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War and weather! General Washington once wrote: "A very heavy storm of wind and rain frustrated their design"; that is, the enemy's effort to take Dorchester Heights in March, 1776. The rain fell in torrents, and a gale of wind caused a dangerous surf, making it impossible for the opposing forces to land. Temperature, wind, precipitation, and fog or clouds are most important in either aiding or hindering military operations. Military commanders now insist upon complete current weather information when planning operations, and full climatological data before preparing expeditions abroad, as the kind of clothing and other supplies depend upon what weather may be encountered.
