

The direction of the wind differed also greatly, owing to the land winds at Graham's Town. Out of 484 days it blew there from—

S. to WSW.	-	-	-	166	days
N. to NNW.	-	-	-	179	"
N. to ENE.	-	-	-	61	"
E. to SSE.	-	-	-	78	"

The force of the wind differed little, viz:—

Cape Town	-	-	0.59	lbs. per sq. foot.
Graham's Town	-	-	0.52	"
The maximum monthly mean	was	0.2		
The minimum	"	"	0.18	

The greatest pressure was in March 1855, when it amounted to 8½ lbs.

NATAL.

The following Tables and statement have been furnished by the Surveyor General as illustrating the climate of this colony:—

TABLE I.—THE WEATHER at PIETERMARITZBURG 2,114 feet above the mean level of the sea.

1854.	Number of days cloudy or misty throughout.	Number of days clear through-out.	Number of days clear in fore-noon.	Number of days clear in after-noon.	Number of days in which rain fell.	Number of days in which thunder and lightning oc-curred.	Total fall of rain in each month.	In.
January	20	1	10	2	17	10	4.289	
February	16	4	14	6	15	9	7.524	
March	17	7	16	7	13	7	3.289	
April	6	14	16	18	8	5	1.565	
May	6	13	18	20	6	1	1.282	
June	2	18	24	22	4	0	4.055	
July	0	27	30	27	0	0	0.000	
August	4	18	25	21	2	3	0.256	
September	4	17	26	10	6	3	1.550	
October	11	13	13	13	12	5	8.424	
November	10	4	23	8	14	6	7.752	
December	8	5	23	8	17	14	10.770	
Totals	104	141	238	162	114	62	50.696	

TABLE II.—AN ANALYSIS of the DIRECTION of the WINDS, with reference only to the period of their Duration.

1854.	Forenoon.				Afternoon.				Total in each month.			
	W.	S.	E.	N.	W.	S.	E.	N.	W.	S.	E.	N.
January	135	403	1,242	560	47	424	1,450	209	162	917	2,672	769
February	112	224	1,178	754	88	610	1,062	310	200	884	2,240	1,069
March	362	528	1,232	292	856	674	1,084	376	1,018	1,212	2,316	638
April	538	590	520	270	880	670	452	268	1,738	1,230	972	558
May	1,389	708	408	178	720	750	906	324	2,100	1,458	1,464	402
June	1,336	892	428	44	292	556	1,618	288	1,628	1,448	1,946	332
July	1,466	1,078	180	168	134	244	1,100	572	1,880	1,322	1,880	730
August	518	659	1,176	446	220	652	1,562	466	738	1,302	2,738	912
September	538	946	594	402	226	514	1,474	468	794	1,460	2,398	870
October	610	314	1,262	598	452	356	1,198	604	1,952	670	2,466	1,202
November	566	242	1,428	464	656	308	1,086	516	1,222	550	2,314	880
December	180	354	1,608	464	158	446	1,674	512	338	800	3,232	976
Totals	8,041	6,989	11,662	4,620	4,739	6,204	15,186	4,813	12,770	13,203	26,846	9,433

As shown in the above Tables, the seasons appear to be tolerably well defined. Comparatively, little rain falls in the winter months. When, however, precipitation occurs in that season, it is usually of the character of the winter rains prevailing at the Cape of Good Hope, and unattended by great electrical disturbances, as in the other seasons. The annual rain fall amounting only to fifty inches is moderate. The greatest quantity in twenty-four hours rarely amounts to three inches; and the great number of perfectly and partially clear days, is such as gives the climate features peculiar to tropical and intertropical regions. As shewn in Table II., the wind blows longer from the eastward than from any other quarter; contrary to the popular belief, that the moisture comes from the west, the east winds reaches its monthly maximum duration in the wet season and descends to its minimum in the opposite or dry season. At the elevation mentioned, the mean atmospheric pressure was 28.082 inches, and the range from the greatest to the least pressure observed, did not exceed eight-tenths of an inch. The mean tem-

perature was 63°, and the range of the thermometer from about 100° to 23°. At D'Urban, however, only a few feet above the sea level, the mean would be 70°, and the range from about 104° to 40°. At the ridge of the Daankensburg, averaging 7,000 feet above the level of the sea, where snow lodge for many consecutive days, the mean would be about 46°.

The following general observations respecting the climate of Natal, occur in a despatch from Lieut. Governor Pyne, which accompanied the Blue Book, for 1853:—

“The spring in this country commences in September, and the autumn about March. These transition seasons are, however, of short duration, so that the period from September to March may be regarded as the summer, that from March to September as winter. The hottest weather is probably in December and January, the coldest in June and July. In the summer rain falls nearly every day, accompanied occasionally by violent thunder-storms. In the winter there is but very little rain, and the sky clear

and cloudless: in this season we are sometime^s many weeks without any rain.

"Owing to the gradual elevation of the country from the sea coast upwards, it possesses a great variety of climate; it may, however, for this purpose be generally considered as divided into three regions.

"1st. In the country along the sea coast, for ten or twelve miles inland, the heat in the summer is as great as that of the tropics; in the winter the temperature is cooler, and a slight hoar frost occasionally occurs in the night.

"2nd. In the part of the country higher up, as far as and including Pietermaritzburg, the summer season is also very warm; but in the winter, and especially in the evening and morning and during the night, the cold is often very piercing and hoar frosts are frequent, and now and then the ice is seen of the thickness of a shilling or half-a-crown.

"3rd. In the region beyond Pietermaritzburg and still higher the winter cold is more intense, and the hills are frequently covered with snow. The changes in the temperature of this region are however very great within twenty-four hours. In the middle of the day it is often almost oppressively warm, while in the morning and evening it is intensely cold. In the summer season this part of the country is generally extremely warm. The most prevalent winds are the north-west and south-east. The former are frequently in the form of what are called the hot winds, which are extremely disagreeable, and parch up vegetation. The latter are generally cooler and stronger.

"The most common diseases are dysentery, diarrhoea, and rheumatism. A kind of bilious fever is also not uncommon in the summer time, especially in the neighbourhood of Pietermaritzburg, much resembling in its general features the West Coast fever, but of not so malignant or fatal a type.

"I consider the climate generally very salubrious, but also I think that in order to enjoy health persons must take a greater amount of out-door exercise than is required in England. I do not think the climate so favourable as that of Britain for sedentary occupations.

"To persons engaged in farming, and taking abundance of exercise, I look upon this climate as one of the best in the world."

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

In a Report from the Lieutenant-Governor of the 14th April 1842, he stated his opinion that the climate is one of extreme salubrity; and he mentioned, that perfect health had been experienced by every one there after a few weeks' residence. The temperature he considered to be more equable than in England, seldom rising so high in summer, nor falling so low in winter: the range being in summer from 45° to 70°, and in winter from 30° to 50°. Light passing showers were frequent, but a day of constant rain seldom happened; the total amount of rain falling in the year was certainly not more than in England. There was very little foggy weather, and thunder and lightning were extremely rare. The prevailing wind appears to be from the west, and of a very drying nature. There is more wind in summer than in winter.

In a Report from the Colonial Surgeon, dated 2d Dec. 1844, he stated that personal exposure to the weather, without fear of any ill consequences, might be continued for a much longer time than could possibly be attempted with impunity in England.

HONG KONG.

In a Report dated in August 1845, the Governor stated that he was not aware of a single death since the month of January previous, in the classes raised above soldiers, &c., or working men. Even the troops had been healthy up to that advanced period of the hot season, and the Governor felt certain that the disuse of ground-floor dwellings, and the observance of ordinary rules of precaution, would render Hong Kong as healthy as most other places in the world.

The Colonial Secretary, in a report dated 6 August 1855, states that the experience of the last 10 years fully confirmed the opinions expressed by the Governor in 1845.



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