U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1897.

VIRGINIA SECTION

OF THE

CLIMATE AND CROP SERVICE

OF THE

WEATHER BUREAU,

IN COOPERATION WITH THE

VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

WILLIS L. MOORE,

CHIEF OF BUREAU.

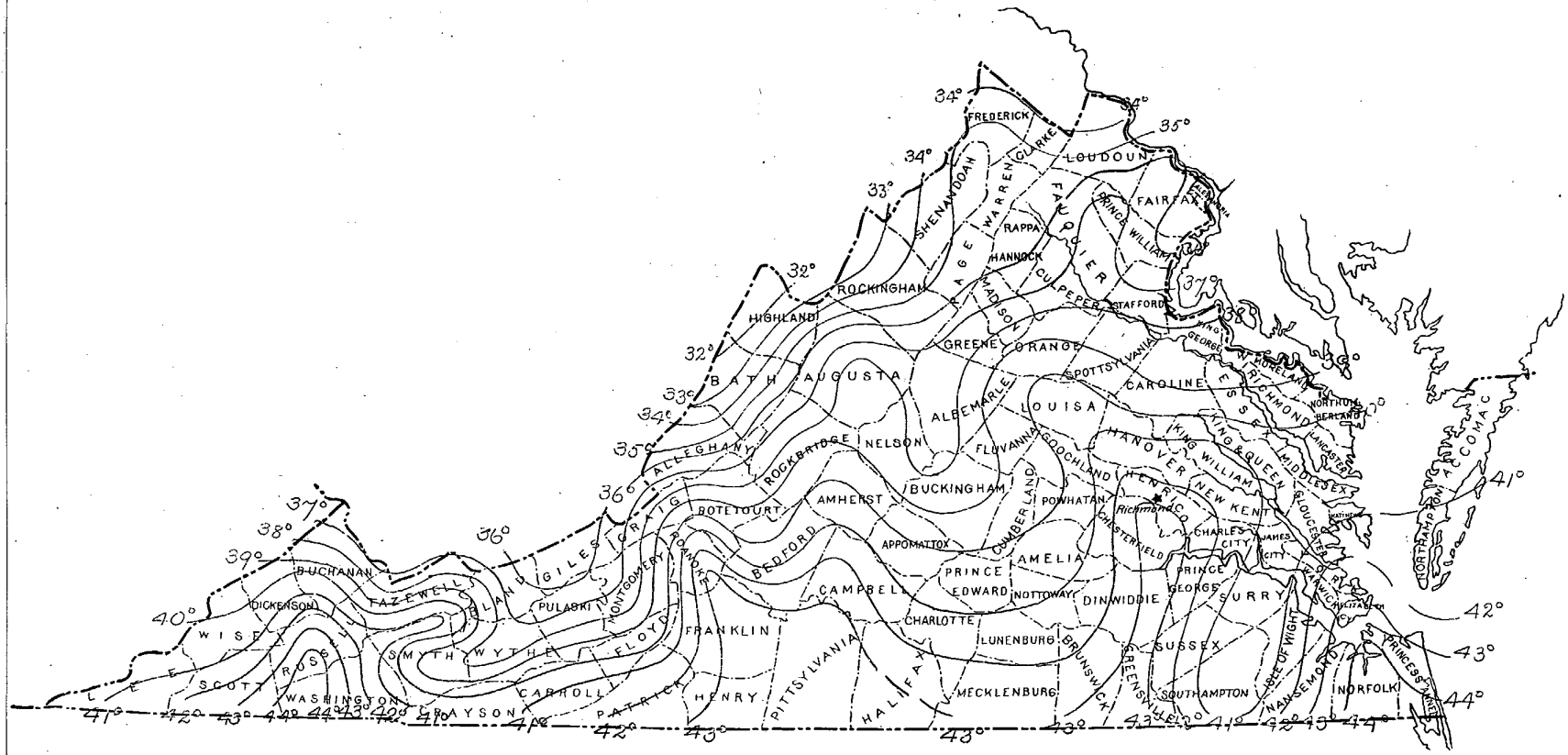
BY

EDWARD A. EVANS

SECTION DIRECTOR,

RICHMOND, VA.

MONTHLY MEAN TEMPERATURE FOR FEBRUARY, 1897.



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Central Office, WASHINGTON, D. C. — WILLIS L. MOORE, Chief.

VIRGINIA SECTION,

E. A. EVANS, Section Director,

RICHMOND, VA.

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THE ORIGIN OF TYPHOONS AND HURRICANES.

The study of the formation and development of cyclones has been followed with the greatest minuteness under exceptionally favorable conditions by the meteorologists of India. In a recent essay (An Account of a Storm Developed in Equatorial Regions, Calcutta, 1896), Mr. W. L. Dallas has endeavered to decide whether the inrush of a saturated stormy wind from the southwest into a region of heated moist air, is essential to, or the determining cause of, the formation of a cyclonic whirl. He finds that it is not necessary and gives in detail the facts of a special case over the Bay of Bengal between the 1st and 15th of December, 1894. His conclusions are favorable to the general correctness of the ideas developed by Professor Ferrel who, as is well known, gave a more precise expression to the principles taught by Espy. According to these meteorologists, when a general uniformity of pressure and quietness prevails in the atmosphere, especially over the ocean, and when the quiet air becomes so warm and moist that ascending currents and clouds are forming here and there over the warm region, then any one of these ascending currents may be so fed with moist air as to steadily increase in its volume and instability; it rises and the surrounding air that is drawn in begins a gyratory motion, usually in the cloud regions, but which is soon propagated downward to the earth's surface. The quiet region in which the instability first occurs is often that which is called the doldroms; if this is not located at the equator, but five or ten degrees north or south, depending on the season, then the gyration of the winds around the center is fully determined by the deflecting action resulting from the diurnal rotation of the earth on its axis.

In summing up the results of his study of this storm Mr. Dallas says:

On the first three days of December, 1894, the Indian daily weather charts exhibited a typical illustration of the ordinary meteorological conditions which theory assigns to the Belt of Calms. An area of continuous low barometer lay over the equator, on either side of which the two trade wind currents blew freshly, while within the area itself, the surface winds were very light and variable. The weather was fine generally, but daily, at 4 pm., just after the diurnal period of greatest evaporation, heavy precipitation of rain took place. The charts for these days show, then, a more or less inclosed area within which the weather was fine, and constant evaporation was proceeding with apparently no horizontal outlet for the accumulating aqueous vapor. On the 3d of December the the southeast trades seemingly began to take off, but the observations on this day show that nearly all the ships in southern latitudes had entered or were close to the enclosed area of light and unsteady winds and low barometer. The sky was densely clouded, and though heavy rain fell for a time during the later hours of the day, this outlet was probably insufficient to stay the steady accumulation of aqueous vapor over the enclosed area. In the afternoon of this day (3d) the vessel *Falls of Garry*, in latitude 5° south, reported the cessation of southeast trades, their replacement by light, variable "puffy" breezes and heavy rain. By the 4th the process of accumulation of aqueous vapor had apparently reached its maximum and the subsequent condensation had set in. A continuous downpour of rain was reported, and this was accompanied with light, variable airs and calms on all the ships within the inclosed area. At the same time as the constant rapid condensation proceeded so did atmospheric pressure diminish, so that by the morning of the 6th a well-defined central area of depression had been developed within the inclosed area almost directly over the equator. It is interesting to note that so far as can be judged from the observations, at the period when the process of constant evaporation had resulted in a saturated condition of the atmosphere over the inclosed area, and the subsequent process of sudden, rapid, and extensive condensation had succeeded, there apparently occurred a slight but appreciable rise of pressure over the whole equatorial region under observation. This rise was shown by the chart of 8 am. of the 4th (not reprinted), and it will be remembered that it was after 4 pm, on the 3d that the process of rapid condensation set in and became the most important of the changes in progress over the area.

If the above be the explanation of the initiation of the storm, then further inquiry would be unnecessary, as the principle of evaporation and condensation is a general and not a local one and is as applicable to equatorial regions as to other parts of the earth's surface. Further, it is unnecessary from this point of view to introduce a force to account for the gyratory motions, as the theory presupposes an irregular inflow of the surrounding air as pressure diminishes, an inflow which can only result in a vorticose or spiral motion of the atmosphere converging towards a center, while for the gradual increase in the intensity of the barometric depression and in the force of the winds an adequate cause is assigned in the rapid condensation and precipitation of rain accompanying the inflowing currents of air when once the center is developed. * * * Two minor points of interest connected with the disturbance deserve perhaps passing notice. The first is the torrential rain which accompanied the disturbance throughout its course. This rainfall was apparently associated with a stream of air from trans-equatorial regions, and as soon as this supply was cut off and the wind shifted to northeast again, to the south of the disturbance the rainfall decreased and the intensity of the disturbance diminished. The second is the sharply defined limits of the disturbance. Hardly any indication of the presence of a storm was afforded by the coast observations. So much so indeed was this the case that the rainfall which occurred around the head of the bay on the 14th and 15th when the center of disturbance was in latitude 18 degrees and 20 minutes N was ascribed to disturbed weather in Upper India instead of its actual source, viz, the depression over the Bay. *Extract, November, 1896, Weather Review.*

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE.

The mean monthly air pressure as deduced from the U. S. Weather Bureau Stations at Lynchburg, Norfolk and Washington D. C., was 30.10 inches; highest 30.69 inches, at Washington D. C., on the 28th; lowest 29.34 inches, at Norfolk, Va., on the 2d; range 1.35 inches.

TEMPERATURE. (DEG. F.)

TIDEWATER VIRGINIA.—Highest monthly mean, 44.4, at Norfolk; lowest monthly mean, 38.6, at Warsaw; maximum temperature, 73, at Petersburg, on the 18th; minimum temperature, 15, at Ashland, and Warsaw, on the 1st; greatest daily range, 39, at Ashland.

MIDDLE VIRGINIA.—Highest monthly mean, 42.9, at Rocky Mount; lowest monthly mean, 35.9, at and Quantico; maximum temperature, 73, at Bedford City, on the 18th; minimum temperature, —2, at Buckingham, on the 1st, greatest daily range, 43, at Bedford City and Bon Air.

THE GREAT VALLEY. — Highest monthly mean, 43.6, at Sword's Creek; lowest monthly mean, 32.4, at Monterey; maximum temperature, 74, at Salem and Sword's Creek on the 18th and 22d; minimum temperature, 3, at Dale Enterprise, on the 27th; greatest daily range, 41, at Graham's Forge, Salem and Saltville.

FOR THE STATE.—Average of the monthly mean temperatures, 39.5; average of the maximum temperatures, 66; average of the minimum temperatures, 15; average of the greatest daily range, 33.

The temperature conditions obtaining over the State during the month of February, were, on the whole, considerably below the normal. Of the different days on which the weather showed a tendency to approach toward the normal, only two, the 17th and 18th, ranged up well. On these days the conditions were balmy and spring-like. The month was largely characterized by damp, raw and disagreeable weather with frequent precipitation, some of which, in the early part of the month, fell as snow.

The mean temperature, 39.5, was 1.9 below the normal.

Spring work was retarded to some extent, and very little done in preparing tobacco plant beds. Wheat and oats passed through the month fairly well.

PRECIPITATION.

TIDEWATER VIRGINIA.—Greatest monthly precipitation, 6.82 inches, at Spottsville; least monthly, 3.98 inches, at Cape Henry; greatest amount in any twenty-four consecutive hours 2.27 inches, at Spottsville, on the 1st and 2d.

MIDDLE VIRGINIA.—Greatest monthly precipitation, 9.25 inches, at Rocky Mount; least monthly, 2.68 inch, at Guinea, greatest amount in any twenty-four consecutive hours, 3.50 inches, at Manassas, on the 2d.

THE GREAT VALLEY.—Greatest monthly precipitation, 9.71 inches, at Marion; least monthly, 3.99 inches, at Staunton; greatest amount in any twenty-four consecutive hours, 3.20 inches, at Hot Springs, on the 5th and 6th.

FOR THE STATE.—Average total precipitation, 6.49 inches.

The average total precipitation for the State, 6.49 inches, was 2.50 inches in excess of the normal. By sections, the excess was greatest over the Great Valley and least over the Tidewater district. The month was rather remarkable for the frequency and quantity of its precipitation. In the Great Valley some points reported amounts from 5.20 inches to 5.72 inches above the normal. The rate of decrease from the mountains to the coast was very regular, and the distribution quite even.

Snow occurred generally over the State early in the month, and at points in the Blue Ridge and Alleghenies during the second decade.

High water prevailed in all the streams of the State during the latter part of the month, and much damage was done in cities the country districts.

The average number of days on which 0.01 of an inch or more of rain or snow fell, was 11 in Tidewater Virginia; 10 in Middle Virginia, and 11 in the Great Valley. Average for the State, 11.

WIND.—The prevailing direction of the wind in the different sections was as follows: Tidewater Virginia N.; Middle Virginia, NW. and SW.; the Great Valley, W. Prevailing direction for the State, NW.

WEATHER.—Tidewater Virginia, average number of clear days 8; partly cloudy, 7; cloudy, 13. Middle Virginia, average number of clear days, 11; partly cloudy, 7; cloudy, 10. The Great Valley, average number of clear days, 10; partly cloudy, 7; cloudy, 11. For the State, average number of clear days, 10; partly cloudy, 7; cloudy, 11.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Voluntary observer's stations have been established at Farmville, Prince Edward County, and Leesburg, Loudoun County. The former is in the hands of Mr. Jno. R. Martin agent of the N. & W. R. R., and the latter Mr. C. A. English, of the Southern Railway. Good results are expected from the records at these points, and we extend a hearty welcome to the new observers.

It it desirable that in entering precipitation, the time of beginning and ending should be carefully noted.

This makes the record more complete and is valuable for reference should it be necessary at any time to establish the exact hour of the day that precipitation occurred at any station.

Reports from Charlottesville, missing.

Climatological Data for February 1897.

Stations.	Counties.	Elevation, feet.	Length of record, years.	TEMPERATURE, IN DEGREES FAHRENHEIT. Mean.	Departure from the normal.	Highest.	Date.	Lowest.	Date.	Greatest daily range.	PRECIPITATION, IN INCHES. Total.	Departure from the normal.	Greatest in 24 hours.	Total snowfall (unmelted.)	Number of rainy days.	SKY. Number clear days.	Number partly cloudy days.	Number cloudy days.	Prevailing direction of wind.	Observers.
TIDEWATER VIRGINIA.																				
Ashland	Hanover	220	5	40.9	+2.2	68	18	15	1	39	6.26	+3.05	2.26	3.0	12	5	12	11	n. se.	E. L. C. Scott.
Birdsnest (r)	Northampton	40	28	40.7	—0.1	70	18	24	1	....	5.00	+0.62	1.15	0.5	9	7	5	16	nw.	C. R. Moore.
Cape Henry	Princess Anne	17	22	41.9	+2.0	70	18	22	28	28	3.98	+0.42	0.68	tr	11	8	6	14	se.	U. S. Weather Bureau.
Doswell	Hanover	134	0	39.5	.....	60	18	20	21	37	†5.70	.....	2.00	†1.0	5	5	4	19	n.	C. W. Butterworth.
Hampton	Elizabeth City	3	9	43.1	+2.1	66	14 18	26	28	30	4.94	+0.92	1.15	tr	13	7	7	14	ne	C. L. Goodrich.
Norfolk	Norfolk	3	25	44.4	+0.6	72	18	26	28	30	4.03	+0.21	0.81	....	14	9	6	13	ne.	U. S. Weather Bureau.
Petersburg	Dinwiddie	11	9	43.0	+3.4	73	18	21	28	38	5.85	+2.45	1.81	1.0	14	6	9	13	n.	Prof. Jas. M. Colson.
Richmond (near)	Henrico	96	21	41.2	—1.1	68	18	17	1	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	† 7	12	5	11	nw.	Capt. J. C. Shafer.
Spottsville	Surry		7	40.9	+1.3	71	18	18	1	34	6.82	+1.90	2.27	1.2	14	10	6	12	ne.	B. W. Jones.
Sunbeam	Southampton		2	40.6	+5.0	64	18	23	28	26	5.60	+1.10	1.88	....	8	11	5	12	n.	Dr. W. H. Daughtry.
Warsaw	Richmond	200	3	38.6	+0.6	63	15	15	1	35	6.26	+2.42	2.04	3.0	9	1	18	9	n.	C. H. Constable.
Williamsburg	James City	160	9	.....	.....	....	.....	23	28	....	.....	.....	.....	....	....	16	0	11	ne.	L. S. Williams.
MIDDLE VIRGINIA.																				
Alexandria	Alexandria	35	37	36.5	+2.3	63	17	16	27	30	5.23	+2.89	1.32	2.2	12	6	16	6	nw.	H. C. Slaymaker
Barboursville	Orange		0	36.3	.....	61	17	8	1	34	5.56	.....	1.81	5.0	15	11	9	8	sw.	Dr. Thos. H. Ellis.
Bedford City (e)	Bedford	900	6	40.4	+1.6	73	18	16	27	43	‡3.98	.....	‡2.60	....	3	....	.....	.....	.....	J. T. Davidson.
Bon Air	Chesterfield	130	2	42.6	+4.0	72	18	16	28	43	6.27	+2.52	1.56	1.9	14	12	2	14	ne.	Wm. H. Pleasants.
Buckingham	Buckingham		3	37 9	+6.7	69	18	—2	1	38	6.70	+3.96	2.25	tr	10	10	7	11	sw.	Dr. W. E. Pratt.
Callaville	Brunswick		2	42.4	+7.0	71	18	18	28	39	6.38	+2.39	1.46	....	12	10	11	7	nw.	F. M. Gage.
Charlottesville	Albemarle		9	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Prof. A. H. Tuttle.
Farmville ‡ (d)	Prince Edward			47.8	.....	70	18 22 24	20	28	40	†3.08	.....	1.00	1.5	7	12	1	11	w.	Jno. R. Martin.
Fredericksburg	Spottsylvania	47	1	38.0	—0.1	64	14	10	1	38	6.40	+2.85	2.92	3.0	11	13	1	14	e.	E. C. Rowe.
Gordonsville	Orange		0	38.9	.....	53	15	23	1 27	21	‡0.80	.....	0.60	1.0	†3	13	0	15	n.	H. S. Smithers.
Guinea	Caroline	100	0	38.8	.....	63	17	23	25	36	2.68	.....	2.57	1.1	6	11	11	6	sw.	M. A. Nunn.
Leesburg † (r)	Loudoun			34.4	.....	51	21	14	27	18	1.18	.....	0.52	1.7	4	4	3	3	n.	C. A. English
Lynchburg	Campbell	525	17	40.6	+1.6	71	18	14	1	36	7.84	+4.31	2.53	....	14	12	4	12	nw.	U. S. Weather Bureau.
Maidens	Goochland	185	1	40.4	—3.8	61	14	23	28	33	†5.91	.....	†3.02	tr	6	10	9	9	ne.	J. R. Hopkins.
Manassas	Prince William	317	2	37.0	+0.2	63	17	10	1	30	6.49	+1.38	3.50	7.5	7	11	9	8	se.	Thos. H. Lion.
Nottoway C. H.	Nottoway		7	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Geo. Dunn.
Quantico	Prince William	33	0	35.9	.....	61	17	18	27	31	†0.20	.....	0.20	2.0	1	14	4	10	nenw	E. V. King.
Rocky Mount	Franklin	1150	2	42.9	+7.5	71	18	20	28	36	9.25	+6.41	2.80	tr	8	9	14	5	.....	J. H. Binford.
Smithville	Charlotte	560	2	41.2	+7.6	68	18	20	1 28	26	4.72	+1.90	1.22	....	9	11	4	13	.....	W. G. Williams.
Stanardsville	Greene		6	36.8	+2.6	61	17 18	12	1	37	5.08	+2.51	1.70	3.0	8	....	.....	.....	.....	W. N. Parrott.
THE GREAT VALLEY.																				
Big Stone Gap	Wise	1966	6	39.8	+7.1	71	22	10	27 28	39	8.25	+3.50	1.75	1.0	15	8	4	16	w.	John W. Fox. Sr.
Blacksburg	Montgomery	2170	7	36.8	+5.0	65	18	9	1	39	6.93	+3.78	1.98	5.8	13	10	4	14	sw.	Prof. W. B. Alwood.
Bristol	Sullivan, Tenn.	1676	2	41.0	+7.7	71	22	15	26	34	9.20	+7.14	3.10	0.2	9	14	4	10	.....	J. Bunting. Jr.
Burke's Garden	Tazewell		0	34.0	.....	61	22	9	1	25	7.74	.....	2.50	3.5	10	9	6	13	w.	Rev. E. H. Kohn.
Christiansburg	Montgomery	2160	9	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.80	+4.15	1.71	0 3	12	11	15	2	w.	H. D. Walters.
Clifton Forge	Allegheny	1047	2	34.2	.....	61	17	10	1	37	5.19	.....	†2.30	4.5	8	13	1	14	nw.	T. P. Halloran.
Dale Enterprise	Rockingham	1350	10	33.9	—0.9	60	14 17	3	27	35	5.64	+2.24	1.50	13.9	12	14	4	10	s.	L. J. Heatwole.
Goshen (r)	Rockbridge	1590	1	39.4	.....	60	18	14	4	32	†3.55	.....	†1.20	5.0	6	14	1	13	w.	J. B. Wood.
Graham's Forge	Wythe		3	38.4	+10.7	69	18	14	4	41	9.19	+6.19	2.70	4.0	11	7	12	9	sw.	David Graham.
Hot Springs	Bath	2195	4	33.0	+1.9	58	17	12	27	24	6.96	+3.76	3.20	10.6	12	7	14	7	.....	W. B. Davis.
Lexington (a)	Rockbridge	946	23	38.2	+0.4	66	18	9	1	38	5.79	+2.55	1.81	7.5	14	8	11	9	s. w	Prof. H. C. Campbell.
Marion (c)	Smyth	2124	8	38.6	+2.4	65	21	14	28	32	9.71	+7.46	2.50	4.0	12	5	8	15	.....	A. T. Lincoln.
Monterey	Highland	3008	2	32.4	+5.3	52	14 15	6	27	26	5.21	+3.43	1.28	19.0	9	11	3	14	w.	Jos. Jones.
Salem	Roanoke	1200	6	43.1	+7.5	74	18	20	1	41	7.56	+3.99	2.08	1.5	12	....	.....	.....	.....	Prof. S. C. Wells.
Saltville	Smyth	1739	2	40.6	+10.7	69	22	16	28	41	6.47	+3.08	2.08	tr	11	....	.....	.....	.....	C. M. Perry.
Stanleyton	Page	1064	0	35.2	.....	64	21	10	1	33	7.73	.....	2.38	13.5	7	13	4	11	ne.	A. K. Grim.
Staunton	Augusta	1380	6	37.7	+2.3	64	14	11	1	36	3.99	+0.88	1.96	11.0	11	8	13	7	e.	W. C. Hedrick.
Stephens City	Frederick		4	35.0	+0.4	62	17	10	1	34	6.89	+3.67	2.39	11.7	11	14	7	7	w.	W. B. Steele.
Sword's Creek	Russell		0	43.6	.....	74	22	11	27	40	7.23	.....	1.80	....	11	....	.....	.....	.....	J. H. Steele.
Woodstock	Shenandoah	927	0	35.3	.....	67	21	10	1	35	7.65	+4.86	1.94	11.5	12	10	11	7	w.	H. F. Miley.
Wytheville	Wythe	2370	25	37.5	+4.7	65	18 22	12	4	31	9.37	+6.57	2.55	7.5	13	10	8	10	w.	Dr. P. B. Green.

† Estimated. ‡ Incomplete. tr. trace, or less than 0.01 of an inch. (r) Means from 7 am, 2 and 9 + 9 pm. observations.

Note— Estimated and incomplete data not considered in means.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.

Fogs: Birdsnest, 2, 6, 12, 15, 22, 25; Hot Springs, 12; Stanleyton, 11; Staunton, 22; Woodstock, 6; Wytheville, 20.

Gales: Petersburg, 22; Big Stone Gap, 18; Lexington, 5.

Hail: Ashland, 2, 20; Buckingham, 22; Bristol, 22; Burke's Garden, 18; Clifton Forge, 1, 5, 20; Monterey, 4; Woodstock, 12, 22; Wytheville, 18.

Halos, Lunar: Spottsville, 9; Staunton, 15, 20; Woodstock, 15.

Halos, Solar: Spottsville, 5, 10, 15, 18, 23.

Lightning: Hampton, 26; Farmville, 20, 22, 23; Fredericksburg, 22.

Meteors: Spottsville, Fredericksburg, 27; Blacksburg, 18.

Thunder storms: Ashland, 21, 22; Hampton, Petersburg, Spottsville, Barboursville, Callaville, Blacksburg, Christiansburg, 22: Buckingham, Burke's Garden, Hot Springs, 18, 21; Farmville, 20, 22 –3; Gordonsville, 18; Lynchburg, 18, 21–2; Big Stone Gap, 18, 19, 20–1,–2; Bristol, 1; Dale Enterprise, Monterey, 15, 21–2; Lexington, Woodstock, Wytheville, 21–2; Salem, 18, 20, 23; Saltville, 12, 18, 19, 21–2,–3; Stanleyton, 17, 21,–2; Stephen's City, 15, 22; Sword's Creek, 18, 20,–1,–2.

Daily Maximum and Minimum temperatures for February, 1897.

| Stations. | 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 | | 31 | | Monthly Mean. | |
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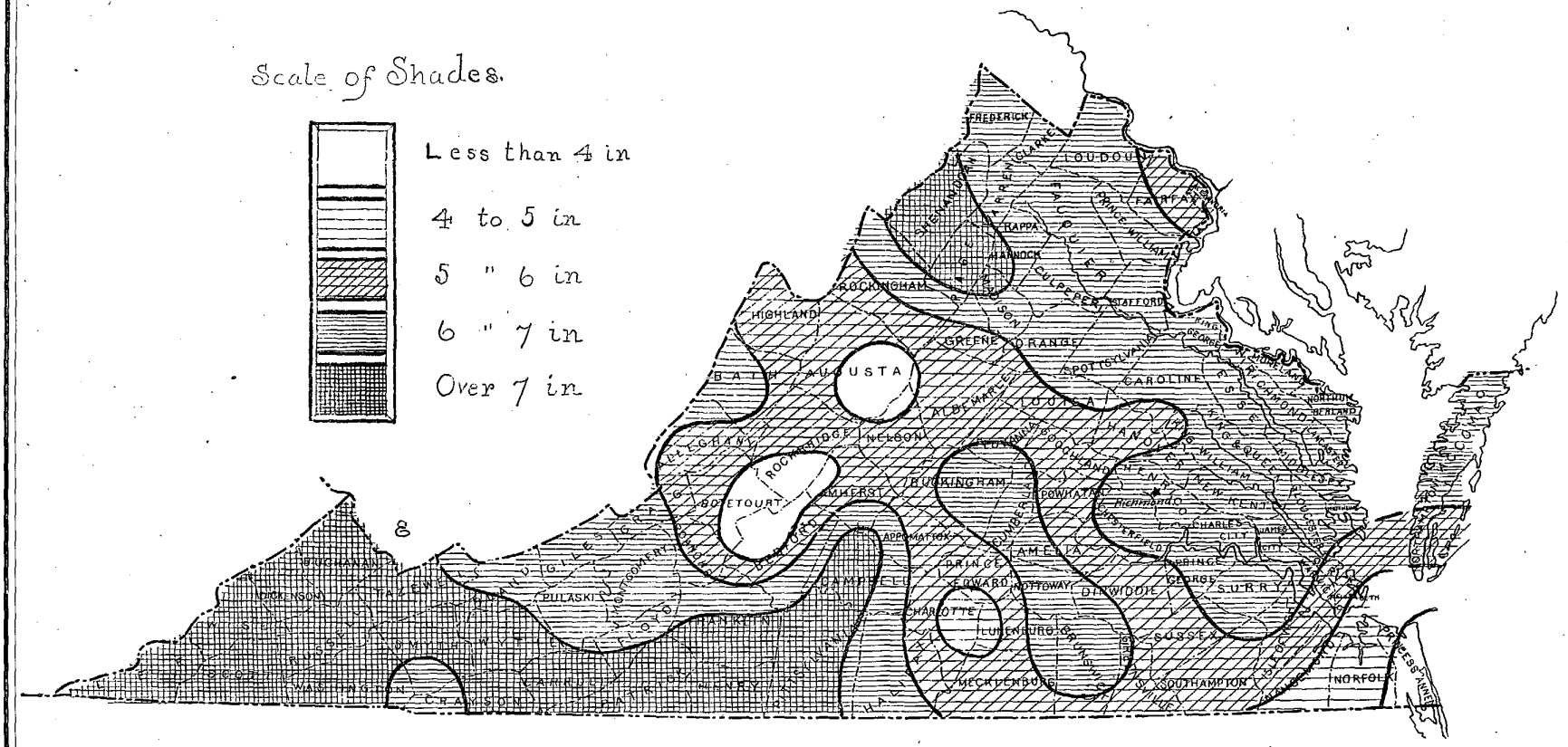
TOTAL PRECIPITATION FOR FEBRUARY, 1897.



Daily Precipitation for February, 1897.

Stations.	Day of Month.																													Total.
	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	31	
TIDEWATER VIRGINIA.																																
Ashland	....	1.10	.09	....	tr	.67	....	tr	....	....	.10	.41	....	....	....	.20	....	....	.25	.15	.39	1.87	.98	....	....	....	.05	....	....	....	....	6.26
Birdsnest	....	1.15	.80	....	....	.40	....	....	....	....	....	.30	tr	....	....	.70	....	....	....	....	.30	.55	.35	....	.45	....	....	....	....	....	....	5.00
Cape Henry	....	.57	.10	....	....	.55	....	....	....	....	.05	.21	....	....	....	.68	....	....	....	.31	.46	.09	.34	....	.62	tr	tr	....	....	....	....	3.98
Doswell †	....	2.00	....	....	....	.40	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.40	....	....	....	....	.90	2.00	....	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	5.70
Hampton	....	.78	.26	....	....	.54	....	tr	....	....	.01	.29	....	....	.02	.81	....	....	.05	.58	.08	.27	.88	....	.37	tr	....	....	....	....	....	4.94
Norfolk	.05	.81	.07	....	tr	.35	....	.01	....	....	.03	.24	....	....	....	.48	....	....	.06	.33	.56	.05	.48	....	.51	....	tr	....	....	....	....	4.03
Petersburg	....	1.81	.35	....	....	.47	....	....	....	....	.10	.36	....	....	.39	.30	....	.10	....	.35	.30	.60	.64	....	.08	....	....	....	....	....	....	5.85
Spottsville	1.10	1.17	.10	....	tr	.45	....	....	....	....	.20	.22	....	....	....	1.05	....	.07	....	.40	.41	.51	.75	....	.37	.02	....	....	....	....	....	6.82
Sunbeam	....	1.88	....	....	....	.52	....	....	....	....	tr	.51	....	....	....	.37	....	....	....	.70	.51	.54	....	....	.57	....	....	....	....	....	....	5.60
Warsaw	....	....	2.02	.20	....	.28	tr	....	....	....	....	.40	....	....	....	.30	....	....	.45	....	.40	....	2.04	....	....	....	....	.17	....	....	....	6.26
MIDDLE VIRGINIA.																																
Alexandria	.46	1.32	....	....	.05	.42	....	.11	....	....	.41	.13	....	....	....	....	....	....	.15	....	.57	.92	.61	....	....	.08	....	....	....	....	....	5.23
Barboursville	.05	1.38	.12	....	.06	1.75	....	.06	....	....	.01	.49	....	....	....	....	....	.03	.11	.34	.14	.50	.42	....	....	.10	....	....	....	....	....	5.56
Bedford City ‡	....	....	....	....	....	2.60	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1.30	....	.08	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3.98
Bon Air	....	.85	1.56	....	....	.38	.20	....	.02	....	.28	.21	....	....	.44	.38	....	.18	....	.52	.16	1.04	....	....	....	.05	....	....	....	....	....	6.27
Buckingham	.37	.27	....	....	.70	1.19	tr	.15	....	....	.48	tr	....	....	tr	....	....	.34	....	.53	.42	2.25	....	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	6.70
Callaville	....	1.46	.14	....	....	.54	....	tr	....	....	.03	.44	....	....	....	1.00	....	....	.09	.51	.56	.10	1.16	....	.35	....	tr	....	....	....	....	.32
Charlottesville	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Farmville ‡	....	....	....	....	....	1.00	....	....	....	....	....	.50	....	....	....	....	....	....	.33	....	.05	.20	1.00	....	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	3.08
Fredericksburg	....	2.92	....	....	....	.66	....	.08	....	....	tr	.53	....	....	....	.05	....	.04	....	.28	.30	.71	.71	....	....	.12	....	....	....	....	....	6.40
Gordonsville†	tr	tr	....	....	.10	....	....	....	....	....	tr	tr	....	....	....	....	....	tr	.10	....	.60	....	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.80
Guinea	....	.04	....	....	....	.01	....	.01	....	....	....	.04	....	....	....	.01	....	....	....	....	....	2.57	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2.68
Leesburg ‡	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.26	.35	.52	....	....	....	.05	....	....	....	....	....	1.18
Lynchburg	.54	1.01	....	....	.02	2.53	....	.06	....	....	.09	.44	....	....	tr	.02	....	.07	.12	.43	.43	.52	1.56	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	7.84
Maidens †	....	1.00	....	....	....	.58	....	....	....	....	....	.58	....	....	....	.28	....	....	....	.45	....	3.02	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5.91
Manassas	....	3.50	....	....	tr	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	.66	....	....	....	....	tr	....	.45	.33	.65	.60	....	....	....	.30	....	....	....	....	0.20
Nottoway C. H.	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	9.25
Quantico†	tr	tr	....	....	....	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	tr	....	tr	tr	tr	....	....	....	.20	....	....	....	....	....	4.72
Rocky Mount	tr	1.45	....	....	tr	2.80	....	tr	....	....	.30	.57	....	....	tr	tr	....	....	.35	tr	1.60	.38	1.80	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5.08
Smithville	....	.75	....	....	....	1.22	....	....	....	....	tr	.45	....	....	....	.18	....	....	.16	.30	.61	.25	.80	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Stanardsville	....	1.20	....	....	.10	1.60	....	tr	....	....	....	.67	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	58	....	.36	.45	....	....	.12	....	....	....	....	....	....
THE GREAT VALLEY.																																
Big Stone Gap	.55	.22	tr	....	.20	1.25	tr	.42	....	....	.11	.75	....	....	.05	....	....	.25	.10	1.05	1.75	1.15	.37	....	....	tr	.03	....	....	....	....	8.25
Blacksburg	.30	.28	....	....	....	1.62	....	.12	....	....	.29	.50	....	....	....	....	.04	.09	.03	.48	1.50	1.08	.60	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6.93
Bristol	.30	tr	....	.53	.20	.23	tr	....	tr	.64	....	....	....	....	....	.38	....	....	....	3.10	1.00	2.82	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	....	9.20
Burke's Garden	.30	....	....	....	....	....	....	.12	....	....	....	1.09	....	....	....	....	....	.26	.25	1.05	2.50	.70	1.42	....	....	....	.05	....	....	....	....	7.74
Christiansburg	....	.88	....	....	....	1.31	.15	.02	.02	....	....	.78	....	....	....	.03	....	....	.31	.26	1.71	.28	1.05	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6.80
Clifton Forge †	....	.55	....	....	1.10	.59	....	....	....	.20	.35	....	....	....	....	....	.10	tr	tr	1.10	1.20	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5.19
Dale Enterprise	.10	.53	....	....	.12	1.50	....	.09	....	....	....	.86	....	....	....	....	....	.01	....	.40	.10	.66	1.00	....	....	.27	....	....	....	....	....	5.64
Goshen †	....	....	....	....	....	.30	1.00	....	....	....	....	.05	....	....	....	....	....	tr	....	.20	1.00	1.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3.55
Graham's Forge	.52	tr	....	....	tr	2.70	....	.08	....	....	.64	.90	....	....	....	.11	....	.34	....	.85	1.61	.62	.82	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	9.19
Hot Springs	.80	.20	....	....	.10	3.10	....	.05	....	....	.04	.71	....	....	....	....	....	.16	....	.29	.20	.03	1.28	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	6.96
Lexington	....	....	.93	....	.10	....	1.81	....	.05	....	....	.16	.38	....	....	tr	....	....	.23	.16	.83	.17	.44	.49	....	....	.04	....	....	....	....	5.79
Marion	.50	.20	....	....	tr	2.00	....	.25	....	....	.25	.62	....	.06	....	....	.63	....	.80	....	2.50	.50	1.40	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	9.71
Monterey	....	.80	....	....	0.20	1.00	....	.20	....	....	....	.28	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.75	.60	1.28	....	....	....	.10	....	....	....	....	....	5.21
Salem	.60	.85	....	....	2.08	....	.20	.10	....	....	.30	.56	....	....	tr	....	....	tr	.16	.53	.93	.48	.77	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	7.56
Saltville	....	.06	....	....	....	.30	....	.26	....	....	.30	.51	....	....	....	....	....	.16	.11	.96	2.08	.43	1.30	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	6.47
Stanleyton	....	2.40	....	....	tr	2.38	....	tr	....	....	tr	.73	....	....	....	....	....	tr	....	.47	.60	1.00	....	....	....	.15	....	....	....	....	....	7.73
Staunton	....	.48	....	....	....	1.16	....	.12	....	....	.91	.37	....	....	tr	....	....	.14	....	.36	.20	.76	.07	....	....	.12	....	....	....	....	....	3.99
Stephens City	tr	1.41	.14	....	.19	1.26	....	.21	....	....	....	.43	....	....	tr	....	....	tr	....	.31	.42	1.51	.88	....	....	.13	....	....	....	....	....	6.89
Sword's Creek	.25	....	....	....	1.30	.30	tr	.10	....	....	.08	.45	....	....	....	....	....	.56	....	.73	1.80	.66	1.10	....	....	tr	....	....	....	....	....	7.23
Woodstock	.51	1.76	....	....	.53	.68	....	.08	....	....	.48	1.18	....	....	....	....	....	.10	....	.54	1.40	1.05	tr	....	tr	.34	....	....	....	....	....	7.65
Wytheville	.35	.10	....	....	.15	2.55	....	.11	....	....	.92	.08	....	....	tr	....	....	.35	.17	1.11	1.96	.92	.60	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	9.37

† Rainfall estimated. ‡ Incomplete. tr. Trace, or less than .01 of an inch.

OBSERVERS' NOTES.

ASHLAND.——On the 1st at 8 45 pm. storm from the NE. with heavy wind lasting all night and until early morning of the 3d, accompanied by snow, sleet, hail and rain. High wind on the 18th, and the thermometer fell 15 degrees. Several flashes of lightning.

BIRDSNEST.——Average temperature for February, 23 years 42.1, highest 49.8, in 1890; lowest 34.2 in 1889. Average rainfall for February, 23 years 3.71 inches. Greatest 7.55 inches in 1881; least 1.10 inches in 1878.

DOSWELL.——The elms are beginning to show signs of budding. During some of the warmer days the cheerful carol of the bluebird and the croaking of the frogs seemed to announce the approach of Spring in tuneful melody.

PETERSBURG.——Terrific wind storm on the night of the 22d.

SPOTTSVILLE.——First thunder of Spring on the 18th. Large meteor in the southwest at 8 pm. of the 27th. Month rainy, chilly, and unfavorable. Fruit buds remained dormant. Too wet for plowing and planting.

STANARDSVILLE,——Snow of the 26th melted as fast as it fell.

FREDERICKSBURG,——Rain high wind and snow begining on the 2d and lasting more than 24 hours. Freshet on the 3d and 7th.

CLIFTON FORGE,——No damage done in this locality by high waters.

BARBOURSVILLE.——First spring birds singing on the 12th. Frogs croaking on the 14th. Brisk south wind from 11 am. to 11 pm. of the 17th. Thunder storms from 5.10 to 6.15 pm. Very loud peal at 5.15 pm. Brisk west wind from 4 to 7 pm. of the 23d. Snow from 7.50 am. to 12.30 pm.; sunshine from 1.00 pm. to 2.15 pm. Rain from 3.10 pm. to 4.15 pm. Snow from 4.15 pm. to 5.50 pm.

BIG STONE GAP,——A very heavy wind on the 18th.

BLACKSBURG,——Thunder showers and lightning on the 22d.

CHRISTIANSBURG.——Apparently the earth is wet deeper than for 7 years past.

DALE ENTERPRISE.——Wild geese flying northward on the 14th. Floods on the 6th and 22d of the month.

GRAHAM'S FORGE.——The ground hog saw his shadow. Rainy and freezing weather has delayed the plowing for spring crops and farm work.

LEXINGTON.——High wind blew down covered wooden bridge across North river near Buena Vista, and unroofed two houses on the night of the 5th.

MARION.——Water highest known for years on the 21st.

STANLEYTON.——Snow 26 inches deep on top of Blue Ridge 12 miles se. of station on 2d. Snow nearly all disappeared by the 15th.

WYTHEVILLE.——Rain, snow, and sleet all night of the 5th, Violent storm for an hour on the 18th at 5 pm. Waters very high on the 21st.

STAUNTON.——Taking the month as a whole it was very rough. Very little outdoor work done by the farmers. Wheat seems to look very well, considering the open winter.