

An account of the bequest of George James Symons, F.R.S., to the Royal Meteorological Society / by William Marriott.

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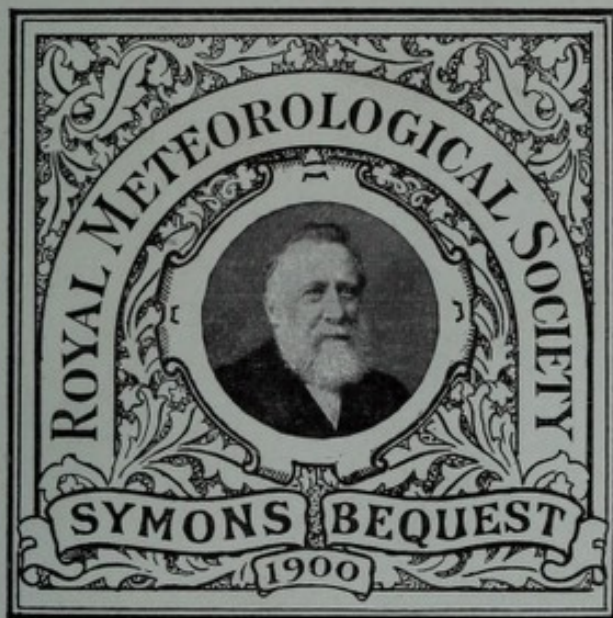
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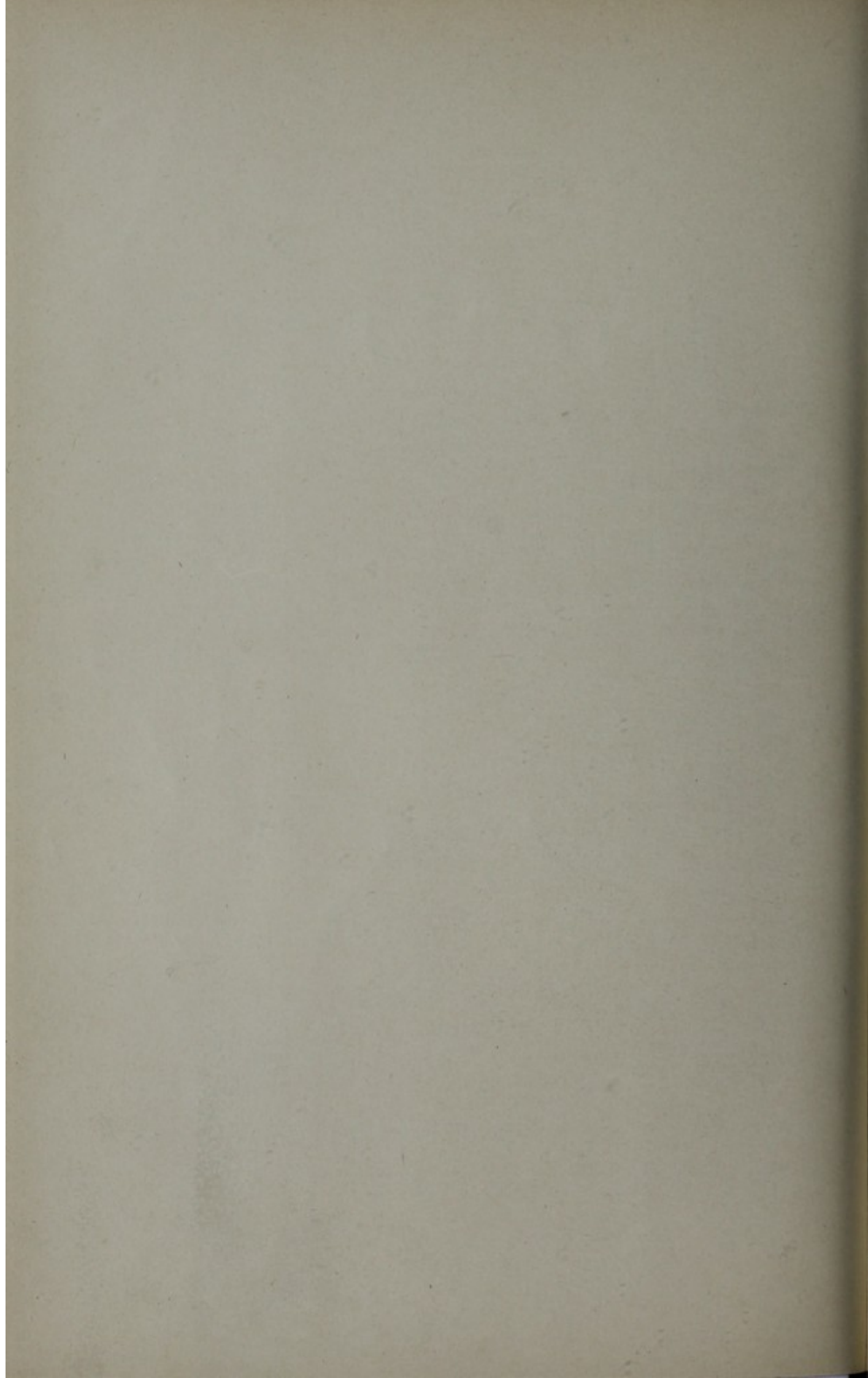
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AN ACCOUNT OF THE BEQUEST
OF
GEORGE JAMES SYMONS, F.R.S.
TO
THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY,

BY WILLIAM MARRIOTT, F.R.MET.SOC.







AN ACCOUNT OF THE BEQUEST OF GEORGE JAMES SYMONS,
F.R.S., TO THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

By WILLIAM MARRIOTT, F.R.Met.Soc.,
Assistant-Secretary.

[From the QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.
Vol. XXVII. No. 120. October 1901.]

THE Council have requested me to prepare some account of the books and pamphlets in the Symons' Bequest, as they considered that this would give a much better idea of this noble legacy than any mere list of titles.

Mr. Symons, in his Will, dated September 30, 1898, said :—

"I direct that my Cross of the Legion of Honour, my Albert Medal, and such other of my medals and decorations as the President for the time being of the Royal Meteorological Society shall select, shall be fastened inside the case of the album presented to me by the Fellows of the Royal Meteorological Society, and that such album, cross, medal or medals, decorations, and case shall then be delivered up to the President or one of the Vice-Presidents for the time being of the said Society as a present to the same Society, to which Society I bequeath the same accordingly, free of Legacy Duty."

After making over his books relating to Rainfall, etc. to Mr. Wallis, he proceeded :—

"And subject to the bequest to the said Herbert Sowerby Wallis lastly hereinbefore contained, I bequeath to the Royal Meteorological Society such of my books, pamphlets, maps, and photographs as the President for the time being of the said Society shall select, and of which no copy shall then already belong to the said Society and form part of their library. And the same shall be delivered to the said President, or one of the said Vice-Presidents, whose receipt shall be a sufficient discharge for all bequests hereby made to the said Society."

Mr. Wallis generously yielded his prior claim to certain books so as to make the Society's library as complete as possible.

There is also a codicil to the Will, bearing the same date, in which Mr. Symons said :—

"I bequeath to the Royal Meteorological Society the sum of Two Hundred Pounds in addition to the legacies given to them by my said Will, and to be paid exclusively out of such part of my personal estate as may be lawfully bequeathed for charitable purposes, and the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Society shall be a sufficient discharge for the same. And in all other respects I confirm my said Will."

Album and Medals.

The Testimonial Album which was presented to Mr. Symons at the Meeting of this Society on February 19, 1879, and which contains nearly 200 photographs of the Fellows, bears the following illuminated address :—

TO

GEORGE JAMES SYMONS, F.R.S.

19th Feby. 1879.

PRESENTED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF FELLOWS OF THE
METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY TO

GEORGE JAMES SYMONS, ESQUIRE,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, MEMBER OF COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BOTANIC
AND OF THE FRENCH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETIES, ETC. ETC.,

IN FRIENDLY RECOGNITION OF THE VALUABLE WORK DONE BY HIM FOR THE
SOCIETY, BY INSPECTING ITS STATIONS AND TESTING THE INSTRUMENTS
USED BY THE OBSERVERS, INDEPENDENTLY OF THE SERVICES
RENDERED BY HIM, FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AS ONE
OF THEIR SECRETARIES.

The Cross of the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour was conferred on Mr. Symons by the President of the French Republic by decree on May 29, 1891, and that decoration was presented to him by M. Waddington, the French Ambassador in London, on June 18.

Mr. Symons received, on February 26, 1898, from the hands of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales the Albert Gold Medal of the Society of Arts, which had been awarded to him in 1897 "for the services he had rendered to the United Kingdom by affording to engineers engaged in the water supply and the sewage of towns a trustworthy basis for their work, by establishing and carrying on during nearly forty years systematic observations (now at over 3000 stations) of the rainfall of the British Isles, and by recording, tabulating, and graphically indicating the results of these observations in the annual volumes published by himself.

The Silver Medal of the Society of Arts was awarded to Mr. Symons in 1894 for his paper *Rainfall Records in the British Isles*.

Books, Pamphlets, etc.

By direction of the President and Council it became my duty to make the selection of the books, pamphlets, photographs, etc., on behalf of the Society from Mr. Symons' library. This necessitated my attendance at 62 Camden Square daily for a period of about three weeks, as Mr. Symons had about 6500 bound volumes on his shelves, and 7000 or 8000 pamphlets in drawers and cupboards, in addition to a vast number of photographs. As we were only permitted to have such works as were not already in our library, it became necessary to take with me the MS. Catalogue of the Society's Library for frequent reference.

As a result, 2200 bound volumes, about 4000 pamphlets, and 900 photographs were selected on behalf of the Society.

To provide accommodation for such a large number of books, etc., was a serious matter, especially as the new offices of the Society at 70 Victoria Street had only a short time previously been fitted up with bookcases almost to their full capacity. After consultation with the architect, the Council agreed to the fitting up of some more bookcases, drawers, cupboards, and lockers, which would hold this vast addition to the library of the Society. Mr. Symons had evidently thought that something of the kind would be necessary, for the legacy of £200 just met this expenditure.

Mr. Symons' library was almost entirely meteorological, but it included books on subjects closely connected with that science; the subjects embraced may be grouped under the following heads:—

Meteorology.	Earthquakes.	Mineral Springs.
Climate.	Natural Philosophy.	Meteoric Stones.
Electricity.	Physical Geography.	Astronomy.
Magnetism.	Balneology.	Lightning Conductors.

The photographs embrace the following subjects:—

Floods.	Lightning.	Scenery.
Frost.	Meteorological Stations.	Groups.
Snow.	Apparatus.	Miscellaneous.
Whirlwinds.	Instruments.	

In addition to the above, fifty lantern slides were also selected.

Mr. Symons endeavoured to procure a copy of each edition of a work. In selecting the books from his library it became a matter for consideration whether I should choose the first edition, the last edition, or all the editions. After consultation with the President, he advised me to take all the editions, and so follow upon the lines pursued by Mr. Symons. This, I am sure, was the proper course to adopt, as the copies of the various editions will add greatly to the completeness of the Society's Library.

A book-plate bearing a portrait of Mr. Symons (Fig. 1) has been prepared and inserted on the inside of the cover of all the bound volumes, while all the pamphlets, etc., have been stamped with the words "Symons' Bequest."

The cataloguing of the books and pamphlets has not yet been completed, but of those already done it may be interesting to know something

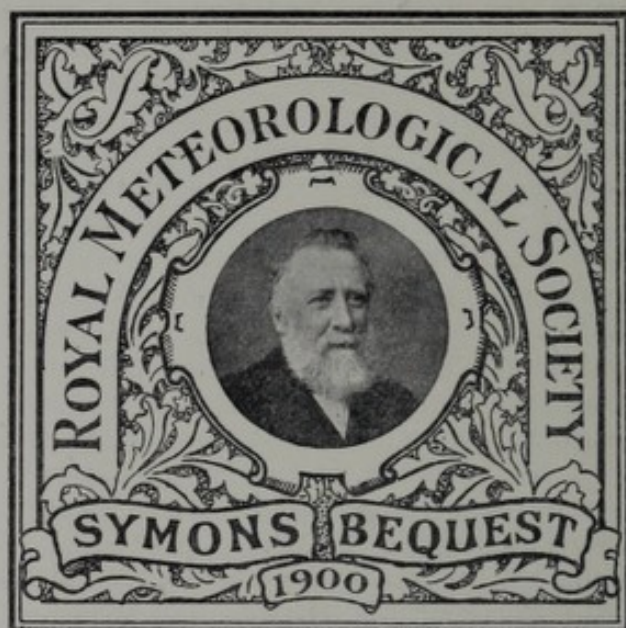


FIG. 1.—Bookplate.

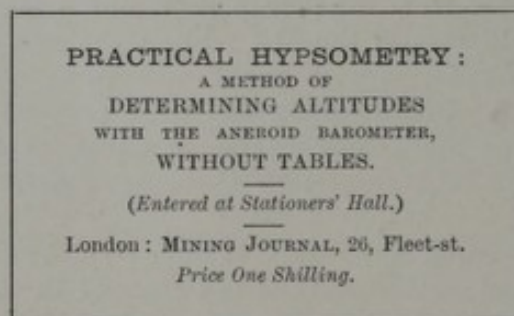
about their dates of publication. By arranging them in centuries we have the following results :—

Century	1476-99	1500-99	1600-99	1700-99	1800-99
No. of Works	9	128	214	403	4256

The books are of various sizes, as will be gathered from the two following extreme examples :—

The largest measures $17\frac{1}{2}$ ins. in length, 12 ins. in width, and 4 ins. in depth—or thickness—and is a fine and rare copy in two volumes of Aristotle's complete works in the original Greek text, accompanied by a Latin translation, arranged in parallel columns by Du Val, printed at Paris, 1619. Mr. Symons apparently purchased this work for the sum of £5 : 15 : 6.

The smallest example is a booklet on "Practical Hypsometry," by Edw. David Hearn, M.A., and measures 2 ins. in width and $1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. in height, and from cover to cover contains 8 pages. The following is a reproduction of the front of the cover—actual size.



Many of the books have beautiful and elaborate illustrations, not only

in the text but also as frontispieces. They are quite equal to—if they do not surpass, the illustrations of the present day, and they certainly must have been much more expensive. Many of the editions of Aratus have quaint woodcuts illustrative of the various constellations and planets. The same design has not been adhered to throughout, and the characters are not always depicted in the same way: for instance Saturn, who was practically the patron of agriculture, in the edition for 1549 is represented as seated in a chariot, drawn by griffins, and with a scythe in his hand—while in the edition of twenty years later, viz. 1569, he is still represented seated in his chariot, but with a wooden stump, having apparently lost the lower portion of the right leg. The most curious thing is that in a Spanish work entitled *Astronomica Curiosa*, by Leonardo Ferrer, published at Valencia in 1677, Saturn is depicted as a poor agricultural labourer hobbling along with his implements over his right shoulder, and a wooden stump apparently supporting his *left* leg!

These illustrations are reproduced on a reduced scale in Figs. 2, 3, and 4.



FIG. 2.—Saturn (1549).



FIG. 3.—Saturn (1569).



FIG. 4.—Saturn (1677).

Earliest Works.

The nine works published previous to the year 1500 are as follows—

1. ARISTOTLE, AND ALBERTUS MAGNUS. — GAIETANI DE TIENIS IN METHEORORUM ARISTOTELIS LIBROS EXPOSITIO. ALBERTI MAGNI MINERALIUM LIBRI V. *Patavii*, Impress. per Petr. Maufer., 1476.

The two works are beautifully printed in gothic, and hand rubricated. Bound together in a large folio volume.

2. DIALOGUES (Anonymous).—DIALOGUS CREATURARU OPTIME MORALISATUS.

A quarto pamphlet with hand-tinted illustrations (incomplete) dated 1480.

3. FIRMINUS AND HIPPOCRATES.—1. OPUSCULU REPERTORII PRONOSTICON IN MUTATIONES AERIS, ETC. 2. LIBELLUS DE MEDICORU ASTROLOGIA. *Venetiis*, 1485.

Hand rubricated. Bound together in one 8vo volume.

4. ALLIACUS.—TRACTATUS SUP. LIBROS METHEORORŪ: ARISTOTELIS. 8vo (?).

Published at Leipzig, 1485 or 1500. There are also two other editions of this work in the Bequest, dated respectively 1504 and 1506, the earliest and latest copies being in **black letter**.

5. ARATUS.—PHAENOMENA. 8vo. *Venetiis*, 1488.

Containing curious old woodcuts.

6. "FLORES ALBUMASARIS." 8vo. 1488.

With numerous woodcuts.

7. ROLEWINCK; OLD CHRONICLE, "FASCICULUS TEMPORUM." Gothic letter. 4to. *Circa*, 1490.

8. BONATUS.—TRACTATUS ASTRONOMIE. 8vo. ? *Venetiis*, 1491.

9. ARATI SOLENSIS PHAENOMENA CVM COMMENTARIIS.

This is an edition in the original Greek, to which Mr. Symons has affixed a note—"an extremely old, if not the earliest edition—excessively rare. De La Lande speaks of it as of 1499, but Buhl quoting Scheibellius, speaks of it as older, *i.e.* as preceding the Aldine edition. De La Lande is evidently referring to this, as he says 'folio wholly Greek, no name or place, and 60 leaves'—which this has."

Among the earliest works in the Sixteenth Century may be mentioned the following:—

- TARTARETUS — EXPOSITIO IN SUMMULAS.—EXPOSITIO SUPER TERTU LOGICES ARISTOTELIS—CLARISSIMA SINGULARISQUE TOTIUS PHILOSOPHIE NEC NON METAPHISICE ARISTOTELIS. MAGISTRI PETRI TARTARETI EXPOSITIO. 4to. *Venetiis*, 1504.

The three Expositions are bound together in one volume in solid oak boards covered with white "tooled" vellum or calf and fastened with leather and metal clasps. There is a note on the inside cover calling attention to the varieties in spelling of the author's name in these treatises—one being Tartereti, another Tartareti, and a third Tartarete. The book is printed in **black letter**.

- ALKINDUS AND GAPHAR.—DE PLUVIIS IMBRIBUS ET VĒTIS: AC AERIS MUTATIŌE. 4to. *Venetiis*, 1507. **Black letter**.

The spelling of the second author's name in this work is, according to the booksellers' catalogues, subject to great variety. In one it appears as Japhar, in another as Gaphar, and in a third (a French list), as Saphar; while in the same French catalogue Alkindus appears as Alchindus. The

present volume is in excellent preservation and a fine example of **black letter** printing.

Notes on Some of the Books.

Many of the books contain notes by Mr. Symons, indicating that the copies are extremely scarce, or that he had to pay a high price for them. A great number of the works are very interesting and valuable. Reference may be made to a few of them as follows :—

LEONARD DIGGES.—A PROGNOSTICATION EVERLASTING OF RIGHT GOOD EFFECT, FRUITFULLY AUGMENTED BY THE AUTHOR, CONTAINING PLAINE, BRIEFE, PLEASANT, CHOSEN RULES TO JUDGE THE WEATHER, ETC. 4to. *London*, 1556. **Black letter**.

This contains a curious illustration indicating the influences of the constellations upon various parts of the human body.

A STRAUNGE AND TERRIBLE WUNDER WROUGHT VERY LATE IN THE PARISH CHURCH OF BONGAY (printed in 1577, and reprinted in 1820).

On Sunday, August 4, 1577, while divine service was being held between 9 and 10 a.m., a violent thunderstorm occurred at Bungay, in Suffolk, the lightning striking the church and killing several of the worshippers. The account is so weird and graphic that it seems desirable to give the following extract verbatim :—

There were assembled at the same season, to hear divine service and common prayer, according to order, in the parish church of the said towne of Bongay, the people thereabouts inhabiting, who were witnesses of the straungenes, the rarenesse, and soddenesse of the storm, consisting of raine violently falling, fearful flashes of lightning, and terrible cracks of thüder, which came with such unwonted force and power, that to the perceiving of the people, at the time and in the place aboue named, assembled, the Church did as it were quake and stagger, which struck into the harts of those that were present, such a sore and sodain feare, that they were in a manner robbed of their right wits.

Immediately hereupō, there appeared in a most horrible similitude and likeness to the congregation then and there present, a dog as they might discern it, of a black colour, at the sight whereof, together with the fearful flashes of fire which then were seene, moved such admiration in the mindes of the assemblie, that they thought doomes day was already come.

This black dog, or the divel in such a likeness (God hee knoweth al who worketh all) running all along down the body of the church with great swiftnesse, and incredible haste, among the people, in a visible fourm and shape, passed between two persons, as they were kneeling uppon their knees, and occupied in prayer as it seemed, wrung the necks of them bothe at one instant clene backward, in somuch that even at a momēt where they kneeled, they strägely dyed.

This is a wōderful example of God's wrath, no dout to terrifie us, that we might feare him for his iustice, or pulling back our footsteps from the pathes of sinne, to love him for his mercy.

To our matter again. There was at ye same time another wonder wrought : for the same black dog, stil continuing and remaining in one and the self same shape, passing by an other man of the congregation in the church, gave him such a gripe on the back, that therwith all he was presently drawen together with a string. The man, albeit hee was in so straunge a taking, dyed not, but

as it is thought is yet alive : whiche thing is mervelous in the eyes of men, and offereth much matter of amasing the minde.

Moreouer, and beside this, the Clark of the said Church beeing occupied in cleansing of the gutter of the church, with a violent clap of thunder was smitten downe, and beside his fall had no further harme : unto whom being all amased this straunge shape, whereof we have before spoken, appeared, howbeit he escaped without daunger : which might peradventure seem to sound against trueth, and to be a thing incredible.

L. FROMONDUS.—METEOROLOGICORUM LIBRI SEX. 4to. *Antverpie*, 1627.

The cutting from the bookseller's catalogue states "most rare old copy, £2."

FRANCISCI DE VERULAMIO.—HISTORIA NATURALIS ET EXPERIMENTALIS DE VENTIS, ETC. 12mo. *Bataworum*, 1638.

This work, by Lord Francis Bacon, contains four distinct treatises, and is embellished with a quaintly engraved title-page representing the four winds. In the bookseller's catalogue this is stated to be "excessively rare, £3."

In a later edition, published in 1648, the illustration on the title-page is slightly enlarged, but reversed. The price of this copy is mentioned as 42s.

R. P. D. BENEDICTUS MAZZOTTA LICYENSIS.—DE TRIP-LICI PHILOSOPHIA, NATURALI, ASTROLOGICA, ET MINERALI. 4to. *Bononiæ*, 1653.

This contains an illustration of a curious wind-vane, which seems to be the precursor of the present Dines' Pressure-Tube Anemometer. A reproduction of the plate on a reduced scale is shown in Fig. 5.

Mr. R. H. Scott has favoured me with a translation of the description of this wind-vane, which is given below.

In order that you may know whence your wind comes see on what line the flag falls, and the wind blows from the opposite quarter. Therefore if the flag gives North the wind is South. In order to see this more perfectly you set up a column, on the extreme top of which you engrave the names of the winds, and place on the top of the capital of the column an iron plate on which you stand an Angel or a boy of brass provided with a bandirola, or a pipe with a flag. Inside the pipe there is a tube like a fife which will produce a sound at the mouth, and in the other hand the figure has a wand. When the wind blows the wand shows the point whence it comes, and the wind gives a note through the boy's mouth. I found this plan was due to P. Valentius Pinus.

AN HISTORY OF THE WONDERFUL THINGS OF NATURE.
WRITTEN BY JOHANNES JONSTONUS, AND NOW
RENDERED INTO ENGLISH BY A PERSON OF QUAL-
ITY. 4to. *London*, 1657.

Mr. Symons was of opinion that the translator of this work was John Rowland.

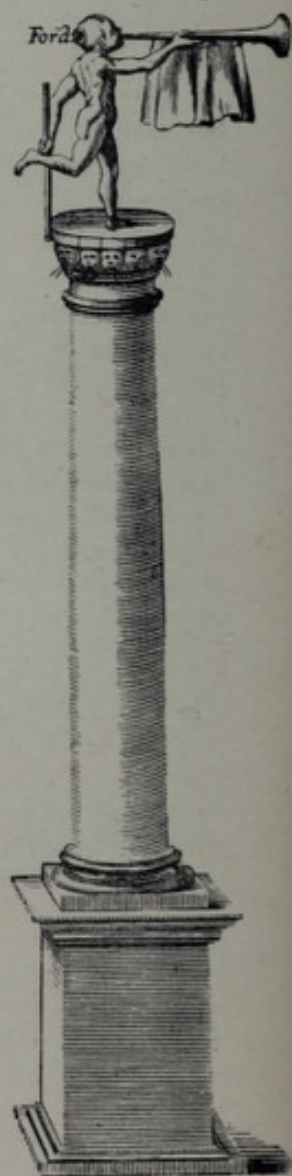


FIG. 5.

Under the heading of "Dew," the author states: "Plutarch saith that fat women were wont to gather dew with cloaths or soft skins which they used, to make them lean."!

THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE. 8vo. *London*, 1660.

Nine editions of this work have been taken from Mr. Symons' Library. In the edition published in 1697, he has inserted the note—"Very scarce: have not seen another perfect copy."

SAGGI DI NATURALI ESPERIENZE, FATTE NELL' ACCADEMIA DEL CIMENTO. Large 4to. *Firenze*, 1666.

Mr. Symons' note to this runs: "I do not understand the date of this book being 1666 while the preface is dated July 14, 1667. This is certainly the first edition, as I can trace no copy in any library earlier than 1667, and very few of that. The English translation in 4to, by R. Waller, Secretary of the Royal Society, was published in 1684. Many interesting details respecting the work of the Accademia are given in the 3rd edition of the *Catalogue of the Special Loan Collection of Scientific Apparatus*, 1877, catalogued by Roy. Soc. under 'Transactions, Florence,' but often under 'Magalotti, L.,' who was Secretary.

"There is another 1666 in Ronalds' Library. See also that catalogue, p. 314, where, quoting Libri. Cat., this ed. is said to be rare, and printed for presents. I think perhaps printed and submitted in proof to the Vicars General. See last page but one."

"REGE SINCERA."—OBSERVATIONS BOTH HISTORICAL AND MORAL UPON THE BURNING OF LONDON, SEPTEMBER 1666. With an Account of the Losses. And a most remarkable Parallel between London and Mosco both as to the Plague and Fire. Also an Essay touching the Easterly Winde. Written by way of Narrative, for satisfaction of the present and future Ages. 4to. *London*, 1667.

There is a written note to the effect that this work is not mentioned in the Bodleian Catalogue, 1843, where is only the reprint in the *Harleian Miscellany*.

The author's account of the East Wind is so interesting that it seems desirable to give the following extract:—

... In cometh now the East-wind to play his part in this Tragedy. That unfortunate wind, of which it is commonly said, that it is neither good for man nor beast, did blow with such a wonderful fierceness all the time of the conflagration, that it did not only quicken the fire, as Bellows do the Furnaces, but also getting into the streets, and among the houses, when it found any let or hindrance that did recoil it back, it blew equally both to the right and to the left, and caused the fire to burn on all sides, which hath persuaded many that this fire was miraculous; I myself remember, that going into some streets at the time, and having the wind impetuously in my face, I was in hope that at my return I should have it in my back, but it was all one, for the reason aforesaid. It would be here too tedious to speak of the nature of winds, and to shew many reasons why this wind is so dry in England, as to burn the flowers and leafs of the trees, more than the hottest Sun can do, one which I think satisfactory will serve for all. It is therefore to be observed, that winds do not only participate of the nature of the places where they are begot, but also of that of the Countries thorough which they pass: Now all the Southern, Western,

and Northern Winds must pass through the great Ocean to come into England, in which passage there mixes with them abundance of vapours which cause their moisture, except the North-wind, wherein the moisture is condensed by the cold; but the East-wind to come to us must pass over the greatest Continent of the world, France, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Persia, etc., even to China; so that in perusing such a tract of Land, it not only droppeth down by the way his moist Effluvioms, the earth as it were sucking them for its irroration, but also carrieth along all the hot and dry exhalations that perpetually arise out of the earth, which is the cause of his dry and burning quality. I had formerly a little Garden, where I did bestow as much pains and cares as I could, to bring up some young Fruit trees that were in't, having the advantage of a very good mould, but being seated Eastward and closed narrowly by a Brick wall on either side; this wind that raigneth constantly here in England in the moneths of March, April, and beginning of May, did in their budding so burn the leaves and the flowers that the hottest Sun could not do the like, so that I was fain to give it over, having been two or three years before I could understand that mystery, and the nature of that wind in this country, for there is some other countreys where this wind is salubrious and fruitful enough.

JOHN CLEARIDGE (OR CLARIDGE).—THE SHEPHERD'S LEGACY: OR JOHN CLEARIDGE, HIS FORTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF THE WEATHER. 8vo. *London*, 1670.

This is the first edition of the work popularly known as "The Shepherd of Banbury's Rules," and the pages have been "inlaid" throughout. There are five subsequent editions of the same work.

A TRUE AND PERFECT NARRATIVE OF THE GREAT AND DREADFUL DAMAGES SUSTEYNED IN SEVERAL PARTS OF ENGLAND BY THE LATE EXTRAORDINARY SNOWS. 4to. *London*, 1674.

This is an interesting account of the heavy snowstorms which occurred during the first week in March 1674.

"Whereby," (as the author says) "above twenty families of poor people, men, women, and children, were distressed, and some destroyed at Langsdale in the Bishoprick of Durham: the snow from the hills covering the tops of their houses that they could not get out, but were afterwards found dead, some of them having pieces of raw beef in their mouths: all their goods being before burnt to keep them warm. As also of a family in Somersetshire, neer Bath, so beset with the snow that they were forced to live three days on nothing but grains; and at last being relieved with victuals, eat so ravenously that the poor woman and five childred immediately dyed. And several persons and great quantities of cattle and sheep lost in Northumberland, Darbyshire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Lincolnshire, Isle of Ely and other places. Faithfully extracted from letters lately sent from Persons of good credit and quality in all those parts."

This pamphlet concludes with the following quaint verse:—

A feather'd Rain came in Abundance down,
And with dry Inundations did us Drown.

JOHN SMITH.—A COMPLEAT DISCOURSE OF THE NATURE, USE, AND RIGHT MANAGING OF THAT WONDERFUL INSTRUMENT THE BAROSCOPE OR QUICK-SILVER WEATHER GLASS. 8vo. *London*, 1688.

This is the earliest treatise on the manufacture and use of the Mercurial Barometer. In the preface the author says—

Note, that the Honorable Rob. Boyle, Esq., as Dr. Beale tells us, in *Phil. Trans.* N. 9, p. 153, was the first that ever discovered this Useful Instrument to the English Nation, and therefore does deserve from us all due Acknowledgements for those Benefits which we either have or may hereafter receive by it.

WILLIAM COCK.—METEOROLOGIE: OR THE TRUE WAY OF FORESEEING AND JUDGING THE INCLINATION OF THE AIR, AND ALTERATION OF THE WEATHER IN SEVERAL REGIONS. 12mo. *London*, 1703.

Mr. Symons' note is "extremely scarce. I never heard of another copy, and had to pay £1 at Sotheby's for this in July 1894."

AN EXACT RELATION OF THE LATE DREADFUL TEMPEST: Or a Faithful Account of the Most Remarkable Disasters which hapned on that occasion. The Places where, and Persons Names who suffer'd by the same, in City and Countrey: the Number of Ships, Men, and Guns, that were lost, the miraculous Escapes of several Persons from the Dangers of that *calamity* both by Sea and Land. Faithfully collected by an Ingenious Hand, to preserve the Memory of so Terrible a Judgment. 8vo. *London*, 1704.

This is a pamphlet of 24 pages (but bound up with blank leaves, for padding), for which Mr. Symons paid 10s.

It contains an account of "the Great Storm" which occurred on November 26, 1703. [See A. GIFFORD, p. 252].

DANIEL DEFOE.—THE STORM: A Collection of the most remarkable Casualties and Disasters, which happen'd in the late dreadful Tempest, both by Sea and Land, on Friday, the Twenty-sixth of November, Seventeen Hundred and Three. Second Edition. 8vo. *London*, 1704.

This is a very full account of the same Storm as that described in the preceding work. [The Society has a copy of the first edition of Defoe's book in the Library.]

JOHN GADBURY.—NAUTICUM ASTROLOGICUM: OR THE ASTROLOGICAL SEAMAN. 8vo. *London*, 1710.

This includes "a Diary of the Weather, Carefully Observed for xxi. Years Compleat, etc., beginning at November the 11th Anno 1668, and ending the 31st of December Anno 1689. Design'd for the Service of Philosophers, Physicians, Astrologers, and all other Faithful Observers of the Various Wonders that are to be found in God's Creation."

This appears to be one of the earliest daily records of the weather kept in London.

R. BUDGEN.—THE PASSAGE OF THE HURRICANE FROM THE SEA-SIDE AT BEXHILL IN SUSSEX TO NEWINGDEN-LEVEL, THE TWENTIETH DAY OF MAY, 1729, BETWEEN NINE AND TEN IN THE EVENING. 8vo. *London*, 1730.

This is one of the earliest discussions on Tornadoes, and is illustrated by a map showing the path and width of the tornado in question. The Author says:—

. . . The distance from the Sea-side to Newingden-Level is about twelve Miles, which it passed over in twenty minutes; and if we take seventy rods for

the mean diameter of the vertiginous motion, the duration of the offensive wind could not exceed twenty seconds ; which, if it be considered, how little for the most part the duration of a minute is understood by the persons from whom we are obliged to collect this account, and the unspeakable Horror and Surprise they were in while their houses were shook and torn in pieces over their heads ; perhaps few people in such circumstances could guess twenty seconds, much less than half, if not a whole minute. According to this computation, the direct velocity of the Storm is forty-two feet in a second, to which, adding forty-three feet for the increase by the vertiginous or spiral motion, makes eighty-five feet ; which is the space run through in every second of time near the outward verge of the gyration and the velocity by which all obstacles received the impulse of the wind.

The way of the tempest, was nearly from South by West to North by East in a direct line, for all variations appeared visibly to be owing and guided by the situation of the surface of the Earth, always inclining and deflected more or less to the East or West, in pursuit of the lower ground.

A. GIFFORD.—A SERMON IN COMMEMORATION OF THE GREAT STORM, COMMONLY CALLED THE HIGH WIND, IN THE YEAR 1703. PREACHED AT THE CHAPEL IN LITTLE WILD STREET, LONDON, NOVEMBER 27, 1733, WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE DAMAGE DONE BY IT. 8vo. *London*, 1733.

The following extracts give an account of the institution of the sermon, and also particulars of the damage caused by the storm.

The occasion of my insisting on these Words this Day, is in answer to the Request of the surviving Trustee of the late Mr. *William Taylor*, deceas'd ; a useful and honourable Member of the Society that meets here, who was so affected with the Great Storm, commonly call'd the High Wind, on this Day thirty Years ago, that he desired it might be annually held in remembrance.

It is agreed upon all Hands, from the Relations given of it by the Writers of that Time, and especially from the Queen's Proclamation, that came out for a Fast on the account of it, that it was the most terrible Desolation of the kind that ever was known in the Memory of Man, or recorded in any History ; not only for the Greatness of its Fury, but Continuance, vast Extent, and Damage done by it.

The Wind had been very tempestuous for several Days before ; but on *Friday Evening, November 26*, in the Year 1703 it sensibly increased, and blew an inexpressibly prodigious Hurricane, till Six or Seven the next Morning, when it began to abate, and, in a few Days (after several considerable Flurries) quite ceased.

According to the most exact Accounts of this horrible Tempest, there were few Houses and Gardens, Orchards or Fields, that did not feel its fatal Power. One who took a great deal of Pains to collect the Damages done by it, by a moderate computation, reckon'd up near three hundred thousand Trees, and some of them of great Bulk, that were either torn up by the Roots, or broken to Pieces, but finding it would be endless to enumerate all, gave over the attempt.

Nine hundred Dwelling-Houses were entirely overthrown by this terrible Blast, by which most of the Inhabitants were much hurt, and many of them miserably perish'd in the Ruins.

Above an hundred Churches, though strongly built, were quite stripped of the Lead that cover'd them, most of which was roll'd up like a Scroll, and carried to an incredible Distance ; besides many more that had the Battlements and Steeples wholly destroy'd, and otherwise damaged by it.

Upwards of four hundred Windmills were broke all to Pieces.

And as to Barns and Stables, and other Out-houses, they were beyond numbering.

The Stacks of Hay, and all sorts of Grain, were almost everywhere either wholly blown away, or greatly shatter'd. Several were entirely removed from one Place to another.

In this Great Metropolis the Damage was universal; few, if any of its public or private Buildings escaping its Fury.

But in *Bristol* it was still worse; for, besides the Hurt done immediately by the Wind, it raised such a Tide as did an hundred thousand Pounds Damage to the Merchandize, and caused the *Severn* to overflow its Banks, and drown the adjacent Country for many Miles round, whereby above fifteen thousand Sheep were drowned, and near an hundred of their miserable Owners; several whole Families, with their Habitations and Cattle, being swept away all together. The Loss, in this single Article, was computed at more than two hundred thousand Pounds.

Above twelve hundred Ships, Boats, and Barges, were entirely lost by it, or so shatter'd, as to be rendered useless. It was reckon'd that near nine hundred of them belonged only to the River *Thames*.

But the worst of all is still behind; I mean the Multitudes of Souls that were hereby hurried off the Stage of Life into an unalterable Eternity, many of whom, it is to be feared, were altogether unprepared for so sudden and awful a Change.

Between eight and nine thousand were known to have lost their Lives, either by Sea or Land, including those that were shipwreck'd on the *English* and *Dutch* Shores, some of whom were very valuable and useful.

Among these, I cannot forbear mentioning the great Winstanley, who perish'd with several others, in the *Edystone* Lighthouse near *Plymouth*, of which he was the ingenious Contriver and Architect. And the learned, pious Bishop *Kidder*, whose *Works* will praise him in the Gates, as long as there is an Infidel to question, or scoff at the Mission and Authority of the Son of God, who was, with his Lady, alas! hereby brought to the fatal Period of his useful Life and Labours, thro' the fall of Part of his own Palace.¹

This is a small Sketch of the Damages done in our own Island; but the whole is unknown. However, from several Accounts put together, one supposes perhaps not without Reason, that it far exceeded that of the Fire of London, which was computed at no less than four Millions Sterling.

BENJAMIN MARTIN.—THERMOMETRUM MAGNUM: OR GRAND STANDARD THERMOMETER. 8vo. *London*. 1772.

This thermometer was intended to express "all degrees of heat and cold, from that with which mercury boils, to that which congeals it into solid metal." The author illustrates this with a large engraving on which he has adjusted "the celebrated scales of Sir Isaac Newton, Fahrenheit, De L'Isle, and Reaumur, for comparing observations made in every part of the Globe, and in all degrees of temperature in the air and any other bodies."

E. EDWARDS.—A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE HURRICANE THAT HAPPENED AT ROEHAMPTON LANE AND PLACES ADJACENT ON THE FIFTEENTH OF OCTOBER 1780. ILLUSTRATED BY FOUR OUTLINES WASHED AND TEINTED.

This tract, which consists of eight pages only, has been "inlaid" on large

¹ At Wells, Somerset.—W. M.

folio paper and bound up with both plain and coloured illustrations, and with an engraved portrait. There are altogether thirty-nine leaves in the volume, twenty-four of which are blank, having been included simply for the purpose of making it sufficiently thick for binding. A cutting is attached from the bookseller's catalogue, stating that the volume is very scarce and that the price was £6 : 6s.

H. ROOKE.—A METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER KEPT AT MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. 8vo. *Nottingham*. 1785–1805.

Mr. Symons has inserted a note: "Extremely scarce. I never saw or heard of another complete copy."

W. BENT.—A METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL KEPT IN PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON. 8vo. 1786–1792.

Mr. Symons' note is "Excessively scarce. I never heard of another copy."

THOMAS CREASER.—THE EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF JOSEPH LOCKIER, WHO WAS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING AND EXISTED THREE WEEKS IN A WOOD NEAR BATH ON WATER ONLY! ILLUSTRATED BY ANALOGOUS INSTANCES. PUBLISHED FOR HIS BENEFIT BY THOMAS CREASER, MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, LONDON, AND SURGEON TO THE BATH CITY DISPENSARY. 8vo. *Bath*.

It appears that Joseph Lockier was struck down by lightning in a wood during a thunderstorm on August 19, 1806, and was not found until September 8. During that time he had no food, and was only able to collect a little of the rain which fell during a second thunderstorm on August 29. This pamphlet contains his sworn deposition before a magistrate, and also a declaration signed by the physicians and surgeons of the Bath City Dispensary who attended him.

J. H. BARKER.—MEDICAL METEOROLOGY. Reprinted from the Association Medical Journal, August 26, 1853. 4to. *Bedford*.

At the end of this article there is the following interesting and curious note:—

The British Meteorological Society is under the presidency of Samuel Charles Whitbread, Esq., who, at great expense, has erected an excellent Astronomical and Meteorological Observatory in the garden of his country residence at Cardington, Bedfordshire. It may be remembered that this spot was the scene of the meteorological researches of the philanthropist John Howard. The construction of philosophical instruments has been wonderfully improved since the time of Howard! His biographer tells us "At the bottom of his garden at Cardington he had placed a thermometer; and as soon as the frosty weather had set in, he used to leave his warm bed at 2 o'clock every morning, walk in the bitter morning air to his thermometer, examine it by his lamp, and write down its register,—which done to his satisfaction, he would coolly betake himself to bed again." See Hepworth Dixon's *Life of Howard*.

G. J. SYMONS.—BAROMETRICAL DEPRESSION DECEMBER 23-27, 1859. 4to.

Mr. Symons was a frequent correspondent of *The Times* newspaper, writing upon meteorological phenomena of exceptional interest. This

paper, which was printed for circulation among observers, was the outcome of a letter to the *The Times*, and is probably the first printed paper by Mr. Symons. It seems therefore desirable to reproduce the article *in extenso*.

The Table on p. 257 is very characteristic of Mr. Symons, as before he had a barograph he would, during the time of any great depression, "sit up" (to use his own expression) with his barometer and take frequent readings throughout the night. He once supplied me with a copy of barometrical readings which he had taken every 15 minutes from 11.15 p.m. to 7 a.m. (See *Quarterly Journal*, Vol. I. pp. 201-2).

The pressure at this station having in the early morning of December 26 been reduced to a very low point, I inserted a brief note in *The Times*, calling attention to the fact, and intimating that I should be happy to exchange readings with observers. [These readings are given at the end of this article.—W. M.].

The replies to this note were so numerous, and in some cases so complete, that I felt it my duty to compare and discuss them to the best of my ability.

I believe the accompanying Observations and Curves will render the principal features of the depression tolerably evident, especially if the relative position of the Stations be fully realised. Conscious that there are many others far better qualified for this investigation than myself, I will merely add that I shall be most happy to supply with a duplicate of the Observations (some hundreds) any one who will undertake to analyse them more fully.

The scales, etc. of the curves are marked upon them; they are simply graphic representations of the readings, with one exception, viz. in the large tracings, the Camden Town Observations are entered three hours *earlier* than they were actually made. This has been done in order that the angles of depression and elevation may be compared more readily than if the effect of easterly position had not been eliminated.

The column headed "Amount of Depression" is the difference between the Minimum reading and that at 9 A.M. on the 23rd, when the Pressure would appear to have been nearly identical throughout the country. I have adopted this mode in order to get rid of any errors attaching to the Barometer; the difficulty arising from the instrument not being closely watched (whereby the *true* minimum is lost) does not seem so easily obviated.

In conclusion, I have only to thank my friends for their ready contribution of Observations, and to express an earnest wish for suggestions of improvement in, and friendly criticism upon, the mode of treatment.

G. J. SYMONS.

CAMDEN TOWN, *February* 1860.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE AT SEA LEVEL.
DECEMBER 1859.

Station and Observer.	9.0 a.m.					Minimum Observed.		Amount of Depression
	23rd.	24th.	25th.	26th.	27th.	Time.	Pressure.	
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches		Inches	Inches
GUERNSEY.								
Dr. Hoskins, F.R.S., &c. . . .	29.540	29.277	29.107	28.837	29.448	26th, 9 a.m.	28.837	0.703
TRURO.								
Dr. Barham . . . . .	.509	.079	28.883	.919	.279	25th, 9 p.m.	.436	1.073
LITTLE BRIDY.								
H. S. Eaton, Esq., B.A., &c. .	.561	.194	29.080	.777	.388	26th, 3 a.m.	.528	1.033
EXETER.								
W. H. Ellis, Esq., M.B.M.S. . .	.560	.158	.020*	.850	.353	25th, 11 p.m.	.530	1.030
CLIFTON.								
W. C. Burder, Esq., M.B.M.S. .	.575	.127	.048	.787	.343	26th, 3 a.m.	.588	0.987
UCKFIELD.								
C. L. Prince, Esq., F.R.A.S., &c.	.604	.294	.186	.664	.470	„ 9 a.m.	.664	0.940
CAMDEN TOWN.								
G. J. Symons, Esq., M.B.M.S., &c.	.567	.198	.081	.674	.379	„ 6 a.m.	.629	0.938
LEICESTER.								
James Payne, Esq. . . . .	.577	.098	.045	.796	.290	„ 9 a.m.	.796	0.781
†NOTTINGHAM—								
E. J. Lowe, Esq., F.R.A.S., &c.	.591	.083	.069	.844	.297	„ 3 a.m.	.746	0.845
HOLKHAM.								
S. Shellabear, Esq., M.B.M.S. .	.562	.102	.040	.783	.280	„ 9 a.m.	.783	0.779
MANCHESTER.								
G. V. Vernon, Esq., F.R.A.S., &c.	.557*	.007*	.019*	.882*	.245*	25th, 11 p.m.	.848	0.709
WAKEFIELD.								
W. R. Milner, Esq., M.B.M.S., &c.	.608	29.049	29.062	.897	.232	26th, 3 a.m.	.847	0.761
NORTH SHIELDS.								
Robert Spence, Esq. . . . .	.477	28.935	28.985	28.875	.105	„ 9 a.m.	28.875	0.602
BRAEMAR.								
Messrs. Pearce and Cameron . .	29.562	29.022	29.027	29.117	29.167	25th, 9 p.m.	29.000	0.562

* Computed from readings made within one hour of the above time (9 a.m.).

Southampton (James Sharp, Esq.), the Observations being made at 3 p.m., could not be inserted above; the minimum observed was 28.540, at 3.30 a.m. on the 26th.

† *Tottenham* (W. D. Howard, Esq.); the minimum observed was 28.651.

OBSERVATIONS WITH OTHER THAN STANDARD INSTRUMENTS OR FOR WHICH THE
WHOLE OF THE CORRECTIONS ARE NOT KNOWN.
DECEMBER 1859.

Station and Observer.	9.0 a.m.					Minimum Observed.		Amount of Depression
	23rd.	24th.	25th.	26th.	27th.	Time.	Pressure.	
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches		Inches	Inches
BARNSTAPLE.								
J. R. Chanter, Esq.	29.55	29.10	28.98	29.00	29.33	25th, 9 a.m.	28.98	0.57
†ALDERSHOT.								
J. Arnold, A.H.C., &c. . . . .	.54	.24	29.13	28.58	.40	26th, 9 a.m.	.58	0.96
LAMPETER.								
Rev. Prof. J. Matthews, M.A., &c.	.567	.092	28.983	.963	.290	25th, 4 p.m.	.827	0.74
OUNDLE.								
George Ellick, Esq.	29.55	29.13	29.07	28.79	29.29	26th, 9 a.m.	28.79	0.76

Red Hill, Reigate (Richard Witherby, Esq.); the minimum did not occur till towards noon on the 26th.

† Not communicated, but obtained from published returns.

BAROMETRICAL DEPRESSION.

December 23-27, 1859.

The following Observations of the Pressure at Sea-Level are computed from the readings of two Standard Barometers at Camden Town, London—125 feet above Sea-Level.

Date.	Time.	Pressure. Inches.	Date.	Time.	Pressure. Inches.
Dec. 23	9.0 a.m.	29.567	Dec. 26	3.0 a.m.	28.655
"	9.0 p.m.	29.463	"	4.0 "	28.642
24	9.0 a.m.	29.198	"	5.0 "	28.632
"	9.0 p.m.	29.088	"	5.30 "	28.633
25	0.40 a.m.	29.060	"	6.0 "	28.629*
"	9.0 "	29.081	"	6.30 "	28.634
"	2.40 p.m.	29.024	"	7.0 "	28.639
"	7.0 "	28.861	"	7.30 "	28.647
"	9.0 "	28.776	"	8.0 "	28.657
"	10.0 "	28.748	"	9.0 "	28.674
"	10.30 "	28.732	"	Noon	28.744
"	11.0 "	28.726	"	9.0 p.m.	29.167
26	Midnight	28.701	27	Midnight	29.234
"	1.0 a.m.	28.680	"	9.0 a.m.	29.379
"	2.0 "	28.668	"	9.0 p.m.	29.458
"	2.30 "	28.663	"	11.0 "	29.443

* This, the minimum reading, was reached at 5.50 by one instrument, and 6.10 by the other; the former fell .001 in. lower than the above quoted value.

Maximum for the year 1858=30.699, on January 17th at 9.0 a.m.
 " January, 1859=30.830, on January 9th at 11.40 p.m.
 " November, 1859=30.763, on November 10th at 9.0 p.m.
 " December, 1859=30.773, on December 10th at 11.5 a.m.
 Minimum for the year 1858=29.012, on November 27th at 5.0 p.m.
 " October 1859=29.068, on October 26th at 0.35 a.m.
 " November, 1859=28.790, on November 1st at 1.15 p.m.

G. J. SYMONS.

Queen's Road, Camden Town, N.W.,
 December 28th.

HENRY DOXAT.—THE LUNAR ALMANAC. 8vo. *London*, 1862.

The price of this almanac for the year 1862 was sixpence, but for the years 1864 to 1868 the price was one guinea for 16 pages! In 1869 the price had fallen to one shilling.

ELIJAH WALTON.—CLOUDS: THEIR FORMS AND COMBINATIONS. 3rd Edition. 4to. *London*, 1873.

This volume contains forty-two plates of photographic reproductions of carefully and beautifully prepared drawings illustrating the forms and combinations of clouds.

Weather-Maps and Diagrams.

In the collection there are numerous weather-maps, charts, and diagrams. I would call attention to three which seem to me to be of peculiar interest:—

EXHIBITION 1851.—ATMOSPHERIC MAPS: SHOWING THE DIRECTION OF THE WIND, THE BAROMETRIC PRESSURE, AND THE STATE OF THE WEATHER AT VARIOUS PLACES IN GREAT BRITAIN FROM OBSERVATIONS COLLECTED BY THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION, AUGUST 11 TO OCTOBER 11, 1851. 4to. London, 1851.

Mr. Symons reproduced what he called "The First Daily Weather-Map," viz. that for August 8, 1851, which was the first of this series, in the *Meteorological Magazine* for September 1896.

WEATHER-MAP OF THE BRITISH ISLES.

There are two of these maps, viz. those for August 5 and September 3, 1861. These were published by "The Daily Weather-Map Company, Limited."

The Prospectus of this Company, whose capital was £4000 in 400 shares of £10 each, is so interesting and optimistic that I cannot refrain from reproducing it herewith:—

This Company is formed for the purpose of raising capital to carry on the publication of the *Daily Weather-Map*. All the preliminary expenses are already provided for. The patent is sealed; the instruments have been prepared, corrected by the Greenwich standard, and distributed to the various stations; the Map is engraved, the Symbols completed, and every arrangement made for completing the publication. Only so much additional capital is required as would suffice to defray current expenses until the returns from Sale and Advertisements can be realised.

These returns are likely to be speedy and ample. The novelty of its design will secure for the *Weather-Map* immediate celebrity. It will, besides, contain intelligence specially interesting to very large and numerous classes of the community—among others (1) the Sailor; (2) the Merchant and Shipowner; (3) the Agriculturist; (4) all who travel by land or by water; (5) the Scientific public, who present a large, influential, and rapidly increasing body; (6) every one who observes, studies, or talks about the Weather—the subject which proverbially forms the first subject of conversation between Englishmen.

Being sold at so moderate a price, and addressing so large a section of the community, the sale of the *Weather-Map* will in all probability be very extensive; while it will present, in proportion to the number of its readers, a first-rate medium for advertisements. The revenue from both sources cannot fail to be very considerable. The expenses, on the other hand, are comparatively moderate. Including the cost of Telegraphic Despatches, of printing (exclusive of double numbers), of Literary and Scientific Contributions, and of Office Expenses, the outlay will amount to between £8 and £9 per diem, or about £52 per week. If printed on paper of the best quality, the net proceeds of sale, after deducting the cost of paper, machining, and allowance to the trade, will leave a profit of fully £3:10:0 per thousand. A circulation of 3000 copies would therefore pay all expenses, leaving the receipts from advertisements clear gain. If 5000 circulation were attained—and the number is not large for a paper sold at so moderate a price—the annual profits from sale alone would exceed £2000 per annum, or more than 50 per cent on the investment. But even a much more moderate circulation would command an extensive display of high-class advertisements furnishing an ample source of profit to the Shareholders.

In order to limit individual responsibility, the proprietorship in the publication has been constituted into a partnership under the Limited Liability

Act. No shareholder can consequently incur any risk beyond the amount of the shares which he may think proper to take. Half the nominal amount of such shares will be required upon allotment, the residue being called up if wanted, and as wanted, to meet the current expenses of the publication.

Further particulars may be obtained from, and applications for shares addressed to, "The Manager of the Weather-Map Company (Limited)," 110 Strand, W.C.

Subscription :—4s. per month, 13s. per quarter, £2 : 12s. per annum.

DALTON'S METEOROLOGIST. Folio. *Manchester*, 1854.

This is an elaborately illuminated diagram arranged by Bennet Woodcroft, exhibiting "at one view the mean monthly state of the rain-gauge, the barometer, and the thermometer at Manchester, from data kept for upwards of twenty years and tables formed by the late Dr. John Dalton." There is also shown on the diagram the mean monthly and annual temperature in the Crimea, and a note is added to the effect that "the profit derived from the sale of this print will be appropriated to the Patriotic Fund."

Manuscripts.

Mr. Symons had in his collection two MSS. on vellum of the works of Albertus Magnus: the first of these a beautifully illuminated MS. on vellum, the initial letter (historiated with a portrait of Albertus Magnus) with border and arms of the Medici family in gold and colours, and with painted capitals. This was purchased in 1881 at Sotheby's for the sum of £4 : 15s.

Mr. Symons has inserted the following note—"Albertus Magnus, or Albrecht Count of Bollstädt, was born in 1205 at Lauingen in Bavaria. He was a Dominican teacher in the schools of his order at Hildesheim, Ratisbon, Cologne, and Paris, and subsequently (from 1254 to 1259) Provincial of the Order in Germany. He was ordained Bishop of Ratisbon in 1260, but two years afterwards he retired to the monastery at Cologne, where he died Nov. 15, 1280.

"The complete series of his works was published at Leyden in 1654 in 21 folio volumes, but parts, if not the whole, were printed as early as 1488.

"This MS. on vellum is a Commentary on Aristotle's Meteorology, and forms part of the IV. vol. of Albertus' works. It bears no date, but is probably of the 15th century."

The second MS. is entitled "Compendium Alberti Magni de Negotio Naturali." This work, which is also illuminated, but not so extensively as the preceding, forms a small 4to volume, for which Mr. Symons apparently paid £3 : 16s.

The Symons Bibliography.

Although not included in the Bequest, I must make some reference to the Bibliography compiled by Mr. Symons, and which has been purchased by the Society from his executors for the sum of £100.

This consists of the titles of all books, pamphlets, papers, articles, etc., bearing on meteorology of which Mr. Symons had any knowledge.

These titles, together with particulars as to size, date, place of publica-

tion, etc., are entered on cards either in MS. or cuttings from booksellers' catalogues and other sources. The cards are all placed in boxes in a strictly alphabetical manner under the name of the author, and each author's cards are arranged according to date. There are about 60,000 titles which are contained in 147 boxes $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, 8 inches wide, and $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep.

This is a most valuable compilation, and a rich storehouse of information on meteorological literature. Mr. Symons greatly prized this bibliography, to the compilation of which he had devoted so many years of his life. I trust that the Society will be able to carry on this valuable work, and so keep up to date the record of all known publications bearing on the science of meteorology.

Conclusion.

It is truly marvellous how Mr. Symons got together such an extensive and valuable collection of books and pamphlets. He was ever on the look-out for meteorological works, and used to receive several second-hand booksellers' catalogues daily. These he would carefully go through, and if he found any work mentioned which he did not already possess, he at once took steps to secure it. I remember him telling me some years ago how one Saturday evening he received a catalogue from a bookseller in the Strand, and found a book mentioned which he was very anxious to secure. He knew that others were also on the look-out for the same work, so he got up early on Monday morning and went down to the Strand and waited until the shop door was opened. He at once asked for the book and paid for it before the bookseller had time to open his letters—which contained several orders for the same book!

I will conclude by quoting the following words with reference to Mr. Symons from Dr. C. Theodore Williams' Jubilee Address:—

"When we review his life and work we cannot but come to the conclusion that he has not lived in vain; that while himself actively urging on the progress of meteorological science, he organised his large body of efficient workers to pursue his labours after him, and he bequeathes to us—most precious legacy of all—his own bright example."

