															Dull & damp	2
3	29.824	46	29.850	47	42.2	38			42	40.3	45	43	WSW		SE			125															Cloudy & light showers	3
4	29.544	46	29.144	52	52.5	41.5			43.6	42.5	50	45	SE		SW			470															Dull & wet	4
5	29.230	50	29.552	51	51.5	44.5			49.6	47.5	45.5	43	SSW		WSW			500															do	5
6	29.800	49	29.800	48	48	42			44	42.5	43	41.5	SW		S			715															showers	6
7	29.310	50	29.760	48	53.5	38.5			53	52.2	41	37.2	S		NW			165															Dull & blowy showers & wet	7
8	29.840	46	29.740	48	50.8	40			44.8	43.8	50	49	S		SW			920															"	8
9	29.840	51	30.120	50	54	45.5			50	46.8	48	44.5	SW		SW			092															1/2 c showers	9
10	30.350	48	30.290	49	52	41			43	42	47.5	45	S		B			—															clear & fine	10
11	30.170	50	30.150	51	52	47			51	49.2	50	48.3	S		S			030															Dull & blowy	11
12	30.010	50	30.140	50	51	43			48	47	44.2	43.6	S		NW			285															Dull & wet	12
13	30.380	46	30.512	47	50.3	35.3			37	36.3	36.2	35.5	calm		calm			—															clear & fine	13
14	30.520	42	30.410	43	45	33			37.2	36	41.5	40.3	NE		ESE			—															do do	14
15	30.390	42	30.342	42	43.6	35			36.8	34.8	39	36.2	E		E			—															1/2 c do	15
16	30.290	41	30.250	42	41	35.3			38.8	35.5	34	33	NE		Calm			—															cloudy & fine	16
17	30.306	41	30.394	41	45.3	31			32	31.5	36	34.5	NE		calm			—															1/2 c do	17
18	30.490	40	30.590	40	46.5	31.3			34	31.8	33.5	31	NW		calm			—															clear do	18
19	30.596	41	30.450	42	46.5	30			36.6	35.3	41.5	39.2	WNW		WNW			040															2/3 clear	19
20	30.100	47	30.030	44	47	35.5			44.5	41.6	36.3	33.5	NW		NW			—															1/2 " bly cold	20
21	30.124	42	30.200	42	48	32			42.8	38.3	32.3	30.5	NNE		N			—															3/4 " fine	21
22	30.140	40	30.120	43	47.5	30.2			37	36.5	41	39.5	NW		NW			—															1/2 c "	22
23	30.110	42	30.064	42	45.3	31			37	34.8	31	28.8	NW		NW			—															1/2 c "	23
24	30.100	38	30.120	40	44	28			29.5	27.5	35	35	NE/SE		calm			—															1/2 c "	24
25	30.120	41	30.180	42	48	35			41	40	39	37	NW		N			—															1/2 c "	25
26	30.180	43	30.090	47	47	42			42.5	42	46	44	NW		W			160														moon halo ◎	26
27	29.790	49	29.650	47	50	41			48	47	43	39	SW		W			370															1/4 c fresh blasts	27
28	29.600	44	29.690	43	44	35			35	35	35	32	WNW		NW			—														moon halo ◎	28
29	29.740	39	29.890	38	38.5	28			32	30	28	27	NW		NW			—														moon halo ◎	29
30	29.720	38	29.770	37	34.5	27			32.5	32	34	32.5	ESE		SW			100															1/2 c showers clear frosty Dull	30
31	—	—																																				31
Sums.	12.12.2	10	12.14.1	11	13.6	11.3			137	1210	12.3	1146						4.403																					
	29.994	147	30.868	156	221.5	201.8			36.4	290.8	15.5	253.6						15																					
Means.	30.000 29.994	44.9	30.029	45.2	47.4	36.7			41.2	39.7	40.5	38.5																											
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.										+.2		+.2																											
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																						
"Corrected Means."										39.9		38.7																											
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	*denotes* aurora.	m.	*denotes* meteor.
ci.	" cirrus.	ms.	" meteors.
ci.-cu.	" cirro-cumulus.	n.	" nimbus.
ci.-s.	" cirro-stratus.	r.	" rain.
cu.	" cumulus.	h. r.	" heavy rain.
cu.-s.	" cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	" continued heavy rain.
d.	" dew.	s.	" stratus.
f.	" fog.	sc.	" scud.
fr.	" frost.	s.	" sleet.
h.-fr.	" hoar-frost.	s.	" snow.
h.	" haze.	so.ha.	" solar halo.
h. d.	" heavy dew.	sq.	" squall.
hl.	" hail.	sqs.	" squalls.
l.	" lightning.	t.	" thunder.
li. cl.	" light clouds.	t. s.	" thunder storm
li. sh.	" light showers.	w.	" wind.
lu. co.	" lunar corona.	g.	" gale of wind.
lu. ha.	" lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 30.000 — .044 = 29.956

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 30.029 — .045 = 29.984

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.970

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 30.097

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = 30.596

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = 29.144

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 1.452

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the 1 th, = 55.0

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, = 27.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 28.0

"Corrected **Mean**" **of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 47.4

"Corrected **Mean**" **of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 36.7

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 10.7

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 42.0

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 40.8

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 39.3

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 37.4

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .224

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** = ~~.061~~

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), = 88

RAIN fell on 15 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 4.40

WIND.	SUMMARY.										
Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.	2	3	2	1	6	3	3	8	2		
P.M.	2		3	1	2	4	5	7	6		
Mean.	2	2	2	1	4	4	4	7	4		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
†† *Practically*, though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only*.
** While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by { James Kay

(*Signed*) James Kay

H. R.
H. R.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose [illegible] lid and case of the cistern. When piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting line with those on its ivory frame, the [illegible] at the exact height from which the [illegible]ing an observation, this preliminary set- [illegible]rupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross-laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or $40\frac{1}{2}°$, respectively. So also $40\frac{1}{4}°$, and $40\frac{3}{4}°$, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rain-fall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from [illegible]rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain [illegible]veyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea.

A knowledge of the [illegible] the Sea is not only in itself, but in i[illegible]at of our island, a most important [illegible]rology. The Council therefore rec[illegible] Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a p[illegible]ed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticabl[illegible] of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not [illegible]t of river water, and as little influenced as possible [illegible]ping along the coast, and thus acquiring the tempera[illegible], either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by noct[illegible]. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already [illegible]ployed at Peterhead and [illegible]ayside.

Temperature of Wells.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of [illegible] when practicable, to be taken, both the [illegible] of Well and of the Water being noted.

Ozone.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, Schönbein's or Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin to a board in the Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus $3^{\frac{S.W.}{4}}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before [illegible]struments, and in repairing old ones, to com[illegible] Meteorological Secretary, in order that every [illegible] examined and improved before being used; and th[illegible]sary that he should have full power to reject any [illegible]on being presented for comparison, does not affo[illegible]

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1880.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Directed of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swan,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Observations taken at Barone Cottage County of Bute, in Lat. 55° 49' 56" N, Long. 5° 4' 5" W, Distance from Sea 8 / 10 miles.

Height of Cistern of the Barometer above Mean Sea-level 116 feet, above Ground 3 feet. During the MONTH of December 1884.

The Hours of Observation are of Greenwich Time.

Days of Month.	BAROMETER. 9 h. A.M. * No.	Barometer.	Attached Thermometer	9 h. P.M. Barometer. No.	Barometer.	Attached Thermometer	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS. Read Daily, at 9 P.M. Protected in Shade, 4 feet above Ground. Max. No.	Max.	Min.	Exposed Black Bulbs. Max. in Sun's rays No.	Max.	Min. on Grass. No.	Min.	HYGROMETER. No. —— 9 h. A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	9 h. P.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	WIND. 9 h. A.M. Direction.	Force	9 h. P.M. Direction.	Force	Readings of the H.Cup Anemometer. No. —— 9 h. A.M.	RAIN. No. of hours in which it fell.	Amount in inches. No.	CLOUDS. 9 A.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount. (0—10), and Species.	P.M. Velocity (0—6), and Direction.	Amount. (0—10), and Species.	SUNSHINE. Hours.	THERMOMETERS under Ground. 9 h. A.M. No. 3 inches.	No. 12 inches.	No. 22 inches.	Temperature of WELL at depth of feet. No.	SEA. Temperature at 1 fathom, and Density.	OZONE. 0—10. 9 A.M.	9 P.M.	GENERAL REMARKS. As to occurrence of Thunder, Lightning, Storms, Hail, Meteors, Remarkable Depression or Elevation of Barometer, Prevalent Diseases, etc. *Mention the hour at which Storms, including Thunder and Lightning, began and ended.*	Days of Month.
	inches.	°	inches.	°	°	°	°	°		°	°																														
1	29.826	37	29.680	39	39.5	31				35	33.2	39	37.5	SE NE		SSW				220																	Dull & dark	1
2	29.290	42	29.320	43	47.8	37.3				43	42.5	41	38.5	S		W				400																	Dull & very fine	2
3	28.820	45	29.100	45	49.3	39.5				44	43.3	40	38	SE W		calm				492																	" Showers	3
4	28.964	43	29.232	43	41	34				36	35.5	36	35.5	NE		WNW				270																	" Cool	4
5	29.422	43	29.240	45	46	34				39.8	37	45.2	45	NW		SW				230																	" Raw	5
6	29.210	47	29.220	47	50.3	42.5				46	43	44.5	42.2	SW W		W				190																	" Showers	6
7	29.270	46	29.170	46	48.5	39				45.5	44	39.5	39	SW		W				420																	" "	7
8	29.300	44	29.500	46	44	36.5				41	39.2	36	35.5	WSW		NW				326																	" "	8
9	29.590	42	29.710	46	43	34				40.2	38.8	37	35	WSW		.				360																	1/4 clear "	9
10	29.470	44	29.160	48	50	41.5				35	34	45.5	44.5	S		SW				270																	Dull & wet	10
11	29.160	47	29.620	47	47.5	42.5				45	43	44	41.2	SW		NW				015																	" Showers	11
12	29.810	46	29.692	49	50.5	40				44.6	42.5	47.6	47.5	SW		SW				400																	" Cool	12
13	29.714	49	29.680	49	50	45.3				49.2	48	47	46.6	SSW		S				225																	" Mild	13
14	29.344	50	29.374	46	54	38				45.2	43	41	37.5	SW		W				240																	" Gale 2-3 Showers	14
15	29.380	44	29.480	43	42.5	34				36.6	35.8	35	33.8	SW		NW				510																	" Cool Clear to	15
16	29.532	41	29.410	42	41.5	32.5				38.8	37	35.5	34.5	W		W				680																	" "	16
17	29.384	39	29.644	40	38	31				31	31.3	36.2	34.2	W		NW				225																	1/4 clear " Showers do	17
18	29.306	41	29.120	42	43.5	34				42.5	41.3	38.5	36.5	SW		W				640																	Dull heavy Showers	18
19	28.990	42	28.970	44	43.5	37.5				41.3	40	39.3	39	WSW		W				450																	" Showers	19
20	29.138	42	29.780	42	42.3	34				35.5	34	35.0	33.3	NW		calm				—																	3/4 c fine	20
21	30.118	39	30.290	39	42.3	29.5				35.5	33.5	30	28.5	N		calm				—																	3/4 c "	21
22	30.300	36	30.192	35	33	26				25.5	24.5	31	29.8	calm		calm				—																	c "	22
23	30.072	37	30.100	37	37	31				35.3	33.2	36	33.5	S SE		SW				005																	Dull & cloudy	23
24	30.100	39	30.100	39	44.2	34.2				35.2	34.2	35.6	33.5	NW		N				—																	3/4c changable, fine	24
25	30.110	37	30.130	36	43	30				33.8	32.5	30	29	NW		calm				—																	3/4c frosty	25
26	30.060	37	30.070	47	41.5	29				35	34	39.0	39.5	SE		calm				—																	Dull & hazy	26
27	30.100	40	30.064	42	42.6	38				40	39.6	40	39	m calm		Sm calm				—																	" & misty	27
28	30.000	41	29.850	39	41.5	32.5				36.2	35.3	32.5	32	SE		E				—																	" & fine	28
29	29.746	37	29.740	38	36.5	31.5				35.2	33	36.5	33.3	SE		SE				—																	" breezy	29
30	29.824	37	29.850	38	37	35				35.5	33	35.5	32.8	SE		SE				—																	" cold	30
31	29.890	41	29.980	40	40	33				38	36.8	39	38	SE		SE				170																	" & damp	31
Sums.	13 12.6	14	13.14.1	17	12.8	13.5				158	138	15.7	1811							6738																														
	18.240	55	19.468	82	111.3	157.8				270.4	226.0	258.5	242							21																														
Means.	29.588	41.8	29.628	42.6	43.6	35.1				38.7	37.3	38.3	36.9																																				
† Total Corrections for Instrumental Errors.																																																
‡ Corrections for Diurnal Range.																																																
"Corrected Means."																																																
No. of Column.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30																		

Thu. & Lightning 0-9 am

½ inch Snow on the ground

NOTATION USED IN GENERAL REMARKS.

a.	denotes aurora.	m.	denotes meteor.
ci.	" cirrus.	ms.	" meteors.
ci.-cu.	" cirro-cumulus.	n.	" nimbus.
ci.-s.	" cirro-stratus.	r.	" rain.
cu.	" cumulus.	h r.	" heavy rain.
cu.-s.	" cumulo-stratus.	c. h. r.	" continued heavy rain.
d.	" dew.	s.	" stratus.
f.	" fog.	sc.	" scud.
fr.	" frost.	s.	" sleet.
h.-fr.	" hoar-frost.	s.	" snow.
h.	" haze.	so. ha.	" solar halo.
h. d.	" heavy dew.	sq.	" squall.
hl.	" hail.	sqs.	" squalls.
l.	" lightning.	t.	" thunder.
li. cl.	" light clouds.	t. s.	" thunder storm
li. sh.	" light showers.	w.	" wind.
lu. co.	" lunar corona.	g.	" gale of wind.
lu. ha.	" lunar halo.		

TABLE FOR ESTIMATING FORCE OF WIND.

Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force 0—6.	Common Designation.	Estimated Force, 0—6.	Common Designation.
0	Calm	1·5	Light breeze	4	Blowing hard
0·5	Very light air	2·	Fresh breeze	5	Blowing a gale
1·	Light air	3·	Very fresh	6	Violent gale

BAROMETER, "corrected Mean" at 9 A.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 2), = 29.588 − .035 = 29.553

Corrected Mean" of Barometer at 9 P.M., *minus* the Correction†† for Temp. (Col. 4), = 29.628 − .037 = 29.591

Mean at Station, corrected, and at 32°, = 29.572

Correction for height, 116 feet above Mean Sea-level, = .127

Mean, reduced to 32°, and Sea-level, = 29.699

Highest Reading, corrected for Index error, on the th, = 30.300

Lowest Do. Do., on the th, = 28.820

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 1.480

S.-R. THERMOMETER, (in shade, etc.), **Highest in Month,** (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, = 54.0

Lowest in Month, corrected for Index errors, on the th, = 26.0

Difference, or **Monthly Range,** = 28.0

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Highest,** (Col. 5), = 43.6

"Corrected **Mean" of all the Lowest,** (Col. 6), = 35.1

Difference, or **Mean Daily Range,** = 8.5

** Calculated **Mean Temperature** of Month, = 39.4

S.-R. THERMOMETER, Black Bulb in Sun, Highest, (corrected for Index Errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 7), **of Black Bulb, Max. in Sun,** =

Lowest at Night, Black Bulb, (corrected for Index errors), on the th, =

"Corrected **Mean,**" (Col. 8), **of Black Bulb, Min.** on grass, =

Difference of above Means or Range ("exposed"), =

HYGROMETER, Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Dry Bulb,** (Cols. 9 and 11), = 38.5

Mean (corrected) A.M. and P.M. Reading **of Wet Bulb,** (Cols. 10 and 12), = 37.1

‡‡ Computed **Temperature of Dew-Point,** = 35.2

‡‡ Do. **Elastic Force of Vapour,** = .206

‡‡ Do. **Weight of Vapour in a Cubic Foot of Air,** = ~~2.38~~

‡‡ **Relative Humidity, (Saturation** = 100), = 88

RAIN fell on 21 **Days; Amount in Inches,** = 6.74

WIND. SUMMARY. Direction.	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm or Variable.	Mean Force.	Mean Velocity in miles per day.
A.M.		1		5	3	6	5	4	7		
P.M.	2		1	3	2	4	8	4	7		
Mean.	1	1	0	4	3	5	6	4	7		

* Each instrument tested at the Office in Edinburgh bears the stamp "S.M.S.;" and a number to be entered in the Heading; or the Number and Initials of the Maker may be here given.
† Embracing corrections for both capillarity and Index Errors.
‡ The Diurnal Range for Scotland is as yet unknown.
‡‡ *Practically,* though not *absolutely a minus* correction.
‡‡ These "Hygrometrical Deductions" are calculated from Glaisher's Hygrometrical Tables, Second Edition *only.*
" While the Diurnal Range is unknown, the Arithmetical Mean of Cols. 5 and 6 will be entered as the "Calculated Mean Temperature."
Any Observations not taken under the conditions specified in the Directions on the other side, or noted at the Top of each column, must be marked as such by the observer, in each Schedule. *See over.*

Observations made and Return verified by James Kay

(*Signed*) James Kay H. K. H. K.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

WITH REMARKS ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS.

ONE of the chief objects that the SCOTTISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY proposed to itself when the Society was established in 1855, was to secure PERFECT UNIFORMITY in the system of observation pursued at all its Stations. Uniformity in the observations is absolutely necessary to justify the publication of Monthly Results from different observations, it being found that differences between the Returns from two Stations, so very considerable as to render them quite incomparable, may arise from dissimilarity in the position or shelter of instruments, different hours of observation, or even from the use of differently constructed instruments. It is therefore hoped, that those who kindly furnish Reports to the Society will, by a scrupulous attention to the following Directions, secure for their Monthly Returns, an accuracy and value commensurate with the labour and pains involved in making them; and, for the Tables published by the Society, an entire comparableness among the several Returns, without which the Society's Reports must inevitably fail in achieving one of the main objects of Meteorological Observation.

Hour of Observation.

The Council recommend that Observations be made precisely at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. (Greenwich or Railway Time only), as specified in the following remarks, or at the top of the columns of the Schedule. It is hoped that the utmost punctuality in the time of reading the instruments will be observed. Observers, in some few cases, may find this impossible; in such instances, they are specially requested to mark opposite every reading the time at which it was taken, if not at 9 A.M. or 9 P.M.

Barometer.

Weather-Glasses and Aneroids, though well-suited to indicate roughly variations of atmospheric pressure, are not fitted for scientific purposes. No Barometer should be used for Meteorological Observation that is not supplied with some means of adjustment or compensation which will secure that the height of the mercury in the tube is accurately measured from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern.

The Barometer in which the error arising from the fluctuating surface of the mercury in the cistern is entirely got rid of is FORTIN'S Barometer, the arrangement consisting in applying pressure by means of a screw to the bottom of the cistern, which is made of flexible leather, thus raising or depressing the surface till it just meets the ivory point which forms the zero point of the fixed scale.

The Barometer originally constructed by Mr Adie of London, and usually called the Board of Trade Barometer, has the great convenience of requiring no adjustment of the cistern. Its scale-inches are not true inches, but so much shorter as to compensate the error that would otherwise arise from the fluctuations of the surface of mercury in the cistern. This is an excellent Barometer for ordinary Observers, inasmuch as it entirely eliminates the error of observation likely to arise in not a few cases in setting the instrument to the zero point of the fixed scale when the light is not good. To show the accuracy with which these Barometers are made, it may be stated, that one was compared, during a whole year, with the Society's Standard Barometer, particular care being given to make the comparison when atmospheric pressure was rising or falling very rapidly, with the result that none of the readings differed from those of the Standard more than 0·003 inch.

A modification of Fortin's Barometer is used at a number of the Society's Stations, by which the coincidence of the zero point with the surface of the mercury is indicated by a little ivory float, whose stem passes freely through the lid and case of the cistern. When the index-line on this little piston-rod is brought, by the adjusting screw, to form one straight line with those on its ivory frame, the surface of the mercury is then at the exact height from which the scale is graduated. In taking an observation, this preliminary setting must be made with scrupulous accuracy; as a slight error here will vitiate the readings from the vernier.

It is absolutely necessary that the Barometer which is to be used, shall have been compared with a Standard Barometer.

The Barometer should be suspended in as good a light as can be secured, and to facilitate the reading, a piece of white paper may be put behind the tube. It must be hung truly perpendicular, and exposed to neither the sun's direct rays nor the heat of a fire, and must not be hung against a wall heated by a flue. The object being to secure that the whole instrument, including the brass fittings, the contained mercury, and the attached Thermometer, shall be, when read, at one uniform temperature, it is evident that the best position is that which is least liable to sudden changes of temperature.

In taking an Observation, the Attached Thermometer is first noted: the tube must then be gently tapped, and the cistern-adjustment carefully made. The eye, by raising and lowering it, must be brought into the plane of the back and front of the index—usually the lower edge of the vernier, which must be carefully adjusted so as to form exactly a tangent to the convex surface of the mercury in the tube. Observations must be taken quickly, so as to prevent heat from the observer's hands and person from affecting the mercury. The use of a lens will facilitate an accurate adjustment and reading of the Barometer. A mistake not unfrequently made by those beginning to observe, consisting in setting the edge of the vernier to the level of the clear surface of the mercury which is in direct contact with the glass tube, must be carefully avoided.

The errors most frequently made in reading the Barometer are errors of 1·000 inch, 0·500 inch, and 0·050 inch; that is to say, instead of 29·365 inches, either of the following is sometimes set down—viz., as 30·365 inches, 28·365 inches, 29·865 inches, or 29·815 inches. Experience having shown that even the very best Observers make these mistakes, particular attention is directed to the matter.

When a Barometer having adjustable surfaces has to be removed from its fastenings, the ivory peg must first be screwed so as to form a tight plug to the cistern, thus preventing the escape of the mercury. Then screw up the mercury not quite to the top of the tube, but to within a quarter of an inch of it, and take down the instrument; it should then be carried with the cistern uppermost. Before suspending the Barometer for use, it must be ascertained whether the space above the mercury in the tube is a complete vacuum; this is the case if, on inclining the instrument, a sharp tap is produced when the mercury strikes the top of the tube. If a dull tap is heard, there is air in the tube, which must be got rid of.

As Barometers are liable to be deranged by the introduction of air into their tubes, on removal from place to place, or in being roughly handled, it may be useful to Observers to know how the air may be expelled. First close up the cistern by screwing the ivory peg tight, so as to prevent the escape of mercury; then screw up the mercury to about half an inch from the top of the tube; and having slowly inverted the instrument, place the top of it on a yielding substance, such as the boot, and gently tap on the cistern with the palm of the hand, so as to induce the air to ascend through the column to the cistern, whence it may escape. Since there is the weight of two atmospheres—the pressure of the mercury in the Barometer, and the air outside—pressing on any air that may be inside the tube, it is usually a tedious operation to get it wholly expelled. After repeated trials, however, it is generally accomplished; and the clear metallic sound of the mercury, when gently struck against the top of the glass tube, will show when the whole of the air has been expelled. On hanging up the Barometer, care must be taken to screw down the mercury in the tube before unfastening the float of the cistern, for, if this be not attended to, the mercury will flow out, and the instrument be seriously damaged.

Protection and Position of Thermometers.

The Council of the Society recommend that the Self-Registering Thermometers, and the Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer, be kept in Stevenson's Louvre-boarded Box for Thermometers, painted white inside and outside, and screwed to four stout posts, also painted white, firmly fixed in the ground. The posts must be of such a length that when the Thermometers are hung in position the Bulbs of the Minimum Thermometer, and of the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers will be exactly at the same height of FOUR FEET above the ground, the Maximum Thermometer being hung immediately above the Minimum Thermometer. The Thermometer Box is to be placed over a plot of grass, and in a free open space to which the sun's rays have free access during as much of the day as surrounding conditions enable the Observer to secure. The Thermometers are suspended on cross laths in the centre of the Box, and face the door, which should open to the north.

The Council regard the question of UNIFORMITY OF HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND, AND METHOD IN PROTECTING THE THERMOMETERS, as vital in every system of Meteorological Observation, since without it Observations made at different Stations are incomparable, thus rendering it impossible to compare the Climates of places with each other as regards their most important features.

Self-Registering Thermometers.

Professor Phillips, and Negretti and Zambra's Maximum Thermometers, and Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer are recommended. It is recommended that these Thermometers be graduated on the glass stem. The Minimum Thermometer is liable to two derangements—viz., the column of spirit breaking, and part of the spirit distilling by high temperature and lodging at the top of the tube. This derangement is of occasional occurrence with Protected Thermometers, but of frequent occurrence with exposed Thermometers. Hence a systematic examination of Minimum Thermometers ought to be a regular part of the work carried on by each Observer.

Fortunately, Spirit Thermometers may be easily set right by any one, when the column of spirit chances to separate. Let the Thermometer be taken in the hand by the end farthest from the bulb, raised above the head, and then forcibly swung down towards the feet; the object being, on the principle of centrifugal force, to send down the detached portion of spirit till it unites with the column. A few throws, or swinging strokes, will generally be sufficient for the purpose; after which the Thermometer should be placed in a slanting position, to allow the rest of the spirit still adhering to the sides of the tube to drain down to the column. But another method must be adopted, if the portion of spirit in the top of the tube be small. Heat should be applied slowly and cautiously to the top end of the tube where the detached portion of spirit is, which, being turned into vapour by the heat, will condense on the surface of the unbroken column of spirit. Care must be taken that the heat is not applied too quickly; for, if this be done, the tube will break and the instrument be destroyed. The best way to apply the requisite amount of heat, is by bringing the end of the tube slowly down towards a minute flame from a gas-burner; or, if gas be not at hand, a piece of heated metal will serve instead.

Black-Bulb Thermometers.

The bulbs of the Thermometers for registering the greatest heat from the sun's rays, and the least from radiation during night, have a black coating, which may easily be made, or mended, by the application of a mixture of lampblack and printer's ink. They are placed in shallow blackened boxes, whose sides protect the bulbs from the wind. The Maximum should be freely exposed to the sun, and the Minimum should rest on wooden supports a few inches from the surface of the grass, in an open situation. Snow must not be allowed to cover either of these Thermometers; nor the sun's heat to affect the Minimum Thermometer by distillation. Black-bulbs enclosed in 'glass jackets' may also be used, being indeed preferable to the above. It must, however, be added, that the whole subject of the observation of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation is not yet in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant the exclusive recommendation of any one of these methods.

Dry and Wet Bulb Hygrometer.

The Hygrometer in use at the Society's Stations consists of two Thermometers usually, but not necessarily, mounted on one frame. As apparently slight deviations from the approved form of this apparatus seriously vitiate the Hygrometrical Observations, Observers are specially requested to attend to the following conditions:—The bulbs must hang down by at least an inch free from the scales and frame to which they are attached; the frame must be such as will bring the tubes forward by an inch from any board on which it may be suspended; the water-cup must be covered, and altogether placed to the side, and a little below the level of the wet bulb, but in no case under the bulbs; the muslin must be of medium fineness, and fastened at the neck of the bulb by the cotton, which also supplies it with water. It must be seen to by the Observer that the muslin is always clean and moist, and the water pure. In frosty weather, observation is a matter of much delicacy, and must be made with great care. The bulb must be moistened by immersion from 15 to 30 minutes before the hour of observation. From the film of ice thus formed evaporation will proceed as from the moist cloth in ordinary circumstances.

Reading of the Thermometer.

In reading the Thermometer great care must be taken to bring the eye exactly opposite the tip of the index or column of mercury. The reading ought to be taken to tenths of a degree, and noted in decimals. Thus the Thermometer will be read—39°.9, 40°.0, or 40°.1; or again, 40°.4, 40°.5, 40°.6, according as it indicates a little under, an exact coincidence with, or a little over 40°, or 40½°, respectively. So also 40¼°, and 40⅞°, more or less must be registered 40°.2, or 40°.3, and 40°.7, or 40°.8 respectively. In reading Rutherford's Minimum Thermometer, the indication of that end of the index which is next the surface of the spirit is alone noted. On opening the Thermometer Box, the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers are to be first, and rapidly, read, inasmuch as they are readily affected by heat from the person of the Observer.

Hour of observing Temperature.

The Hygrometer is read at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. The Self-Registering Thermometers are read at 9 P.M. only, as indicating the greatest and least degrees of temperature in the 24 hours preceding. It is not a matter of indifference when the Self-Registering Thermometers are read, since, in winter at least, the extremes may occur at any hour; and it is necessary to refer their occurrence to their proper meteorological day. In the Society's schedules, the indications registered on the 3d are those of a series of phenomena commencing at 9 P.M. on the 2d, and extending till 9 P.M. on the 3d.

Verification of Thermometers.

No instrument ought to be used for Meteorological purposes till it has been carefully tested by comparison with a Standard Thermometer. When such Thermometers as are not graduated on the stem, but merely on an attached scale, undergo repairs, they are very liable to be moved from their position on the Scale, and ought never afterwards to be used without being re-tested. The Self-Registering, especially the Minimum Thermometers, ought frequently to be compared with the dry bulb of the Hygrometer. The freezing-point of each Thermometer, marked by a scratch on the tube, ought to be tested once a year, in snow or melting ice.

In selecting instruments, the following points require attention:—The divisions of the vernier of Barometers in reference to their scales, and the perfect freedom of the Barometer from air; the correct numbering of the scale of every instrument; the rejection of Thermometers, the frameworks of which are not likely to stand exposure to the weather, as shown in the past by repeated and annoying breakages of Thermometers of similar construction; and as regards Maximum Thermometers, either Negretti and Zambra's, or Phillip's, whether they will act at the highest temperatures they may be required to register. By the laws of the Society, Members and Observers have a right to have their instruments compared by the Secretary, and to advise with him regarding the purchase of instruments.

Wind.

Very great care should be bestowed on the Observations of the Wind, the accuracy of which, both as regards Direction and Force, is so essential towards the right discussion of many of the more important problems of the science.

1. As regards Direction.

A Wind-Vane ought to be elevated at least 12 feet above surrounding objects. When it oscillates incessantly, the mean direction should be taken. In all cases, but especially when the Vane is stationary, and when the wind is feeble, reference may be made to the direction of smoke, etc., in well-exposed situations. Careful observations are recommended to be made on the changes in the direction of the wind; and during storms, extra observations at every hour of Greenwich time. Such a system of simultaneous observation, pursued at different Stations, is likely to give highly valuable and important results, particularly in connection with the system of thickly-planted Stations over a limited district round Edinburgh called STORM STATIONS, in the course of being established by the Society for the systematic investigation of the relation of the force of the wind to BAROMETIC GRADIENTS, and other points connected with storms.

2. As regards Velocity and Pressure.

The Council would recommend the Hemispherical Cup Anemometer,—a self-registering instrument which shows the amount of Wind that passes it per day; from which also the mean Velocity of the Wind at the time of observation may be ascertained. For indicating the Force of the Wind at any particular hour of observation, the Pressure Anemometers recently brought under the notice of the Society by Mr T. Stevenson, the Honorary Secretary, and Mr R. Ballingall, the Society's Observer at Eallabus, are recommended as likely to secure uniformity in making observations on the Force of the Wind.

Rain Gauges.

Many causes conspire to produce anomalies in Rain Returns, arising partly from the difficulty of obtaining a perfectly unobjectionable situation for observation, and partly from the defective nature of the instruments used. The Rain-Gauge should not be placed on a slope or terrace, but on a level piece of ground, in as open a situation as the Observer can secure for it. As it is often difficult to obtain a position as free and unobstructed by surrounding objects as is desirable, care should be taken to place it at some distance from shrubs, trees, buildings, or other obstructions, at least as many feet from their base as they are in height. The more important directions, towards which it is most desirable to have a free exposure, are in the order of their importance, S.W., N.E., S.E., S., and W. The rim of the Gauge must be perfectly level, and fixed so that it will remain level in all weathers, and be at a height of one foot above ground, over grass. In such gauges as Fleming's, which are furnished with a measuring rod attached to a float, the rod ought to be fixed down, and the float rise to its height only at the time the instrument is read, it being found that a stem projecting above the rim of the gauge seriously interferes with the proper measurement of the Rain-fall. When a measuring glass is used, care should be taken to hold it quite perpendicular. The Rain Gauge ought to be read daily at 9 A.M., and the reading entered in the Returns of the previous day. If the Gauge is read once a month, the reading is to be made on the first of the month, and the amount entered for the previous month.

Snow-falls.

Snow-falls may, for convenience, be registered in the rain columns, under the following conditions:—When a Snow shower occurs, it should be noted in the 'Remarks,' and the letter S affixed to the depth of water received in Gauge. The depth of the snow must be measured in some open place where no drift is observed, and registered in addition to, and as a check upon, the indications of the Rain-Gauge. For wind, rain, and snow, as indeed in every column, the Observer cannot be too careful to register observations only; and nothing that partakes of the nature of deduction or inference.

Clouds.

Convenient abbreviations for the nomenclature of Clouds will be found on the other side. The amount of Cloud ought to be estimated from the greater or less obscuration of the sky overhead (*i.e.*, within 20° or 30° of the zenith). The strata of Clouds that appear near the horizon are viewed obliquely; and thus, being unable to judge of their amount, we ought not to take them into account in the Clouds' column, though their appearance and changes may be noted among the Remarks. The amount of Cloud is entered from a scale of 0 to 10; thus, when the sky overhead is free from Clouds it is entered 0, when half covered by Clouds, 5, wholly covered, 10, and so on.

Observations of the Clouds are made at 9 A.M. and at sunset, as illustrating the condition and currents of the upper and lower regions of the atmosphere. The entries in the schedule are to be made in the following manner:—Thus, in the column Velocity and Direction, 6, S. W.

——— will indicate that the upper strata of Clouds travel with 2, W.

extreme velocity from S.W., and those in the lower regions from W., with one-third the speed of the former. Again, in the second 4, st.

Cloud column, an entry of ——— will indicate that the higher 2, cu-st.

regions are covered to the amount of 4-tenths with stratus Clouds; and that the sky is further obscured to the extent of 2-tenths by lower Clouds of the cumulo stratus kind.

Remarks on peculiar Clouds, accompanied with drawings, will assist materially in the development of a more exact nomenclature of Clouds, as well as throw light on the electrical, and other of the more obscure phenomena of Meteorology.

Sunshine.

The approximate number of Hours in which objects in the sun's rays cast shadows, should be entered in the proper column.

Underground Thermometers.

As the germination and growth of crops and plants generally, depend greatly on the temperature of the soil,—its amount and constancy,—the Council recommend that Observations in this interesting department be made at 9 A.M., by Thermometers permanently fixed in the soil, their bulbs being sunk to depths of 3, 12, and 22 inches, and the stems above ground protected from the sun's rays, and fitted with sloping tin collars, to prevent rain water being conveyed to the bulbs by the stems or wooden frames.

Temperature of the Sea.

A knowledge of the Temperature of the Sea is not only in itself, but in its relations to that of our island, a most important branch of Meteorology. The Council therefore recommend that the Temperature of the Sea be carefully taken by a properly constructed apparatus, from boats, or if this be impracticable, from the ends of piers and rocks round the coast, where it is not influenced by that of river water, and as little influenced as possible by currents sweeping along the coast, and thus acquiring the temperature of the land, either greatly heated by the sun or cooled by nocturnal radiation. At or near the time of high water, in cases where the observations cannot be taken daily, the observation may be made on the 5th, 15th, and 25th of each month. When convenient, extra Sea Observations might be taken for other and greater depths, noting always the Temperature of the Air, and the Hour of Observation. It is also very desirable that observations on the daily Maxima and Minima by Thermometers continuously immersed, be instituted at points along the coast, by the method proposed by Mr T. Stevenson, and already commenced at Peterhead and Liverpool.

Temperature of Wells.

The Temperature of the water at the bottom of Wells ought, when practicable, to be taken, [illegible] depth of the Well and of the water being noted.

Ozone.

Mention what Test-Papers are used, [illegible] Moffat's, etc. The Paper is affixed by a pin [illegible] Thermometer Box, and the indications registered at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. It is desired that these indications be registered in connection with the force and direction of the wind at the time of observation, in the following manner:—thus 3$^{N.W.}_{4}$, as an Ozone entry in the schedule will indicate that the Ozone paper is tinted as 3 on the scale, that the wind is from the N.W., and that its force on the scale 0—5 is 4, or blowing fresh.

Atmospheric Electricity.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the electric condition of the atmosphere in connection with terrestrial magnetism, barometrical, thermometrical, and meteorological phenomena generally. A proper Electrometer is, in truth, necessary to every complete meteorological observatory.

Remarks.

The Remarks column is unavoidably too narrow. Some of the most valuable Observations that can be taken are those for which no rules can be given nor hours assigned. The use of contractions, ought, therefore, to be taken every advantage of, and a list of such as are in general use are given at the foot of the column. Besides special and extraordinary Observations, great prominence ought to be given in this column to Prevalent Diseases, differences in character, colour, velocity, and direction between the Lower and Upper Strata of Clouds, the Colour of the Sky, etc. Remarks ought to be made on the occurrence of Meteors, Auroræ Boreales, remarkable depressions, elevations, and fluctuations of the Barometer, Thunder-Storms, and remarkable falls of Snow, Hail, or Rain, the Hour of Storms of Wind commencing, attaining their maximum, and ending, as well as such notes on Storms as have been hinted at above. When lofty hills are in the vicinity of a Station, the Height of Clouds and of the Snow-line in winter should be recorded.

By the use of abbreviations, the state of the weather at 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. should be registered either in two columns, otherwise unoccupied, or ruled off for the purpose, from the column of 'Remarks.'

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons.

Observations in connection with the Periodic Return of the Seasons, possess not only great scientific value, but are of considerable importance in connection with Agriculture, Horticulture, and Natural History. The Council would direct the special attention of Observers to the registration of such phenomena, so that the published Summaries may fairly represent the whole of Scotland. Observations ought to be confined to individual trees and shrubs; to particular species of birds, and, in the case of crops, to specified sorts reared from year to year on a selected piece of ground or farm. The Annual Table, published yearly in the Society's Journal, will indicate the species of plants and animals to which special attention is more particularly directed.

The Council recommend Observers, before purchasing new instruments, and in repairing old ones, to communicate with the Meteorological Secretary, in order that every instrument may be examined and improved before being used; and they consider it necessary that he should have full power to reject any instrument which, on being presented for comparison, does not afford him satisfaction.

(By Order) A. B.

EDINBURGH, December 1882.

OBSERVATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERIODICAL RETURN OF THE SEASONS.

FOREST TREES.	In Flower.	Leaf Buds First appear.	In Leaf.	Divested of Leaves.
Alder,				
Ash,				
Beech,				
Birch,				
Elm,				
Larch,				
Lime,				
Oak,				
Sycamore or Plane,				

CROPS, mentioning variety.	Sowing or Planting.	Appearing above Ground.	In Ear or Flower.	First Cut or Raised.
Barley,				
Bere or Bigg,				
Oats,				
Wheat,				
Beans,				
Pease,				
Potatoes,				
Turnips,				
Rye Grass,				

SHRUBS, ETC.	First in Blossom.
Barberry,	
Bourtree or Elder,	
Broom,	
Hazel,	
Hawthorn,	
Holly,	
Laburnum,	
Lilac,	
Mezereon,	
Mountain Ash or Rowan,	
Red Flowering Currant,	
Rhododendron Ponticum,	
Whin,	

FRUITS.	First in Blossom.	Fruit Ripe, generally.
Apple,		
Black Currant,		
Cherry,		
Gean,		
Gooseberry,		
Peach,		
Pear,		
Plum,		
Strawberry,		

MIGRATORY BIRDS.	First Arrival.	Departure.
Cuckoo,		
Curlew,		
House-Swallow,		
Lapwing,		
Plover,		
Sand-Martin,		
Starling,		
Swal,		
Rail or Corn Crake,		

Have the goodness also to state any information you may be able to collect relative to the Crops of Grain, Hay, Potatoes, Turnips, Fruits, etc., whether plentiful, or in perfection; whether any have suffered from blight, disease, etc. Whether Epizootic disease prevails among cattle; and the Agricultural condition of the district generally.

To
Mr ALEXANDER BUCHAN,
Secretary of the Meteorological Society of Scotland,
EDINBURGH.

BOOK POST.