

creatures; though naturally shy, they command attention by their works; their nests, webs and tunnels are not only

“Curiously made from their curious brains,”

but are fabricated also from their own resources. Spiders, from the Gossamer and Water-diver to the Tunneling Trapdoor family, have curious histories, and are endowed with instincts, which approach *reason* more closely than the instincts of perhaps any other class of animals:

“Weaving spiders, *come ye here,*  
*Come ye long-leg’d spinners, come,*”

is to be one of the mottoes of the book.

Should a sufficient number of subscribers be found, it is proposed to publish the above work in five or six monthly parts at 2s. 6d. each, illustrated with cuts.

#### METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR AUG. 1847.

*Chiswick*.—August 1, 2. Very fine: sultry. 3. Very fine: clear. 4. Very fine: densely overcast. 5. Rain. 6. Overcast. 7. Very fine. 8. Very fine: cloudy. 9. Cloudy: shower: clear. 10. Rain: showery. 11. Very fine. 12. Light clouds, with bright sun at intervals: clear at night. 13. Overcast: very fine. 14. Very fine: cloudy. 15. Cloudy: clear: lightning at night. 16. Rain. 17. Overcast. 18. Heavy rain. 19. Overcast: lightning at night. 20. Uniformly overcast: slight fog. 21. Slight fog: fine. 22. Overcast: rain: cloudy. 23. Cloudy: rain. 24. Cloudy: clear at night. 25. Very fine. 26. Overcast: very fine. 27, 28. Very fine. 29. Rain: very fine. 30. Very fine: cloudy. 31. Very fine: clear at night.

Mean temperature of the month ..... 62°·68

Mean temperature of Aug. 1846 ..... 64 ·16

Mean temperature of Aug. for the last twenty years ..... 62 ·32

Average amount of rain in Aug. .... 2·41 inches.

*Boston*.—Aug. 1. Fine: 2 o’clock P.M. thermometer 83°. 2. Fine: rain P.M. 3, 4. Fine. 5. Cloudy: rain P.M. 6. Fine. 7. Fine: rain P.M. 8. Fine. 9, 10. Cloudy. 11. Cloudy: rain early A.M. 12. Cloudy. 13, 14. Fine. 15. Cloudy. 16. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 17. Cloudy: rain P.M. 18, 19. Cloudy. 20—25. Fine. 26. Cloudy. 27. Fine. 28. Rain. 29. Cloudy: rain early A.M.: rain P.M. 30, 31. Cloudy.

*Sandwick Manse, Orkney*.—Aug. 1, 2. Bright: clear. 3. Bright: cloudy. 4. Cloudy: drops. 5. Bright: cloudy. 6. Cloudy: fine. 7. Rain: fine. 8. Cloudy: rain. 9. Cloudy: fine. 10. Cloudy: rain. 11. Clear: showers. 12. Cloudy. 13. Clear: cloudy. 14. Cloudy: fine. 15. Bright: fine. 16, 17. Clear: fine. 18. Cloudy: fine. 19, 20. Cloudy. 21. Showers: rain. 22. Cloudy: showers. 23. Clear: showers: cloudy. 24. Cloudy: rain. 25. Cloudy. 26. Cloudy: rain. 27. Cloudy: clear. 28. Bright: showers: clear. 29. Showers. 30. Rain: showers. 31. Bright: rain.

*Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire*.—Aug. 1. Fair, but cloudy. 2. Fair and fine: shower early A.M. 3. One slight shower. 4. Rain early A.M. 5. Rain nearly all day. 6. Frequent showers. 7. Heavy showers and sun. 8. Rain. 9. Cloudy: cool: dry. 10. Heavy rain. 11. Fine A.M.: rain P.M. 12. Rain nearly all day. 13. Fair and fine. 14. Very fine. 15, 16. Very fine: heavy dew. 17. Fine, though cloudy. 18. Very fine. 19. Still fine, but dull. 20. Heavy showers. 21. Slight showers. 22, 23. Fine: clear. 24. Rain P.M. 25, 26. Fine, though cloudy. 27. Fine, though cloudy: a few drops. 28. Fine, though cloudy: one slight shower. 29. Fair and fine. 30. Fine: one slight shower. 31. Fine harvest day.

Mean temperature of the month ..... 57°·15

Mean temperature of Aug. 1846 ..... 61 ·2

Mean temperature of Aug. for twenty-five years..... 57 ·14

Average rain for twenty years ..... 3·16 inches.





1847. "Meteorological observations for Aug. 1847." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 20, 287–287.

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