

This gives the mean standing of the barometer and thermometer, during the day hours, at 30.32 in., and 66.33° for the summer months.

The state of the weather, during the period of one hundred and six days, was as follows :

Fair,	76 days.
Cloudy,	19 "
Rain,	11 "
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						106

In my inquiries of the residents, I am inclined to the opinion that the above is a very fair estimate of the weather, though they almost all differed in their statements: some spoke of the season as a very bad one, others thought it was very fine. The crops of all descriptions of grain were good, which I supposed to be the best criterion.

The climate of the western section, throughout the year, is mild; and they neither experience extreme heat in summer, nor severe cold in winter. I am disposed to believe this to be owing to the constant prevalence of the southwesterly or ocean winds. It certainly is not owing to the influence of any warm stream setting along its shores. The current near the coast sets to the southeast, and is of a cold temperature: it would rather tend to lessen the heats in summer than the cold in winter. There have been no observations kept by the missionaries in this lower section of the country. It is liable, from the experience of our parties, to early frosts, owing to the proximity of the Snowy Mountains. Frosts sometimes occur in the latter part of August, which check all vegetation at that early season.

The southwest winds are caused by the vast extent of the sandy and arid country lying east of the Cascade and Californian range of mountains, which becoming heated rarefies the air, and causes an indraught from the west. This current is found to increase in violence as the rarefied region is approached; and so constant is this draught, that we experienced only three days of easterly winds during our stay, and these were very moderate in force. Immediately on the coast, the winds are from the west-southwest to west-northwest: these maintain their direction until they reach the interior, and blow with great violence.

The winters are invariably what would be termed open ones with us. Snow seldom falls, and when it does, it rarely lasts more than two or three days. The rains during this season are frequent, though not violent. The climate in the western section, from all accounts, is not unlike that of England, and would be termed a wet one. The winter of 1840 was the severest they had yet experienced.