



**METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS**  
**1868.**

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1968

# National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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# METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY.

## PORT LOUIS.

Lat. 20° 9' 56" South.

Long. 57° 29' 30" East.

### RESULTS OF OBSERVATIONS TAKEN IN 1868.

The Barometer and Thermometers are 30 feet above the mean sea-level. The Barometer, which has a diameter of .564 inch, is by Newman; the Thermometers are by Casella. The direction and force of the wind are only estimated approximately, Osler's Anemometer not having been put in place in consequence of the temporary occupation only of the present Observatory. The Rain-Guage is 25 feet above the ground.

In ordinary weather, five observations on the pressure and temperature of the air, the direction and force of the wind, the amount and character of cloud, &c., are taken daily, viz: at 3½ A.M., 9½ A.M., noon, 3½ P.M., and 9½ P.M., and, in unusual weather, and on the 21st of each month, hourly observations. The readings of the Self Registering Thermometers and Rain-Guage are recorded daily at 9½ A.M.

OBSERVATIONS.	JAN.	FEB.	MCH.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	MEAN OF YEAR.
<b>BAROMETER.</b> <i>(Corrected for altitude and capillarity, and to 32° Fah.)</i>	Inches.												
Mean of month .....	29.871	29.943	29.879	29.996	30.054	30.129	30.161	30.230	30.195	30.097	30.101	30.058	30.059
Mean at 3½ A.M. ....	29.855	29.922	29.856	29.969	30.027	30.105	30.137	30.212	30.176	30.078	30.086	30.040	30.039
Mean at 9½ A.M. ....	29.893	29.967	29.904	30.025	30.086	30.162	30.192	30.257	30.225	30.123	30.127	30.083	30.089
Mean at Noon .....	29.872	29.940	29.871	29.991	30.049	30.125	30.157	30.221	30.189	30.090	30.098	30.057	30.055
Mean at 3½ P.M. ....	29.832	29.904	29.841	29.963	30.015	30.091	30.121	30.183	30.155	30.049	30.059	30.019	30.019
Mean at 9½ P.M. ....	29.903	29.974	29.911	30.027	30.087	30.157	30.196	30.263	30.225	30.144	30.133	30.093	30.093
Highest reading. ....	30.029	30.058	30.055	30.128	30.269	30.319	30.317	30.414	30.327	30.217	30.233	30.196	30.213
Lowest reading. ....	29.515	29.830	28.954	29.885	29.710	29.782	30.013	30.059	30.069	29.973	29.941	29.948	29.807
Range in month. ....	0.514	0.228	0.101	0.243	0.559	0.537	0.304	0.355	0.258	0.244	0.292	0.148	0.315
Range from 3½ A.M. to 9½ A.M. ....	0.038	0.045	0.048	0.056	0.059	0.057	0.055	0.045	0.049	0.045	0.041	0.043	0.048
Range from 9½ A.M. to 3½ P.M. ....	0.061	0.063	0.063	0.062	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.074	0.070	0.074	0.068	0.064	0.068
Range from 3½ P.M. to 9½ P.M. ....	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.064	0.072	0.066	0.075	0.080	0.070	0.095	0.074	0.074	0.073
Range from 9½ P.M. to 3½ A.M. ....	0.048	0.052	0.055	0.058	0.060	0.052	0.059	0.051	0.049	0.066	0.047	0.053	0.055
Mean diurnal range ..	0.054	0.057	0.058	0.060	0.065	0.061	0.065	0.062	0.059	0.070	0.057	0.058	0.060
<b>TEMPERATURE OF AIR</b> <i>(Dry Bulb Ther. in Shade.)</i>	Deg.												
Mean of month .....	83.2	85.2	83.7	82.2	78.6	75.7	74.9	74.9	76.0	79.7	81.5	82.7	79.9

METEOROLOGY.

OBSERVATIONS	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	MEAN OF YEAR.
TEMPERATURE OF AIR (Continued.)	Deg.												
Highest reading ....	90.2	92.7	91.6	91.2	85.8	82.9	82.0	81.1	82.2	86.6	89.2	90.1	89.6
Lowest reading .....	78.0	79.0	77.4	75.5	73.5	70.5	69.8	68.0	69.2	72.5	76.5	77.6	74.0
Range in month ....	12.2	13.7	14.2	15.7	12.3	12.4	12.2	13.1	13.0	14.1	12.7	12.5	13.1
Mean of highest daily readings .....	87.8	89.3	87.6	86.7	82.5	79.9	78.7	78.6	79.6	83.9	86.3	87.5	84.0
Mean of lowest readings .....	80.6	81.9	80.4	79.2	76.0	73.2	72.0	72.1	72.4	76.3	77.8	79.5	76.8
Mean diurnal range ..	7.2	7.4	7.2	7.5	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.5	7.2	7.6	8.5	8.0	7.2
Greatest diurnal range	10.1	9.8	10.3	10.0	8.5	8.8	9.0	9.2	9.1	11.0	11.0	10.9	9.8
Least diurnal range ..	3.3	3.6	2.6	3.5	3.3	4.0	3.0	3.4	4.6	5.5	6.2	4.8	4.0
TEMPERATURE OF EVAPORATION. (Wet Bulb. Ther. in Shade.)													
Mean of month .....	76.5	76.1	76.5	74.9	71.6	67.4	66.4	66.8	67.2	71.0	71.5	74.0	71.7
Highest readings ....	81.0	81.0	80.8	81.0	77.5	73.0	74.5	72.6	71.0	75.0	75.3	79.1	76.8
Lowest readings ....	70.5	69.5	71.0	67.0	64.5	61.0	60.0	59.2	61.0	63.5	67.0	68.0	65.2
Range in month .....	10.5	11.5	9.8	14.0	13.0	12.0	14.5	13.4	10.0	11.5	8.3	11.1	11.6
Mean of highest daily readings .....	78.2	77.8	78.1	76.8	73.6	69.2	68.7	68.6	68.8	72.9	73.4	75.9	73.5
Mean of lowest readings .....	74.4	73.9	74.3	72.8	69.3	65.3	63.9	64.6	64.4	68.7	69.3	72.1	69.4
Mean diurnal range ..	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.0	4.3	3.9	4.8	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.0
DEW POINT. (Deduced.)													
Mean of month .....	72.1	70.1	71.8	69.9	66.7	61.3	60.2	61.0	61.0	65.0	64.8	68.3	66.0
Mean at 3½ A.M. ....	72.2	70.1	71.6	69.6	66.3	61.2	59.5	60.8	61.0	64.8	65.0	68.6	65.9
Mean at 9½ A.M. ....	72.0	70.3	71.6	70.3	67.2	61.4	60.6	61.0	61.0	64.8	64.5	68.4	66.1
Mean at 3½ P.M. ....	71.9	69.9	71.9	69.8	66.5	61.0	60.6	60.7	60.9	65.5	64.4	67.4	65.9
Mean at 9½ P.M. ....	72.5	70.6	72.2	70.0	66.9	61.7	60.4	61.3	61.2	65.2	65.2	68.4	66.2
ELASTIC FORCE OF VAPOUR (Deduced.)	Inches.												
Mean of month .....	.789	.740	.785	.735	.661	.549	.527	.538	.540	.622	.614	.695	.641
Mean at 3½ A.M. ....	.789	.739	.779	.727	.652	.543	.513	.537	.539	.617	.619	.700	.646
Mean at 9½ A.M. ....	.787	.741	.780	.746	.672	.554	.532	.539	.536	.614	.608	.698	.650
Mean at 3½ P.M. ....	.783	.734	.775	.732	.656	.540	.532	.532	.536	.632	.606	.683	.645
Mean at 9½ P.M. ....	.800	.750	.792	.737	.665	.553	.529	.546	.541	.625	.623	.698	.655

METEOROLOGY.

OBSERVATIONS	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	MEAN OF YEAR.
<b>HUMIDITY. (Deduced). (Compl. Sat.=1.)</b>	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.
Mean of month .....	69.5	61.0	68.0	66.7	67.5	61.5	60.6	62.0	60.1	61.1	57.0	62.2	63.1
Mean at 3½ A.M. ....	72.4	63.4	70.0	68.4	68.7	68.5	61.6	64.9	62.8	64.5	60.4	66.4	65.6
Mean at 9½ A.M. ....	69.4	61.1	67.4	66.8	68.0	62.1	61.1	61.7	59.1	59.0	56.5	62.0	62.8
Mean at 3½ P.M. ....	66.3	58.6	67.0	65.5	65.5	58.0	58.9	59.4	57.6	59.8	52.9	57.8	59.1
Mean at 9½ P.M. ....	69.9	61.2	67.3	66.2	67.4	62.3	60.9	62.7	60.5	61.4	58.3	62.7	63.4
<b>TEMPERATURE IN SUN'S RAYS.</b>	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.
Highest reading of Black Bulb Ther. insulated .....	122.0	124.0	118.0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	121.3
Lowest reading .....	80.0	108.0	104.0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	97.3
Mean of month .....	112.6	116.4	112.3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	110.4
<b>CLOUD.—(10·0)</b>	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.
Mean of month .....	6.8	5.5	5.9	7.1	5.9	4.7	4.4	5.6	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.6	5.6
Mean at 3½ A.M. ....	5.9	4.4	4.5	6.7	4.5	3.4	3.2	4.7	4.2	2.8	3.6	4.5	4.4
Mean at 9½ A.M. ....	7.3	6.3	7.0	7.8	7.6	5.7	5.0	7.2	6.5	6.0	6.4	6.5	6.6
Mean at 3½ P.M. ....	7.8	7.7	8.1	7.9	7.4	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.5	7.0
Mean at 9½ P.M. ....	5.2	3.5	4.0	6.1	4.4	3.8	3.4	4.7	3.6	3.8	4.2	3.8	4.2
<b>RAIN.</b>													
(Inches in depth.)	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Fall in month .....	15.28	5.51	11.66	8.47	6.99	0.54	1.21	1.06	0.98	1.31	1.11	8.39	5.21
No. of days on which rain fell. ....	25	12	12	18	11	8	5	10	7	7	10	13	11
<b>WIND.</b>													
Prevailing direction	E.S.E. to S.W. & W.	E.S.E. to W. N.W.	E.S.E. to S.W.	E.S.E. to S.E.	E.S.E. to S.E.	E.S.E. to S.E.	S.E. to S.W.	S.E. to E.S.E.	S.E. to E.S.E.	S.E. to W. & W. N.W.	S.E. to E.S.E.	N.E. to E. & E. S.E.	E.S.E. to S.E.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Mean Max. Force in lbs. per square foot*	0.78	0.51	0.34	0.56	0.62	0.42	0.36	0.36	0.54	0.31	0.34	0.35	0.46
Mean Force of month	0.45	0.37	0.23	0.34	0.39	0.28	0.24	0.25	0.34	0.21	0.22	0.21	0.29
Mean Force at 3½ A.M.	0.38	0.36	0.18	0.31	0.37	0.23	0.21	0.28	0.30	0.18	0.18	0.22	0.27
Mean Force at 9½ A.M.	0.48	0.36	0.28	0.36	0.40	0.28	0.25	0.26	0.36	0.25	0.25	0.21	0.31
Mean Force at 3½ P.M.	0.62	0.40	0.27	0.37	0.47	0.34	0.26	0.23	0.37	0.22	0.27	0.25	0.34
Mean Force at 9½ P.M.	0.33	0.37	0.20	0.33	0.33	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.32	0.19	0.19	0.17	0.26

\* Only an approximate estimate. No Anemometer has been fixed in the temporary premises for Observatory.

WIND.—NUMBER OF TIMES IT BLEW FROM

Hours of Observations.	North.	N. to N.E.	N.E.	N.E. to E.	East.	E. to S.E.	S.E.	S.E. to S.	South.	S. to S.W.	S.W.	S.W. to W.	West.	W. to N.W.	N.W.	N.W. to N.	Calm.	Variable.
3½ A.M. ....	0	0	1	5	30	149	116	0	0	0	8	2	4	2	4	0	42	0
9½ A.M. ....	2	4	13	19	49	75	112	8	7	0	6	2	7	19	22	2	10	0
Noon .....	1	5	7	23	36	86	102	9	4	1	9	3	14	18	30	4	11	0
3½ P.M. ....	4	5	12	24	35	65	102	14	8	2	9	6	10	26	20	3	16	0
9½ P.M. ....	0	0	0	6	38	124	147	1	0	1	6	4	3	8	4	2	26	0
Total ....	7	14	33	77	188	499	579	32	19	4	38	17	38	73	80	11	105	0

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

- 1868.
- January 12.—At 2 P.M., few peals of thunder at Nrd. and Srd.  
 „ „ —Few flashes of faint lightning at Nrd. and E.N.Erd. at 7 P.M.  
 „ 26.—At 7 P.M., few flashes of faint lightning at N.Wrd.  
 „ „ —At 7.30 P.M., few peals of thunder at S.Erd. and S.S.Erd.  
 February 14.—At 3.15 P.M., few peals of thunder overhead, and lightning at Wrđ.  
 „ „ —At 9.30 P.M., few flashes of vivid lightning at Srd. and Wrđ.  
 „ „ —During night faint flashes of lightning from Srd., Wrđ. and Nrd.  
 „ 20.—At 1.30 P.M., heavy peals of thunder from Erd., Nrd., S.Wrd., and S.Erd., and also lightning.  
 March 3.—Few peals of thunder at S.Erd., and broad flashes of lightning at S.Erd. and Srd., at 7 P.M.  
 „ 30.—Thunder at S.S.Erd. at 2 P.M.  
 April 3.—Lightning at W.N.Wrd at 3½ A.M.  
 „ 4.—At 2 P.M., few peals of thunder at E.N.Erd and E.S.Erd.  
 „ „ —Much lightning at N.N.Wrd. at 7 P.M.  
 „ 5.—At 7.5 P.M., lightning to N.Wrd.



TABLE SHEWING THE AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AT DIFFERENT STATIONS IN MAURITIUS, DURING THE YEAR 1868.

MONTHS.	Flacq.	Pamplemousses.				Riv. du Rempart, Labourdonnais. Mr. Bélin.	Port Louis (Observatory). Revd. Mc Irvine.	Petite Rivière, Gros Cailloux. Mr. Commins.	Moka.				Plaines Wilhems.					Grand Port.			Savanne.
	La Gaieté. Dr. Icey.	Mont Choisy. Mr. Poulin.	Les Rochers. Mr. Souchon.	Botanical Gardens. Mr. Horne.	Esprance. Mr. Telfair.				Croft-an-Righ. Mr. Young.	Elizabeth Cottage. Mr. de Lissa.	Genolly. Mr. H. Finnis.	Beau Séjour. Hon. R. Stein.	Trianon. Mr. Barclay.	The Bracs. Mr. Grant.	Westra. Mr. H. Wilson.	Mesnil. Mr. F. Channell.	Cluny. Mr. Macpherson.	Gros Bois. Mr. Vallet.	Beau Vallon. Mr. Rochecouste.	St. Aubin. Hon. H. Pitot.	
1868.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
January.....	14.446	10.293	10.144	15.829	13.64	15.28	8.04	19.77	17.43	21.51	21.75	14.18	13.92	12.67	15.70	18.34	19.36	13.32	8.18	16.88 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
February....	5.426	2.715	4.042	4.843	5.13	5.51	2.21	8.31	8.97	16.39	11.02	6.93	8.31	8.10	9.96	16.30	12.93	6.84	4.26	6.19 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
March.....	14.209	10.335	15.994	21.089	12.12	11.66	18.82	31.90	38.71	30.21	30.42	30.79	27.77	33.00	32.56	39.78	27.34	30.92	21.62	22.30 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
April.....	10.074	9.838	12.110	17.677	12.31	8.47	7.01	23.90	16.13	17.97	17.76	13.17	15.89	14.98	18.00	20.94	32.80	23.86	12.95	18.90	
May.....	12.796	8.876	8.897	9.410	9.02	8.66	5.22	17.63	11.18	12.43	12.78	10.08	.....	15.78	15.30	10.64	15.96	11.85	8.66	13.58	
June.....	2.963	1.315	0.788	1.339	1.00	0.54	0.65	5.46	1.48	2.79	2.44	2.61	.....	3.80	5.00	5.61	9.53	5.36	2.50	3.47 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
July.....	3.872	1.185	1.149	1.575	1.95	1.21	3.62	7.34	6.02	5.38	6.77	4.75	.....	5.88	6.04	7.02	14.47	11.56	6.33	6.29	
August.....	6.489	1.177	.....	2.679	1.51	1.06	0.28	6.63	2.05	2.41	2.28	2.01	.....	2.52	2.97	3.83	7.65	4.89	2.86	4.67	
September...	5.624	2.321	.....	2.087	3.32	0.98	0.15	5.56	1.37	1.71	1.75	1.22	.....	1.80	2.00	2.96	10.60	11.83	3.25	7.19	
October....	4.505	0.275	.....	1.103	0.70	1.31	0.92	4.94	1.38	2.10	3.00	1.64	.....	1.20	2.92	5.36	10.26	5.96	3.69	2.87	
November....	3.028	1.791	.....	1.970	1.69	1.11	0.62	3.20	1.53	2.79	1.88	1.81	.....	2.18	1.94	2.82	6.58	3.25	1.66	1.23 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
December....	7.230	5.428	.....	11.614	8.07	8.39	3.44	15.51	9.07	10.01	11.24	6.46	.....	8.50	9.97	9.87	16.26	7.65	5.64	8.53	
Total fall in 1868	99.662	55.545	.....	91.215	70.46	64.18	50.98	130.15	115.32	125.70	123.09	95.65	.....	110.41	122.36	143.47	183.74	137.29	81.60	112.12	
Fall in 1867..	76.126	43.284	.....	.....	56.99	35.970	35.12	99.94	60.82	62.950	73.67	65.50	60.16	72.03	81.34 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	84.91	141.23	83.59 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	61.05	71.66	
Fall in 1866..	57.772	45.049	40.811	.....	50.29	20.741	20.72	88.02	40.68	.....	.....	44.55 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	43.24	48.69 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	.....	67.67	129.42	70.24 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	51.05 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	70.51	
Fall in 1865..	97.546	67.532	60.949	85.371	87.63	44.737	36.57	147.74	79.44	.....	.....	87.11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	81.19	78.77	.....	.....	192.45	135.21	100.84 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	115.60 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
Fall in 1864..	.....	48.894	42.652	51.552	57.25	24.147	24.17	.....	56.61	.....	.....	54.60	48.58	70.59	.....	.....	122.48	83.36	.....	.....	
Fall in 1863..	.....	54.560	64.275	.....	70.72	33.420	33.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	99.76	80.66	81.09	.....	.....	147.09	.....	.....	.....	
Fall in 1862..	.....	41.560	41.840	.....	52.23	28.397	25.36	.....	.....	.....	.....	69.07	.....	59.51	.....	.....	122.54	.....	.....	.....	

METEOROLOGY.

## GALES AND HURRICANES AT SEA.

Storms were experienced by 78 vessels in the Indian Ocean during the course of 1868.

From the 2nd to the 4th of January 1868, a strong gale prevailed at Mauritius. The Barometer, which began to fall on the 2nd, went down from 29.998 at noon on that day to 29.612 (in all 0.386 inch) at 4 P.M. on the 3rd.

From the morning of the 2nd to the morning of the 3rd, the wind was East, South-East, North-West, West, and West-South West.

4.22 inches of rain fell at Port Louis, from the 2nd to the 4th, inclusive.

From the 13th to the 17th of January 1868, Mauritius was visited by a strong gale.

The Barometer began to fall on the 13th, and went down from 30.004 at noon on that day, to 29.644 (in all 0.360 inch) at 2½ P.M. on the 17th.

From the morning of the 13th to the morning of the 17th the wind was East-South-East, South, South-South-West, and West.

2.48 inches of rain fell at Port Louis from the 13th to the 17th, inclusive.

On the 11th and 12th of March, 1868, a terrific hurricane swept over Mauritius, causing great destruction of life and property in every part of the Island.

The Barometer began to fall on the 8th, and went down from 29.996 at 3½ A.M. on that day, to 28.914 at 8½ A.M. on the 12th (in all 1.082 inch).

The fall of rain on the 11th and 12th was very heavy in every district, 2.87 inches fell at Port Louis from the 8th to the 10th. On the evening of the 11th the rain-gauge at the Observatory was unfortunately carried away by the wind.

Detailed accounts of the above are entered in the Books of the Meteorological Society.

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