



FIG. 2.—Profile along the line A B.

eastern slopes forests flourish for only a short distance below the 10,000-foot timber line. Then comes chaparral, and finally the desert. The latter extends far beyond the borders of California to the outlying ranges of the Rockies.

Thus topography and winds are the controlling factors in the distribution of forests. They make most of the Pacific coast a region of winter rains and summer droughts, and, away from the coast, limit the forests to the higher altitudes.

**AN IMPORTANT OLD LOCAL WEATHER RECORD FOR PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

Mr. John W. Dulles, President of the Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania, which was founded in 1794, states that the company has what appears to be a continuous and admirable record of the temperature, wind, and weather at Philadelphia, kept up for over 50 years, beginning with May, 1806. The following table is sent by Mr. Dulles as a sample page. Without having any further detailed information about this record, we need only call attention to the fact that whenever such records have been published in full,

with appropriate notes and discussion, they have been recognized as important contributions to our knowledge of local climatology, and have often been made the basis of further studies relative to insurance, crops, hygiene, and other practical matters. The local climatology is a matter that interests respective cities and States, and there is no propriety in the idea that the Federal Government or the general Weather Bureau should undertake publications that have mostly a local interest. Two famous records of this kind were published by the Smithsonian Institution in order to show how such work should be done. Possibly some great work of the kind may be encouraged by the Carnegie Institution, but we ought more properly to look to the wealthy men of Philadelphia to support its own local scientific institutions, such as the famous American Philosophical Society, founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1741. This society has always shown a great interest in meteorology, and should be honored by the gift of funds for publishing and discussing such a fine, long series of records as that which is now locked up in the archives of the insurance company.

January, 1807.	Wind.			Weather.			Degrees of heat and cold.				Remarks.
	A. M.	M.	P. M.	A. M.	M.	P. M.	A. M.	M.	P. M.	Mean.	
1.....	n.	n.	s.	Clear	Clear	Clear	23	24	25½	24	Sharp frost.
2.....	sw.	sw.	sw.	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	26½	28½	30	28½	Frost.
3.....	sw.	nw.	nw.	Fling clouds	Light clouds	Fling clouds	32½	33½	34½	33½	Last night rained a littel and froze this mornen, which rendered walken extremely dangerous.
4.....	sw.	sw.	sw.	Clear	Clear	Clear	32	33	34	33	
5.....	sw.	s.	sw.	do	do	Light clouds	34	35½	38½	35½	
6.....	sw.	w.	w.	Hazy	Fling clouds	Clear	41	42	42	41½	
7.....	sw.	sw.	w.	Cloudy	Cloudy	do	40	40½	41	40½	
8.....	w.	nw.	nw.	Clear	Fling clouds	Fling clouds	37	37	37½	37	
9.....	sw.	sw.	sw.	do	Clear	Clear	33	33½	36	34	Frosty.
10.....	s.	s.	s.	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	33½	34½	36	34½	
11.....	sw.	w.	w.	do	Fling clouds	Fling clouds	36	37	37½	36½	
12.....	n.	nw.	nw.	Clear	Clear	Clear	35	34½	34½	34½	Severe frost this day.
13.....	nw.	nw.	nw.	Cloudy	Fling clouds	do	28	27½	27	27½	Last night between 10 and 12 it blew a stiff galle from the W., the air very clear and cold; this morning the river shut, but opened again in the afternoon.
14.....	sw.	w.	w.	Clear	Clear	do	23	23½	25½	24	
15.....	sw.	sw.	sw.	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	32½	34	35½	34	
16.....	nw.	nw.	sw.	Fling clouds	Clear	Fling clouds	36	37	38½	37	
17.....	nw.	nw.	nw.	do	Fling clouds	do	32	32½	33	32½	
18.....	n.	n.	n.	Snow	Snowy	Snowy	32	32	31½	31½	
19.....	nw.	nw.	w.	Clear	Clear	Clear	21	21½	23	21½	
20.....	sw.	sw.	sw.	do	do	do	18½	19½	22½	20	
21.....	wdw.	nw.	nw.	do	do	do	24½	26½	28	26½	Severe frost, with the navigation of the river shut.
22.....	nw.	nw.	nw.	do	Hazy	do	25½	26½	28	26½	
23.....	ne.	ne.	se.	Cloudy	do	Fling clouds	24½	25	27½	25½	
24.....	sw.	nw.	nw.	do	Cloudy	Cloudy	31	32½	34	32½	
25.....	w.	nw.	nw.	Clear	Fling clouds	Clear	31	31½	31	31½	
26.....	nw.	nw.	nw.	do	Clear	do	22	22	22½	22	
27.....	ne.	ne.	se.	Hazy	Hazy	Hazy	21	24	27½	24½	
28.....	s.	w.	se.	Cloudy	Cloudy	Clear	39	41	42½	40½	Thaw.
29.....	sw.	w.	w.	Light clouds	Light clouds	do	39½	41	42½	41	
30.....	sw.	nw.	sw.	Clear	Clear	do	39½	40	41½	40½	
31.....	ne.	se.	s.	Rainy	Rainy	Rainy	39	40½	42	40½	This day very wet, afternoon very foggy and dense.

NOTE—Fling clouds = flying clouds.—EDITOR.

**RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE WEATHER BUREAU LIBRARY.**

H. H. KIMBALL, Librarian.

The following titles have been selected from among the books recently received, as representing those most likely to be useful to Weather Bureau officials in their meteorological work and studies. Most of them can be loaned for a limited time to officials and employees who make application for them.

**American Association for the Advancement of Science.**  
 Proceedings of the fifty-fourth meeting, held at Philadelphia, Pa., December 27-31, 1904. 620 pp. 8°. [Washington] 1905.

**Biot, [Jean Baptiste].**  
 Recherches sur les réfractons extraordinaires qui ont lieu près de l'horizon. 268 pp. 4°. Paris. 1810.

**Carnegie Institution of Washington.**  
 Year Book. No. 4, 1905. 4°. Washington. 1905.

**Clayden, Arthur W[illiam].**  
 Cloud studies. xiii, 184 pp. 8°. London. 1905.

**Costa Rica. Instituto Fisico-Geografico Nacional.**  
 Anales. Tomo IX. 1896. f°. San José. 1896.

**Gockel, A[ibert].**  
 Das Gewitter. 264 pp. 8°. Köln. 1905.

**Lausanne. Institut Agricole de Lausanne.**