

For Release
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Dr. John Lining! The Mayor and Historical Commission of Charleston, S.C., are today unveiling a tablet in memory of this man, the first in America to take regular weather observations with instruments. He came from Scotland in 1730 with a medical degree in his pocket. Noting the seasonal occurrence of some diseases, he decided to make weather observations to "arrive at some more certain Knowledge of the Causes of Epidemic Diseases." He communicated his findings to the Royal Society. He performed Franklin's famous kite experiment, drawing electricity from the clouds --- luckily receiving only a severe shock in his shoulder. One of his weather instruments was a hygroscope made out of a whipcord. -----