

Climate and Crop Division.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

REPORT FOR JANUARY. 1897.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

OF THE

CLIMATE AND CROP SERVICE

OF THE

WEATHER BUREAU.

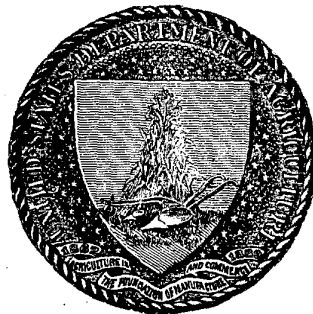
IN COOPERATION WITH THE

MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE.

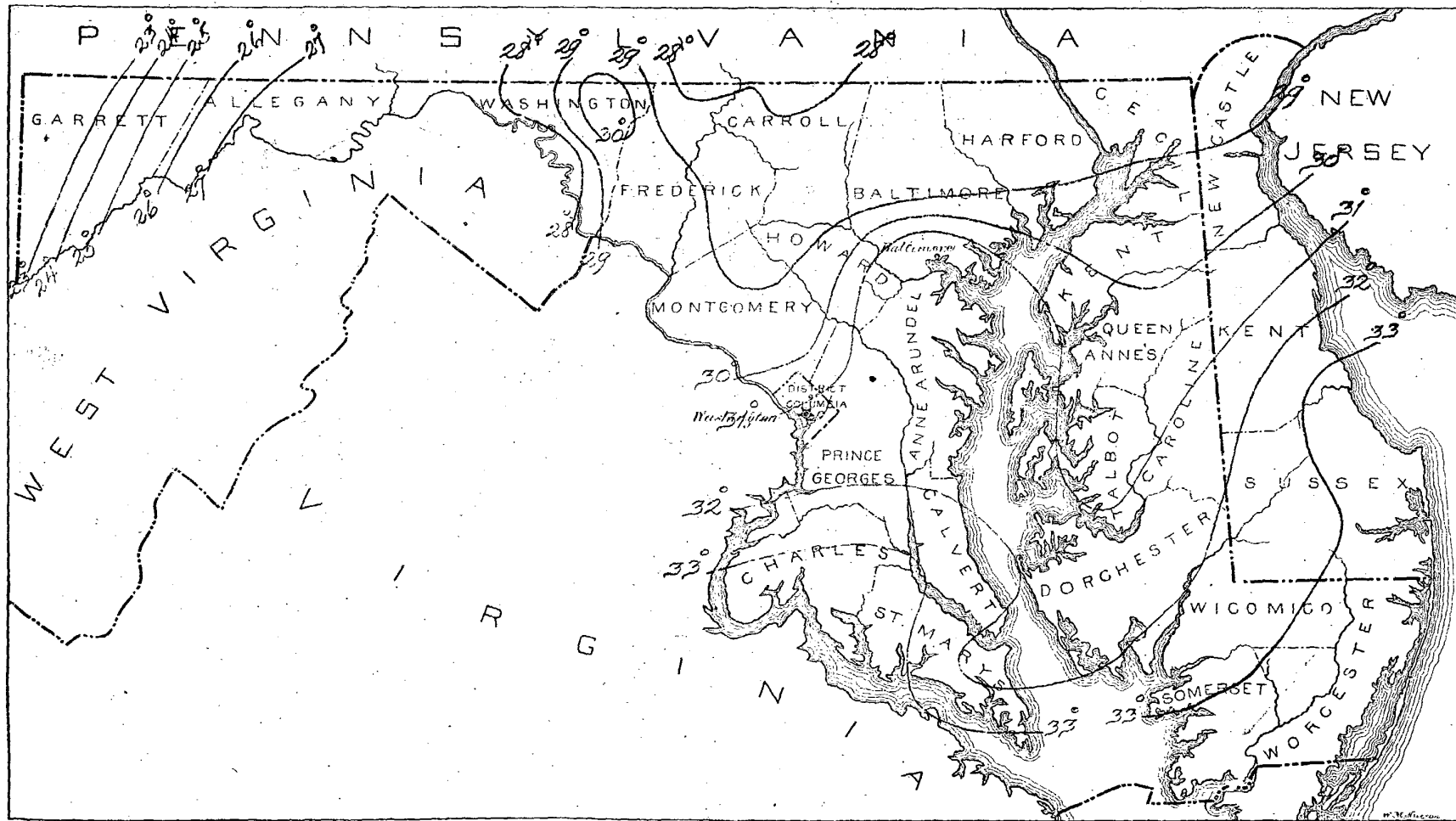
PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
WILLIS L. MOORE,
CHIEF OF BUREAU.

BY

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MONTHLY MEAN ISOTHERMS, JANUARY, 1897.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
CLIMATE AND CROP SERVICE

OF THE

WEATHER BUREAU.

Central Office,
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

WILLIS L. MOORE,
 Chief.

IN COOPERATION WITH THE
 MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION.

GEORGE E. HUNT, Section Director,
 BALTIMORE, MD.

VOL. II.

BALTIMORE, MD.

No. 1.

IN THE OCEAN'S DEPTHS.

**THE ENORMOUS PRESSURE EXERTED BY THE WATER IN THE
 DEEPEST PLACES.**

The temperature at the bottom of the ocean is nearly down to freezing point, and sometimes actually below it. There is a total absence of light, as far as sunlight is concerned, and there is an enormous pressure, reckoned at about one ton to the square inch in every 1,000 fathoms, which is 160 times greater than that of the atmosphere we live in. At 2,500 fathoms the pressure is thirty times more powerful than the steam pressure of a locomotive when drawing a train. As late as 1880 a leading zoologist explained the existence of deep-sea animals at such depths by assuming that their bodies were composed of solids and liquids of great density, and contained no air. This, however, is not the case with deep-sea fish, which are provided with air-inflated swimming bladders. If one of these fish, in full chase after its prey, happens to ascend beyond a certain level, its bladder becomes distended with the decreased pressure, and carries it, in spite of all its efforts, still higher in its course. In fact, members of this unfortunate class are liable to become victims to the unusual accident of falling upward, and no doubt meet with a violent death soon after leaving their accustomed level, and long before their bodies reach the surface in a distorted and unnatural state. Even ground sharks, brought up from a depth of no more than 500 fathoms, expire before they gain the surface.

The fauna of the deep sea—with a few exceptions hitherto only known as fossils—are new and specially modified forms of families and genera habitating shallow waters in modern times, and have been driven down to the depths of the ocean by their more powerful rivals in the battle of life, much as the ancient Britons were compelled to withdraw to the barren and inaccessible fastnesses of Wales. Some of their organs have undergone considerable modification in correspondence to the changed conditions of their new habitats. Thus down to 900 fathoms their eyes have generally become enlarged, to make the best of the faint light which may possibly penetrate there. After 1,000 fathoms these organs are either still further enlarged, or so greatly reduced that in some species they disappear altogether and are replaced by enormously long

feelers. The only light at great depths which would enable large eyes to be of any service is the phosphorescence of deep sea animals. We know that at the surface this light is often very powerful, and Sir Wyville Thomson has recorded one occasion on which the sea at night was a "perfect blaze of phosphorescence, so strong that lights and shadows were thrown on the sails and it was easy to read the smallest print." It is thought possible by several naturalists that certain portions of the sea bottom may be as brilliantly illuminated by this sort of light as the streets of a European city after sunset. Some deep-sea fish have two parallel rows of small circular phosphorescent organs running along the whole length of their bodies, and as they glide through the dark waters of the profound abysses they must look like model mail ships with rows of shining portholes.—*From Nineteenth Century.*

* * *

WHAT FOGS ARE.

A convenient though not strictly scientific classification of fog types is, sea or coast fog, valley or hill fog, and town or dust fog. The last named has been given the euphonic designation nebula pulvereæ. It is an artificial rather than natural condition. The Rev. Clement Ley, who gave a large portion of his life to cloud study, says, in his book on "Cloudland," that in some parts of the the globe nebula pulvereæ is occasionally so thick as to obscure almost totally the sunlight, and in Abyssinia has led to the tradition that the plague of darkness in Egypt was in reality an unusual "dust fog." The amount of moisture varies so much in different fogs that the terms "dry" and "wet" are used, the scientific name of the latter being nebula stillans. In wet fog the particles are apt to be larger than in dry fog. A still further division, due, we believe, to Mr. Robert H. Scott, is anticyclonic fog, or fog in which no rain falls, while the temperature, generally low in the morning, continues to rise during the day; and cyclonic fog, in which rain does occur, while the temperature remains about stationary. Before leaving these town fogs we may notice the part played by them in affecting the health of the community. Mr. Scott has given figures showing the mortality from diseases of the respiratory system for some of the more memorable fogs of London. We have room for but one of the many periods he gives. From January 26 to February 6, 1880, London experienced eight days of fog. The average temperature at 8 o'clock in the morning was 26° Fahrenheit. The total death rate was 48.1 per thousand, a rate unequalled since the last cholera epidemic, and there were no less than 1,557 deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs. It is not always an easy matter to trace direct relationship even where the statistics are carefully gathered, but there can be little doubt that these town fogs are unwholesome. Indirectly they affect the health of the community in a way few would imagine. A town fog is an excellent trap for noxious gases, holding them close to the ground. Dr. R. Barnes, studying this question, found, by inspection of gas plants near London, that in foggy

weather the escaping gas was held in concentrated form in and near the works. There are other sources of contamination in foul emanations from the ground, sewers, etc. On clear, bright days, even if no wind is blowing, the law of diffusion of gases acts more effectively, and helps disperse the gases.—*Harper's Magazine*.

* * *

CLIMATOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

The State records of temperature and moisture were both short of the normal figures for January. The precipitation was pretty well distributed throughout the month, although the greater portion fell during the second decade.

The precipitation for November, 1896, was about normal, as will be remembered, but the light falls of December and the deficiency of the present month, have resulted in a shortage of the water supply in a few sections of the State.

No snowfall of consequence occurred prior to the 13th, but since that date the measured amounts have sufficed to give total monthly depths ranging from four inches and upwards in the eastern sections to twenty and twenty-eight inches in the mountain districts of Western Maryland.

Temperatures were for the most part above the normal until the 24th, when a cold wave period began and continued to the close of the month. The low temperatures of this period gave such marked departures as to overcome the excess of heat previously accumulated, and a monthly average temperature of less than normal was the result.

Winter grain was protected from damage by an ample covering of snow on the ground during the extreme cold weather.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE—IN INCHES AND HUNDREDTHS.

Monthly mean at Washington, D. C., 30.20; at Baltimore, 30.17; average, 30.18; highest, 30.75 at Washington on the 31st; lowest, 29.66 at Baltimore, on the 22d.

TEMPERATURE—IN DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

The monthly mean (entire territory), 29°.5, was 2°.5 below the normal.

The highest monthly mean was 37°.0, at Annapolis.

The lowest monthly mean was 22°.6, at Boettcherville.

The highest temperature recorded during the month was 66°, at Jewell, on the 4th.

The lowest temperature recorded during the month was -12°, at Deer Park, on the 13th.

The greatest local monthly range was 71°, at Sunnyside.

The least local monthly range was 44°, at Annapolis.

The greatest daily range was 64°, at Sunnyside, on the 18th.

The least daily range was 0°, at Cumberland, on the 12th and 19th, and at Sunnyside, on the 24th.

PRECIPITATION—IN INCHES AND HUNDREDTHS.

The monthly average (entire territory) 1.95, was 1.33 below the normal.

The greatest amount was 3.97, at Grantsville.

The least amount was 0.81, at Milford, Del.

The greatest amount in twenty-four hours was 1.40, at Jewell, on the 20th, and at Newark, Del., on the 20th-21st.

The average number of rainy days, 7.

WIND.

The prevailing direction was from the northwest.

The total movement was 4,559 miles, at Baltimore, and 6,316 miles, at Washington, D. C.

The maximum wind velocity was 40 miles per hour from the northwest, at Washington, D. C., on the 28th.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.

Thunderstorms.—None reported during the month.

Hail.—At Bachman's Valley, on the 17th and 20th; at New Market, on the 17th; at Seaford, Del., on the 14th and 15th; at Solomon's, on the 15th; at Taneytown, on the 17th, from 9 a. m. to 10 a. m.; at Woodstock College, on the 17th and 20th.

Sleet.—At Annapolis, on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st; at Green Spring Furnace, on the 20th; at Mt. St. Mary's College, on the 17th and 20th; at Sharpsburg, on the 17th and 20th; at Sunnyside, on the 14th and 15th; at Woodstock College, on the 20th.

Frosts, light.—At Annapolis, on the 1st, 8th, and 9th; at Taneytown, on the 1st, 8th, and 9th; at Woodstock College, on the 1st, 6th, 7th, and 20th.

Frosts, killing.—At Cherryfields, on the 1st and 11th; at Mardela Springs, on the 1st, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 20th, and 31st; at Mt. St. Mary's College, on the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th; at Princess Anne, on the 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th, and 31st; at Sharpsburg, on the 8th, 9th, 11th, and 31st; at Solomon's, on the 1st, 9th, and 10th; at Woodstock College, on the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 30th.

Fogs.—At Baltimore, on the 3d; at Bachman's Valley, on the 2d; at Jewell, on the 2d, 3d, 4th, 15th, and 16th; at Milford, Del., on the 15th; at Millsboro, Del., on the 2d and 15th; at New Market, on the 16th and 17th; at Princess Anne, on the 2d, 15th, and 16th.

Auroras.—At Baltimore, on the 23d, at 7 p. m.; at Solomon's, on the 23d.

Halos, lunar.—At Cumberland, on the 16th; at Green Spring Furnace, on the 8th.

Coronas, lunar.—At Millsboro, Del., on the 7th, and 9th.

* * *

REMARKS BY OBSERVERS.

Charlotte Hall, Prof. J. F. Coad.—Blizzard on the 27th and 28th; snow drifted very much.

Cherryfields, Col. J. Edwin Coad.—St. Marys River, two miles wide, frozen over on the morning of the 31st.

Frederick, Mr. McClintock Young.—The high winds of the 28th evaporated nearly all the snowfall of the day before, 4.5 inches.

Climatological data for Maryland and Delaware, January, 1897.

Stations.	Counties.	Elevation, feet.	Length of record, years.	Temperature, in degrees Fahrenheit.						Precipitation, in inches.					Sky.				Prevailing direction of wind.	Observers.
				Mean.	Departure from the normal.	Highest.	Date.	Lowest.	Date.	Greatest daily range.	Total.	Departure from the normal.	Greatest in 24 hours.	Total snowfall (unmelted).	Number rainy days.	Number clear days.	Number partly cloudy days.	Number cloudy days.		
WESTERN MARYLAND.																				
Boettcherville* 2	Allegany	900	7	22.6	-5.5	56	4	-6	31	24	1.90	-0.95	0.50	10.0	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	F. F. Brown.
Cumberland No. 1	do	650	38	31.6	.....	64	4	3	25	43	1.80	-0.57	0.80	7.5	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	Shriver & Rizer.
Cumberland No. 2	do	650	27	27.2	-3.2	60	4	3	25	28	1.70	-0.26	1.00	5.0	3	11	6	14	.....	Webster Bruce.
Deer Park	Garrett	2,457	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	2.80	.....	0.80	20.0	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	J. S. Specht.
Flintstone	Allegany	.....	.....	27.4	.....	60	5	-6	31	38	2.02	.....	0.64	20.0	4	11	9	11	.....	N. T. Downs.
Grantville	Garrett	2,100	4	22.7	.....	56	3	-9	25	45	3.97	.....	1.00	25.0	12	4	7	26	nw.	J. S. Miller.
Green Spring Furnace	Washington	500	.....	28.2	-1.5	63	4	4	25	27	1.95	.....	0.82	5.0	7	15	10	6	w.	E. G. Kinsell.
Hagerstown	do	550	.....	36.4	.....	62	4	4	26	23	0.87	.....	0.32	5.0	5	10	11	10	.....	Prof. C. E. Carl.
Sharpsburg	do	420	.....	27.7	.....	62	4	3	31	30	1.31	.....	0.49	4.7	5	13	8	10	.....	R. L. Hiberger.
Sunnyside	Garrett	2,440	.....	22.8	+0.5	60	3	-11	25	64	3.07	-0.92	0.63	19.0	15	11	3	17	sw.	J. G. Knauer.
Westernport	Allegany	1,000	3	25.9	.....	59	4	-1	24	30	1.88	.....	0.70	7.5	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	Prof. O. H. Bruce.
Average	.....	.....	.....	26.6	-2.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.12	-0.68	.....	11.3	7	11	8	12	nw.	.....
NORTHERN-CENTRAL MD.																				
Bachman's Valley	Carroll	.....	4	27.0	.....	60	4	1	31	26	2.20	.....	1.00	6.0	6	18	3	10	nw.	J. M. Myers.
Baltimore	Baltimore	123	63	31.4	-2.9	60	4	6	29	21	2.05	-1.15	0.94	4.7	13	10	8	13	w.	U. S. Weather Bureau.
Darlington Academy	Harford	300	8	29.4	+0.9	65	4	5	26	29	1.93	-1.75	1.06	6.0	5	11	3	17	nw.	Prof. A. F. Galbreath.
Fallston School*	do	450	29	28.6	-1.7	60	4	6	25	.....	2.19	-1.23	1.15	5.5	8	7	18	6	nw.	G. G. Curtis, A. M.
Frederick	Frederick	250	25	29.6	-2.0	64	4	5	26	30	1.39	-1.86	0.79	6.8	6	6	17	8	.....	McClintock Young.
Great Falls* 3	Montgomery	150	9	29.6	-0.5	63	4	6	29	.....	1.22	-2.09	1.00	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	Capt. D. D. Gaillard.
Johns Hopkins Hospital	Baltimore	124	3	29.6	.....	61	4	5	26	46	1.81	.....	1.00	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	W. L. Woods.
McDonogh School	Baltimore	720	22	28.8	-2.4	61	4	4	26	24	2.26	-0.96	0.72	7.1	10	15	9	11	nw.	S. H. Moore.
Mt. St. Mary's College	Frederick	545	37	28.0	.....	61	4	4	26	24	2.26	-0.96	0.72	7.1	10	15	9	11	nw.	J. A. Mitchell, Ph. D.
New Market	do	350	14	28.3	-2.8	62	4	4	26	23	1.66	-0.99	0.84	5.0	6	9	13	.....	.....	H. H. Hopkins, M. D.
St. Charles College	Howard	300	3	31.4	.....	59	4	8	26	23	1.93	.....	0.72	7.0	5	15	11	7	nw.	H. M. Chapuis, S. S.
Taneytown	Carroll	.....	.....	28.0	.....	63	4	4	25	30	1.84	.....	1.03	7.0	12	2	17	w.	.....	Prof. H. Meier.
Van Bibber	Harford	.....	.....	28.6	.....	63	4	7	25	24	2.08	.....	1.38	.....	6	15	3	13	nw.	H. A. Wroth.
Western Maryland Coll.	Carroll	.....	.....	28.3	.....	60	3	2	25	28	2.06	.....	0.60	7.2	7	18	5	8	nw.	Prof. Roland Watts.
Woodstock College	Baltimore	392	28	29.2	-1.6	61	4	4	31	39	1.78	-1.91	0.75	5.5	5	15	10	6	nw.	T. J. A. Freeman, S. J.
Average	.....	.....	.....	29.0	-1.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.89	-1.49	.....	6.2	7	12	8	11	nw.	.....
SOUTHERN MARYLAND.																				
Annapolis	Anne Arundel	20	24	37.0	.....	54	4	10	26	32	.....	.....	5.0	.....	17	1	13	.....	.....	J. E. Abbott.
Charlotte Hall School	St. Mary's	167	4	33.2	.....	64	4	5	29	30	1.75	.....	1.04	6.5	4	13	11	7	nw.	J. F. Coad.
Cherryfields* 2	do	20	4	31.8	.....	51	3	14	25	.....	1.92	.....	0.60	8.8	6	13	10	8	nw.	Col. J. E. Coad.
Distributing Reservoir* 3	Dist. of Columbia	120	7	30.3	-2.7	63	4	9	25	.....	1.11	-1.83	0.87	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	Captain Gaillard.
Jewell	Anne Arundel	165	10	31.2	-4.0	66	4	9	26	26	2.19	-1.03	1.40	4.0	7	18	4	9	nw.	J. Plummer.
Laurel	Prince George's	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	4	0	30	.....	2.05	.....	1.25	5.0	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	Dr. T. M. Baldwin.
Md. Agricultural College	do	170	6	27.5	-7.0	54	10	-2	30	35	1.76	-2.23	0.94	5.0	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	Prof. J. H. Patterson.
Receiving Reservoir* 3	Dist. of Columbia	160	7	30.0	-2.2	63	4	8	25	.....	1.16	-2.26	0.90	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	Captain Gaillard.
Solomon's	Calvert	20	6	33.2	-3.0	56	10	10	26	23	1.68	-1.43	0.83	8.2	8	12	6	13	nw.	W. H. Marsh, M. D.
Washington	Dist. of Columbia	112	27	31.0	-5.1	64	4	8	26	30	1.98	-1.38	0.91	.....	10	15	3	13	nw.	U. S. Weather Bureau.
Average	.....	.....	.....	31.7	-4.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.73	-1.69	.....	6.1	6	15	6	10	nw.	.....
EASTERN MARYLAND.																				
Chestertown	Kent	80	13	30.0	-2.7	63	4	8	26	32	2.40	-0.79	1.20	7.5	5	16	6	9	n.	Hon. M. de K. Smith.
Denton	Caroline	42	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	F. C. Ramsdell.
Easton	Talbot	35	8	30.9	-2.1	65	4	8	31	36	2.04	-1.14	1.05	5.5	9	19	4	8	nw.	Henry Shreve.
Mardela Springs	Wicomico	25	10	32.0	-3.0	65	4	6	31	29	2.48	-0.73	1.15	9.8	11	11	8	12	nw.	A. E. Acworth.
Pocomoke City	Worcester	37	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	R. M. Stevenson.
Princess Anne	Somerset	20	23	32.2	-5.9	64	4	3	31	34	1.65	.....	0.39	9.0	8	10	12	9	nw.	J. R. Stewart.
Average	.....	.....	.....	31.3	-3.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.14	-0.89	.....	8.0	8	14	7	10	nw.	.....
DELAWARE.																				
Dover	Kent	40	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	J. S. Jester.
Kirkwood* 1	Newcastle	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	William Carnagy.
Milford	Kent	18	.....	33.0	-3.2	63	4	9	26	44	0.81	-2.41	0.43	7.8	2	21	0	10	nw.	J. Y. Foulk.
Millsboro	Sussex	5	.....	33.0	+1.2	64	5	3	31	31	2.69	-0.64	0.99	13.0	9	16	8	7	n.	Rev. L. W. Wells.
Newark (Delaware Coll.)	Newcastle	4	.....	28.6	.....	56	4	6	26	23	2.35	.....	1.40	8.0	7	8	15	8	nw.	Prof. W. H. Bishop.
Seaford	Sussex	7	.....	32.2	-0.4	63	3	8	26	27	2.16	-1.44	1.20	12.5	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	H. L. Wallace.
Average	.....	.....	.....	31.7	-0.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	-1.50	.....	10.3	6	15	8	8	nw.	.....
General average	.....	.....	.....	29.5	-2.5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.95	-1.33	.....	8.3	7	13	7	11	nw.	.....

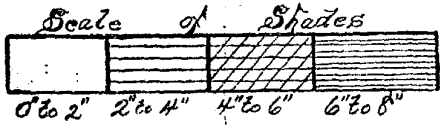
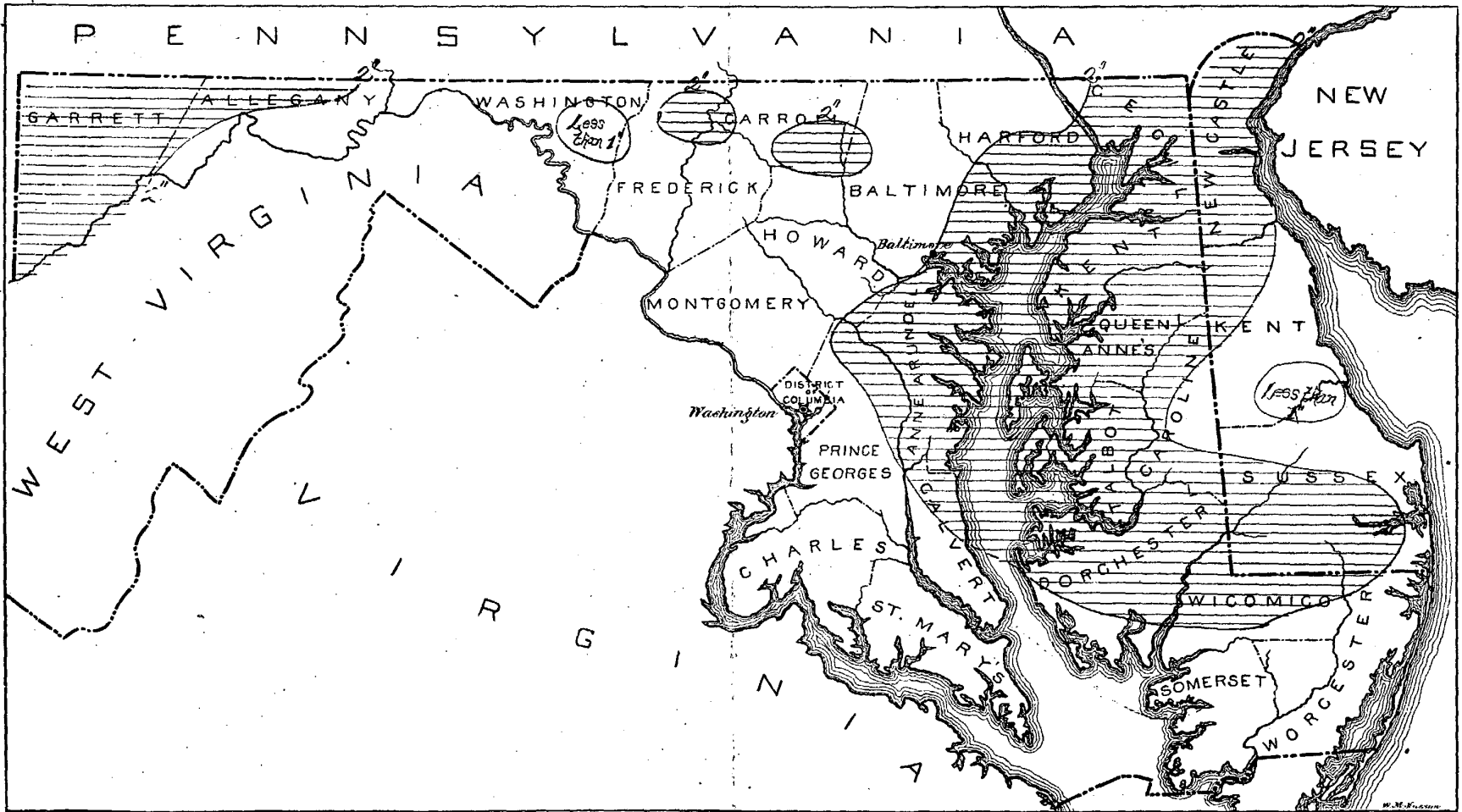
* Extremes of temperature from observed readings of dry thermometer.

1 Mean of 7 a. m. + 2 p. m. + 9 p. m. + 4.

2 Mean of 8 a. m. + 8 p. m. + 2.

3 Mean of 7 a. m. + 2 p. m. + 2.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION, JANUARY, 1897.



Daily precipitation for Maryland and Delaware, January, 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.						
WESTERN MARYLAND.																																					
Boettcherville				.40								.20	†	†	.10		.50	†	.40					.10				.20							1.90		
Baltimore (1)				.40							†		.25				.80	†						.30											1.80		
Cumberland (2)												.30						1.00					.46												1.76		
Deer Park											.40							.64						.70					.80						2.02		
Flintstone				.54							.40							.64						.70					.30						2.02		
Grantsville				.33	.16	.04					.80	.12					1.00	.18	.09	.50		.54			.50			.20							3.97		
Green Spring Furnace				.82												.10		.31					.03					.20							1.96		
Hagerstown											.10				.05			.32					.10						.30						.87		
Sharpsburg				.41							†	†			†	.09		.13			.49			†				.19							1.31		
Sunnyside				.38	.13						.16	.40	†		.02	.16		.42	.21	†	.22	.19	.08	.18	.26			.20						3.07			
Westernport				.79								.25	†				.03	.40	†									.10							1.88		
NORTHERN-CENTRAL MARYLAND.																																					
Bachman's Valley				†											.04	.06	†	.60	†	†	1.00							.10	.40						2.20		
Baltimore		.02	.03		.21	†							†	.01	.06	.16	.02	.10	†	†	1.00	.84	†					.26	.14						2.05		
Darlington Academy				.25											.33		.14			†	1.06							.15							1.93		
Fallston School	†		.03		.33										.20	.06	†	.18	†	†	1.15	†							.18						2.19		
Frederick					†	.25									.03	.05		.05					.79					.22							1.39		
Great Falls																																				1.22	
Johns Hopkins Hospital				.02		.16									.05							1.00							.58						1.81		
McDonogh School																																					
Mt. St. Mary's College					.45							†	†		.08	.05		.23	.03	†	.35	.72	.13		.02										2.26		
New Market				.32	†	.39									.04	†	.07	.19	†		.84	†						.20							1.66		
St. Charles College				.30											.01	.01		.12				.72													1.93		
Taneytown				.28	†																	1.03						.02								1.84	
Van Bibber																																				2.08	
Western Maryland College											.37																									2.06	
Woodstock College				†	†	.10	†								.10	†	.33		†			.75							.50						1.78		
SOUTHERN MARYLAND.																																					
Annapolis																																					
Charlotte Hall School				.06												.15	†					†	1.04													1.75	
Cherryfields																																					
Distributing Reservoir, D. C.																																					
Jewell					.13																																
Laurel				.30																																	
Maryland Agricultural College					.29	†																															
Receiving Reservoir, D. C.																																					
Solomon's																																					
Washington, D. C.				†	†	.20	†																														
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Dover																																					
Kirkwood																																					
Milford																																					
Millsboro																																					
Newark (Delaware College)				.02		.12																															
Seaford					.02																																

† Trace, when precipitation is less than 0.01 inch.