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M. VON HUMBOLDT ON DARWIN'S VOYAGE, AND ON SCHOMBURGK'S EXPEDITION.

"The volume of Mr. Charles Darwin is an admirable Supplement to the voyage of the *Beagle*: it is one of the most remarkable works that, in the course of a long life, I have had the pleasure to see published. Mr. Darwin unites to sagacity for detailed observations enlarged views in general physics, I should rather say in natural philosophy—views which embrace at once geology, the geographical distribution of plants, and the influence of temperature on the organic types of the primitive world."

"Mr. Schomburgk continues to explore with the same ardour. I hope that he will reach the Cerro Duida, the forest of *Bertholletia*, and the mission of Esmeralda, where I was almost devoured by mosquitoes. May this excellent young man, my countryman, always enjoy the kindness of your illustrious Society!"—*Letter of M. von Humboldt in the Transactions of the Geographical Society*, vol. ix. p. 50.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR JAN., 1840.

Chiswick.—Jan. 1. Overcast: fine. 2. Very fine. 3. Fine: slight rain. 4. Rain. 5. Cloudy and fine: frosty at night. 6. Frosty. 7. Clear and frosty: severe frost at night. 8. Severe frost. 9. Overcast: fine. 10. Overcast: frosty at night. 11. Sharp frost. 12. Frosty: fine. 13. Clear. 14. Hazy. 15. Drizzly. 16. Fine. 17. Foggy. 18. Frosty and foggy: rain. 19. Boisterous, with heavy rain. 20. Rain: fine: boisterous at night. 21. Very boisterous with rain. 22. Cloudy: clear at night. 23. Rain: windy at night. 24. Boisterous. 25. Overcast: rain: fine. 26. Stormy and wet. 27. Clear and cold. 28. Rain: boisterous. 29. Very fine. 30. Hazy. 31. Very fine.

The frost was, for a short time, very intense between the 7th and 8th, being 20° below freezing.

Boston.—Jan. 1. Cloudy. 2. Fine. 3, 4. Cloudy. 5. Fine. 6. Fine: little snow P.M. 7. Fine. 8, 9, 10. Cloudy. 11, 12, 13. Fine. 14, 15. Cloudy. 16. Fine. 17. Rain. 18. Cloudy. 19, 20. Cloudy: stormy with rain P.M. 21. Stormy: thunder and forked lightning with rain A.M. 22. Cloudy. 23. Rain. 24. Stormy: rain P.M. 25. Fine: snow A.M. 26. Rain: rain early A.M. 27. Fine. 28, 29. Rain. 30. Fine. 31. Cloudy: rain early A.M.

Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire.—Jan. 1. Fine morning: rain P.M. 2. Very wet A.M.: showery all day. 3. Quiet day with slight showers. 4. Fine day and fair: aurora borealis. 5. Clear day: hard frost. 6. Fine frosty day. 7. Dull and cloudy. 8. The same: thaw. 9. Frost again. 10. Still frosty but cloudy. 11. Wet and stormy. 12. The same all day. 13. Fair, but threatening rain. 14, 15, 16. Wet and boisterous, 17. Clear and tending to frost. 18. Rain again and wind. 19. Heavy rain A.M.: showery all day. 20. Frequent showers. 21. Wind very high. 22, 23, 24. Boisterous weather. 25. The same: slight showers. 26. Moderate but showery. 27. Succession of snow showers. 28. Frost A.M.: snow: thaw P.M. 29. Frost A.M.: fine winter day. 30. Frost early A.M.: change P.M. 31. Slight showers A.M.: fine day.

Sun shone out 22 days. Rain fell 18 days. Snow 2 days. Frost 7 days.

Wind north 1½ day. North-east 5½ days. East 1 day. South-east 5 days. South 3 days. South-west 9½ days. West 4 days. North-west 1½ day.

Calm 8 days. Moderate 5 days. Brisk 3 days. Strong breeze 9 days. Boisterous 5 days. Storm 1 day. Temperature of spring water, taken 3 times in the month, 43°·3. Mean temperature of the atmosphere 37·8.