

While supper was preparing, he perceived something falling on his hat like drops of rain; but as there were no clouds to be seen, presumed it could not be rain. On looking on the ground near the fire he saw distinctly that the falling substance instead of being rain was a small winged insect, which although unable to fly had yet life and motion. The number rapidly increased so as to give great annoyance by falling into the frying-pan and supper vessels, and continued until the ground was covered by the shower. On the following morning Sir George ascertained that this extraordinary shower extended at least from twenty-five to thirty miles in the direction he was travelling. No information has been received as to its extent in other directions. It was observed that soon after the shower the weather changed suddenly from warm to cold. It is therefore probable that the whole of this immense swarm of insects encountered the cold current, and were paralyzed and precipitated thereby. They all died soon after falling. Specimens of these insects were collected by the attendants of Sir George, from whom I received them. In no instance however were they seen to revive after coming into a warmer atmosphere.—*American Journal of Science and Arts for Nov. 1847.*

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR DEC. 1847.

Chiswick.—December 1. Very fine: clear. 2. Frosty: overcast and mild. 3. Densely overcast: rain. 4. Clear: overcast: boisterous. 5. Fine. 6. Boisterous, with rain: lightning at night. 7. Rain: cloudy and boisterous: clear and windy at night. 8. Clear and cold. 9. Rain: overcast. 10. Rain: cloudy. 11. Densely clouded: fine. 12—14. Very fine. 15. Very fine: slight rain. 16. Cloudy. 17. Slight rain. 18. Rain. 19. Fine: cloudy. 20. Cloudy. 21—23. Overcast. 24. Foggy. 25, 26. Overcast. 27, 28. Cloudy. 29. Hazy. 30. Rain. 31. Hazy and damp.

Mean temperature of the month	41°·09
Mean temperature of Dec. 1846	31°·26
Mean temperature of Dec. for the last twenty years	39°·59
Average amount of rain in Dec.	1·58 inch.

Boston.—Dec. 1. Fine. 2. Fine: 8 o'clock P.M. thermometer 54°. 3. Cloudy: rain P.M. 4. Fine: rain P.M. 5. Cloudy: rain early A.M. 6. Rain. 7. Rain: stormy A.M. and P.M. 8. Fine: rain A.M. 9. Rain. 10. Fine. 11, 12. Cloudy. 13—15. Fine. 16. Rain. 17. Fine: rain early A.M. 18. Rain: rain A.M. and P.M. 19. Fine. 20. Rain. 21. Fine. 22—29. Cloudy. 30. Snow: rain and snow A.M. and P.M. 31. Rain: rain A.M.

Applegarth Munse, Dumfries-shire.—Dec. 1. Wet A.M.: cleared and was fine. 2. Wet A.M.: damp all day. 3. Damp A.M.: cleared: fine. 4. Heavy rain and high wind. 5. Rain: unsettled weather. 6. Shower of snow: frost. 7. Heavy rain: frost A.M. 8. Fair, but cloudy. 9. Rain early A.M.: fine. 10. Showers. 11. Rain all night and morning. 12. Fair and fine. 13. Fair A.M.: rain and wind P.M. 14. Fine A.M.: rain P.M. 15. Mild and fair A.M.: rain P.M. 16. Rain nearly all day: flood. 17. Fair and mild: slight rain P.M. 18. Fair, but cloudy. 19. Frost A.M.: dull and cloudy. 20, 21. Frost, slight. 22. Frost, hard: clear. 23. Fine: slight frost. 24. Fine. 25. Frost: fine and clear. 26. Fine: clear. 27, 28. Frost: fine. 29. Heavy fall of snow. 30. Snow lying: frost, hard. 31. Frost, very keen: thermometer 11½°.

Mean temperature of the month	40°·2
Mean temperature of Dec. 1846	33°·5
Mean temperature of Dec. for twenty-five years.....	38°·19
Mean rain in Dec. for twenty years	2·94 inches.



1848. "Meteorological observations for Dec. 1847." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 1, 159–159.

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