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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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ENJOYING WEATHER

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The lover of Nature can extract pleasure out of all kinds of weather.

Listen to the Shepherd in "Noctes Ambrosianae":

"Well, do you ken, sir, that I never saw in a' my born days what I could wi' a safe conscience hae ca'd bad weather? The warst has aye some redeemin' quality about it that enabled me to thole it without yaumerin' [endure it without grumbling]. Though we may na be able to see, we can aye think of the clear blue lift [sky]. Weather, sir, aiblins [perhaps] no to speak very scientially in the way o' meteorological observation -- but rather in a poetical, that is, a religious spirit -- may be defined, I jalouse [suspect], 'the expression o' the fluctuations and modifications of feeling in the heart o' the heevens made audible and visible and tangible on their face and bosom.' That's weather."

I am reminded of the Shepherd's attitude of mind in reading a new book by Arthur Gardner, entitled "Sun, Cloud and Snow in the Western Highlands," in which the author evinces the same catholic enjoyment of Scottish weather; many aspects of which are presented in the numerous photographs, of his own taking, with which the book is illustrated.

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