the sandy nature of their soil, an average higher temperature than the inhabitants of New-York, where the surface consists in a great measure of clay, or some other compact earth. As, however, in that portion of the United States which is inhabited, the lands already cleared and cultivated do not probably exceed one-eighth part of its surface, it necessarily follows that we shall eventually see our climate undergo as great a change as that of England has undoubtedly done since the time of CÆSAR, only in a far shorter period.

Climatology.

As the climate of every country has an inseparable relation with the physical character of its inhabitants, the attention of the Government was directed, some few years since, to the collection of correct meteorological statistics throughout the whole of the United States. For this purpose the requisite instruments were sent to the different military posts, in order that systematic observations might be made, and America contribute her quota of information to a branch of knowledge which is rapidly advancing into the dignity of a science. There has not as yet, however, been any formal report; but scattered through various documents belonging to the Government, as well as in different scientific works, there are many facts which afford us a variety of information that partially explains how it is that even in the most eastern of the New-England States, where the races have not been so much mixed as in the more central ones, the original form and features of the first settlers are entirely lost.

One of the most striking peculiarities of our climate when contrasted with that of Europe is the extreme dryness of our atmosphere, for although we have as many rainy days, with the exception, perhaps, of England and Norway, as occur in Europe generally, yet our air so readily parts with all its moisture, that no sooner does it cease raining than the hydrometer commences at once to sink, and soon shows that the atmosphere is as dry as ever. This extreme dryness may be partially explained from the fact that here, as well as in Europe, westerly winds prevail, and that while they go to the coasts of Europe loaded with a superabundance of moisture, gathered during their passage across the Atlantic, they reach us only after passing over a whole continent, when they have necessarily lost a great portion of their humidity. Hence with us a westerly wind is always a dry wind, while in Europe it almost invariably brings rain with it. How far this fact influences the electrical state of the atmosphere we are unable to judge from the information before us, but should be led from our own observations to consider it the source of much of that nervous activity which seems to belong peculiarly to our people, and to have assisted in forming that American type which the last two hundred years have produced. For the same Omnipotence that created man adapts him in a comparatively short period to the physical as well as the moral circumstances in which he is to dwell upon the earth.

The extremes of heat and cold do not occur at our most Northern and Southern posts, as they are situated on large bodies of water, but at the inland Western stations, and for the same reason the mean Summer temperature of Augusta, Ga., is greater than along the coast of Florida. While at Key West during the present year, the thermometer never or rarely rose above 90°, it attained at Council Bluffs—a point upwards of seventeen degrees further North—a height of at least 102°—an amount of heat unknown on the same latitude in Europe. But although the thermometer may, on the whole, be some few degrees higher here, during the heats of Summer, than in most parts of Europe, yet we suffer but little more from its effects; for as the air there is more loaded with humidity, causing a diminution of the cutaneous and pulmonary transpiration—the evaporation of which creates a cooling process—languor and listlessness, with an indisposition to mental and corporeal exertion, are necessarily induced, which is rarely the case here. Neither again do we in Winter experience that feeling of intense cold, even though the mercury may range some degrees lower, that is often felt in the damp, humid atmosphere of Europe. Ordinarily, we should be led to suppose that places in the same latitudes would experience the same degree of average heat and cold, but this is not true as regards America and Europe. For the Gulf Stream which stretches across the Atlantic between Cape Hatteras and the Azores, forming nearly in the middle of the North Atlantic a lake of warm water, according to RENNELL, not much inferior to the Mediterranean in extent, has a considerable effect on the temperature of Europe, while we are subject to the influence of a cold stream, sweeping immense masses of ice into lower latitudes, breaking upon our Northern coasts.

Climate, it would seem, is also considerably influenced by the chemical and geological character of the surface of the earth,—one soil quickly parting with its acquired heat, while another retains it tenaciously. Hence, our neighbors of New-Jersey enjoy, owing to