

points ($67^{\circ} 30'$) have been accepted as the value most frequently met in actual practice.' Taking this value, the following rule approximately fixes the bearing of the storm center from a vessel in the northern hemisphere: Stand with back to the wind; the storm center bears six points to the observer's left. It is, nevertheless, perfectly clear that the angle between the wind direction and the gradient often differs considerably from this average value, not only in different storms, but also in different parts of the same storm. No simple rule of thumb can ever replace the careful judgment of the individual seaman who has a good understanding of the law of storms, and who makes an intelligent use of his own local meteorological observations.

CLOUD OBSERVATIONS AT SIMLA.

CLOUD observations and measurements were made at Simla during the twenty months from June, 1900, to January, 1902, under many disadvantages of unfavorable weather and lack of time on the part of the observers. Photogrammeters were used, but only about 47 fairly good observations were obtained during the period. The average heights above sea level, and above Simla, of the clouds for the year were as follows:

Cloud.	Above Sea Level.	Above Simla.
Cirrus	37,664 feet.	30,440 feet.
Cirro-cumulus	25,083 "	17,859 "
Cumulus	14,528 "	7,304 "
Fracto-cumulus	13,143 "	5,919 "

These heights do not agree very closely with those previously obtained at Allahabad (Indian Met. Memoirs, Vol. XI.). Cirrus clouds are most frequent at Simla between 16,000 and 40,000 feet above the earth's surface, and the other forms of cloud between 16,000 feet and the surface. (W. L. Dallas: 'Report on Cloud Observations and Measurements at Simla,' Ind. Met. Mem., XV., Part II., Calcutta, 1903.)

R. DEC. WARD.

SANITATION AND THE PANAMA CANAL.

A SMALL committee representing the American Medical Association, the American Asso-

ciation for the Advancement of Science and the New York Academy of Medicine, called on President Roosevelt, November 25, for the purpose of presenting resolutions passed by the organizations mentioned, urging the President to appoint upon the Panama Canal Commission a medical man who shall be an expert sanitarian.

The committee consisted of Drs. Musser, of Philadelphia, Welch and Osler, of Baltimore, and Bryant, of New York, representing the American Medical Association; Dr. Howard, of Washington, representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Dr. A. H. Smith and Dr. Loomis, representing the New York Academy of Medicine.

The resolutions were presented to President Roosevelt by Dr. Welch, who made a brief statement urging that the sanitary problem connected with the building of the canal was quite as serious as the engineering problem and pressing the point that a medical expert should be a member of the commission rather than a servant of the commission.

The views of the joint committees were received by the President with interest, but while he was evidently perfectly aware of the enormous importance of the sanitary problem connected with the project, he gave no assurance that he would adopt the specific suggestion of the committees.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FACULTY OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR ROBERT H. THURSTON.

THE faculty and instructing staff of Cornell University wishing to give voice to the sentiments evoked by the death of their colleague and friend, Professor Robert Henry Thurston, Director of Sibley College, have directed the following to be entered upon the records of the university faculty and communicated to his family.

Professor Thurston came among us in 1885 when the university had barely entered upon its present era of development, and the college over which he came to preside was still small in numbers and poor in equipment. During the eighteen years of his labors he witnessed the progress of the university in all of its de-