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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Dr. Charles F. Brooks,
of Clark University,
discusses:

TYPES OF WINTER STORMS

Winter storms may be roughly divided into three types, the usual rain or snow-storm, the northeaster, and the blizzard. The usual storm may come with an almost windless, cold, stagnant lower atmosphere, or may be accompanied by gusty winds which drive the rain in sheets or whirl the snow into drifts. In summer the same general weather conditions produce an ordinary rainy day.

The northeaster is a phase of the same type, with strong northeast winds of some duration. This is often a "good old-fashioned snowstorm". In its most intense form it often receives the name of blizzard, but, strictly speaking, this is a misnomer.

The true blizzard is almost unknown in the East. It sometimes occurs in the Middle West, but its native heath is the Great Plains. It is usually a snow-driving, northerly gale of zero cold. The fierce winds gather up the snow-dust from the ground and whirl it about to such a height that it is impossible to tell whether more snow is forming or not. The penetrating gale and all-pervading snow-dust quickly bring death to those who lose their way in the maddening wind and bewildering snow-fog.

(Tomorrow: The Winter Northeaster)

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