

In 1861 Dr. LeConte was married to Helen, daughter of the late Judge Grier, who, with two sons, survives him.

Dr. LeConte died Nov. 15, 1883, and was buried in West Laurel Hill cemetery, in the vicinity of Philadelphia. His death is an irreparable loss to American science, and a calamity in his special department.

GEORGE H. HORN.

THE WEATHER IN OCTOBER, 1883.

THE monthly review of the U. S. signal-service gives in copious detail the weather conditions which prevailed in October. The peculiar features of the month were the deficiency in temperature and excess in rainfall in the greater part of the country. The former was most strongly marked in the Missouri valley and New England, the mean temperature falling below the average $3^{\circ}.7$ and $3^{\circ}.6$ respectively in these districts. In Tennessee, Florida, the Rio Grande valley, the South Atlantic and Gulf states, however, the mean temperature was from $2^{\circ}.5$ to $4^{\circ}.3$ above the average; so that the distribution of temperature was rather irregular. One instance of a maximum temperature of 100° was noted, while the frosts were frequent.

The distribution of rainfall is indicated by the following table:—

Average precipitation for October, 1883.

Districts.	Average for October. Signal-service observations.		Comparison of October, 1883, with the average for several years.
	For several years.	For 1883.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
New England	3.82	6.23	2.41 excess.
Middle Atlantic states . .	3.07	5.13	2.06 excess.
South Atlantic states . .	4.77	3.14	1.63 deficiency.
Florida peninsula . . .	6.27	9.09	2.82 excess.
Eastern gulf	3.79	2.51	1.28 deficiency.
Western gulf	3.75	5.23	1.48 excess.
Rio Grande valley . . .	3.86	0.94	2.92 deficiency.
Tennessee	3.42	5.60	2.18 excess.
Ohio valley	3.04	6.75	3.71 excess.
Lower lakes	3.12	2.86	0.26 deficiency.
Upper lakes	3.80	3.62	0.18 deficiency.
Extreme north-west . .	2.01	2.93	0.92 excess.
Upper Mississippi valley, .	3.19	4.82	1.63 excess.
Missouri valley	2.01	4.12	2.11 excess.
Northern slope	0.81	1.94	1.13 excess.
Middle slope	1.26	3.40	2.14 excess.
Southern slope	1.57	2.98	1.41 excess.
Northern plateau . . .	2.50	1.64	0.86 deficiency.
Southern plateau . . .	0.67	0.84	0.17 excess.
North Pacific coast . .	4.45	3.49	0.96 deficiency.
Middle Pacific coast . .	1.11	1.71	0.60 excess.
South Pacific coast . .	0.33	1.16	0.83 excess.

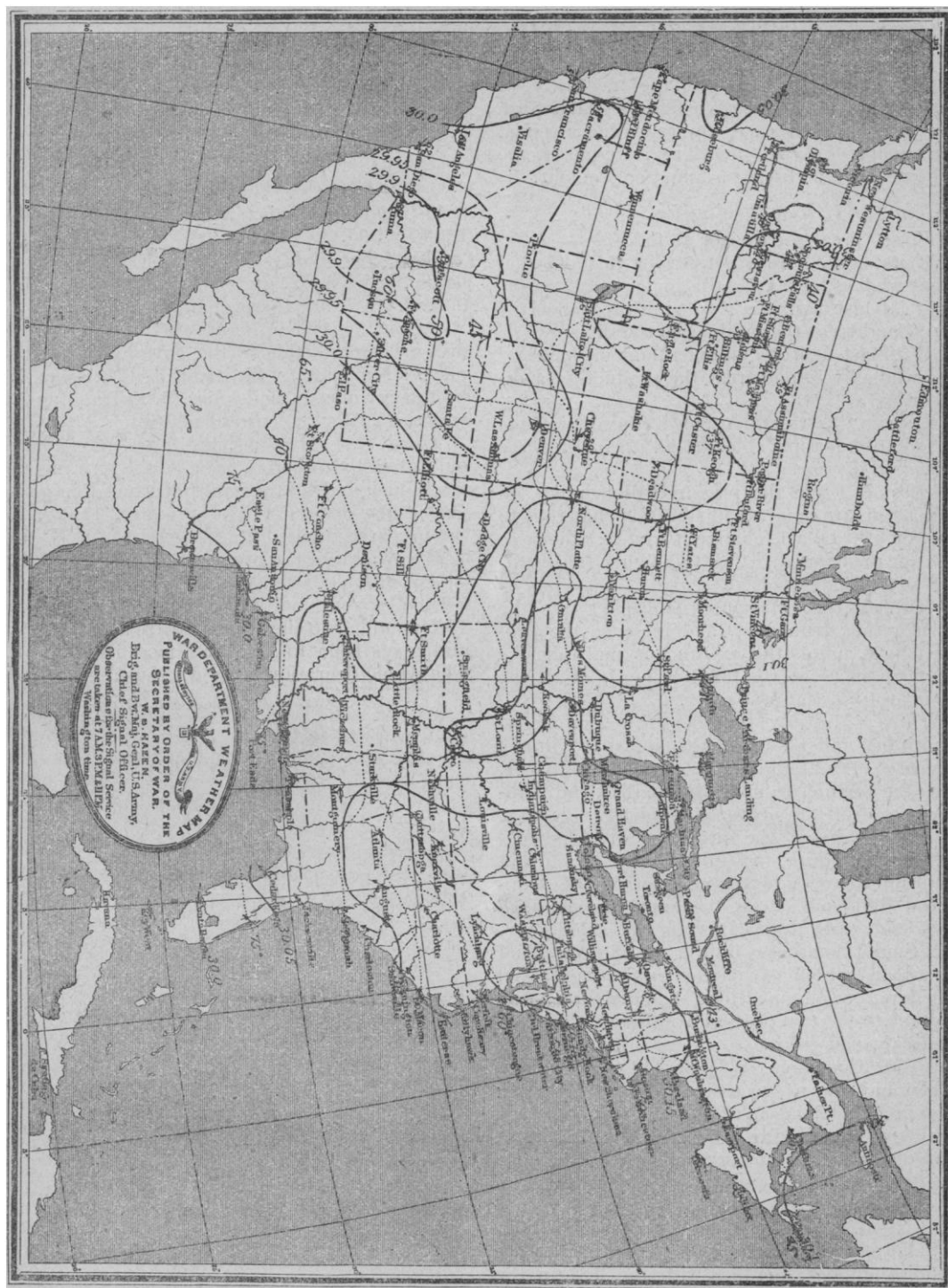
The drought in New England and in some

portions of the Southern States was broken by the copious rains of the month, but still continued in other sections.

The storms of the month present some noticeable features. The weather over the North Atlantic Ocean was generally stormy, being attended by a succession of strong westerly breezes. There were seven depressions charted on the ocean, all of which moved in a north-easterly direction. Of these, four were continuations of storms in the United States, one of which moved to the British coast; and one was a tropical hurricane which gave evidence of its presence off the Atlantic coast by high winds at coast stations, and which moved north-eastward as far as the twentieth meridian. Nine depressions were charted in the United States; all, with one exception, moving north-easterly, and but one being a severe storm. This occurred on the 17th and 18th, causing violent gales on Lake Michigan, though few casualties were reported. One depression moved in quite an unusual path: it was reported at Yuma, Arizona, on the 2d, and moved in a northerly direction into British America. There is reason to believe that it was a tropical hurricane which crossed Mexico in the latter part of September from the Caribbean Sea, and, recurving in the Pacific, entered the country in Arizona as a weak depression. All of the tropical hurricanes of this season have run their courses mainly in the ocean. Though they have been fully as numerous and as severe as usual, their ravages have been confined to the islands in their path and to the vessels exposed to their fury.

Sunspots continue to be numerous. There was only one brilliant aurora in October, and this was observed principally in New England and northern New York. Severe shocks of earthquake were experienced in San Francisco on the 9th and 10th, causing considerable alarm, but no material damage. A new volcano has made its appearance, bursting out in Bering Sea: it has been exceedingly active, having already formed an island eight hundred to twelve hundred feet high. On the 20th a shower of mixed sand and water fell at Unalashka, sixty miles east of the volcano, which may have come from it.

The accompanying map represents the mean pressure, temperature, and wind-directions. The former is worthy of note because of the regular increase of pressure from west to east. Usually there are two high areas in October, — one near the eastern coast, and the other in the north-western territories. The latter was wanting in October of this year.



MONTHLY MEAN ISOBARS, ISOTHERMS, AND WIND-DIRECTIONS, OCTOBER, 1883. REPRINTED IN REDUCED FORM BY PERMISSION OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL-OFFICER.