

Statistics for May.

METEOROLOGICAL.

We give below our monthly table of the readings of the thermometer, the course of the wind at sunrise, and the amount of rainfall for the month of May. The readings of the thermometer were taken in an elevated portion of the city, free from any influence of refracted heat, and from French instruments, showing the highest and lowest points of the mercury during each twenty-four hours. It is believed that no better situation for observations of this character can be found in our city. They have been carefully noted, and are believed to be absolutely correct. At this season of the year there is but little if any difference between the minimum and the sunrise readings. Frequently in the winter there is much variation.

CONDITION.	Minimum.	Sunrise.	Course of Wind.	Mean.
May 1—Clear.....	35	35	S. W..	70
2—Clear.....	43	43	S.....	79
3—Partly cloudy..	52	52	S. E...	83
4—Partly cloudy..	50	50	S. E...	81
5—Cloudy (1)..	57	57	N. E. ..	78
6—Clear.....	55	55	S.....	90
7—Clear.....	54	54	N. E...	87
8—Clear.....	55	55	S. W...	96
9—Clear.....	67	67	S.....	93
10—Partly cloudy....	63	63	S. E...	90
11—Clear.....	64	64	S.....	93
12—Partly cloudy....	60	60	N. W...	82
13—Clear.....	52	52	W.....	80
14—Clear.....	42	42	N. W...	67
15—Partly cloudy....	39	39	N.....	65
16—Partly cloudy....	43	43	N. E...	81
17—Clear.....	52	52	S. E...	90
18—Clear.....	59	59	N. W...	94
19—Clear.....	79	79	S.....	97
20—Clear.....	65	65	S.....	94
21—Clear.....	65	65	S.....	91
22—Cloudy (2)..	64	64	S. E...	91
23—Cloudy (3)..	60	60	S. E...	84
24—Heavy fog..	63	63	S. W...	89
25—Clear.....	65	65	S.....	93
26—Clear.....	66	66	S. W...	95
27—Clear.....	67	67	S. W...	96
28—Partly cloudy (4)..	67	67	S.....	96
29—Cloudy.....	68	68	N. E...	78
30—Partly cloudy....	67	67	S. W...	84
31—Clear.....	64	64	W.....	89

Sunrise average for the month, 58.33.

(1) Light rain.....	0.03
(2) and (3) Rain.....	1.08
(4) Thunder-storm and light rain, making with few showers on the 29th.....	0.24

Making total rainfall for the month.....1.35

The month has, as will be seen, been very dry and warm, and when it is taken into consideration that the rainfall for the previous months of the year has been greatly below the average, and that when we entered upon it there was a drought prevailing, it will be readily perceived that all vegetation must have suffered greatly.

One effect of the dry weather has been to destroy the greater portion of the large fruits which the frosts had left. Especially is this the case with the peaches and some varieties of apples. In many localities quite a sufficiency of these fruits have been unhurt by the frosts of the early spring, and the orchards promised a good yield, but under the influence of the hot, dry weather of

May it has withered (shrunken) and fallen, until but little is left.

We give below a table of the average reading of the thermometer and the amount of rainfall for the past ten years:

	Temperature.	Rain-fall.
1871.....	63.35	
1872.....	60.	1.77
1873.....	58.	8.98
1874.....	59.	2.20
1875.....	60.28	2.67
1876.....	57.88	3.04
1877.....	51.01	2.06
1878.....	55.06	5.42
1879.....	55.28	1.70
1880.....	58.33	1.35

It will thus be seen there was less rainfall during May this year than for ten years past, though last year there was but very little more, the difference being only about one third of an inch.

In regard to the temperature, the years of 1871, 1872, 1874, and 1875 show a slightly higher average of the thermometer, thus disapproving the remark which has been so often heard within the last fifteen or twenty days that "this is the hottest May I have ever seen." In 1871 the average was nearly 5° more than in 1880.