

divided. Some take the words "Way of the Sea" to mean merely the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of the Lake; others restrict the words to the tract of land *west* of the Lake; others again seem to place "The Way of the Sea" wholly "beyond Jordan," or *east* of the Lake. Following a hint given by Lightfoot (Chorog. Cent., ch. 71), I had thought that "The Way of the Sea" might be a narrow strip or "full line" of dry land on the east coast of the Lake, belonging to Naphthali, whereon the fishers of Naphthali might "draw out their nets," for (according to Lightfoot) the Lake was wholly within the territory of Naphthali.

In the midst of all this uncertainty, it is refreshing to learn that the *Via Maris* is simply a "well-known and important commercial highway" connecting Damascus with the Mediterranean Sea; that it crosses the Upper Jordan at the Bridge of Jacob's Daughters; and that it is much frequented, though in a ruinous state, at the present day. Perhaps Josephus (Ant. v, i, 22) is merely alluding to the point at which the *Via Maris* crosses the Jordan, when his words *seem* to include the city of Damascus within the portion of Naphthali—an interpretation which Lightfoot (*l. c.*) says "would be ridiculous."

Can the identification of the *Via Maris* of Isaiah ix, 1, with Herr Schumacher's "third principal and caravan road" be substantiated? And, if so, what does the phrase mean in Kings xix, 43?

CHARLES DRUITT.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

1880.

THE numbers in column 1 of this table show the highest reading of the barometer in each month; of these, the highest appear in the winter, and the lowest in the summer months. The maximum for the year was in January, viz., 30·269. In column 2 the lowest in each month are shown; the minimum, 29·489 ins., was in April; the range of readings in the year was 0·780 inch. The numbers in the 3rd column show the range of readings in each month; the smallest is in October, being a fifth of an inch, whilst the largest is in April, being somewhat more than half an inch. The numbers in the 4th column show the mean monthly pressure of the atmosphere; the largest is in January and the smallest in July.

The highest temperatures of the air in each month are shown in column 5. The highest temperature in the year was 103° in May, but the temperature exceeded 90° in every month from April to November. The first day in the year the temperature reached 90° was on April 12th, and there were two other days in this month when the temperature was more than 90°; in May there were five days when the temperature reached and exceeded 90°; the highest, 103°, took place on the 23rd. In June there were two such days, in July six days, in August seven days, in September

nine days, the highest of which, on the sixth day, was 102° ; in October four days, and in November one day—on the 4th, when the temperature was as high as 96° , and this was the last day in the year of such a high temperature as 90° ; therefore the temperature reached and exceeded 90° on 36 days in the year.

The numbers in column 6 show the lowest temperature of the air in each month; in January it was as low as 32° on two different nights, and was below 40° on three other nights; in February it was as low as 32° on one night, and below 40° on four other nights; in March it was as low as 34° on the 17th, and below 40° on two other nights; and the temperature was not below 40° in any other month of the year: therefore the temperature at night was as low as 32° on three nights, and it was below 40° on thirteen nights in the year. The yearly range of temperature was 71° . The range of temperature in each month is shown in column 7, and these numbers vary from 25° in August to 53° in both April and May.

The mean of all the highest temperatures by day, of the lowest by night, and of the average daily ranges of temperature are shown in columns 8, 9, 10, respectively. Of the high day temperatures the lowest was in January— $58^{\circ}5$ —and the highest in July, August, and September. Of the low night temperatures, the coldest, $42^{\circ}9$, took place in January, and the warmest, 69° , was in August. The average daily range of temperature, as shown in column 10, in January— $15^{\circ}6$ —is the smallest, whilst that in December was of nearly the same value; and the largest was in May— $23^{\circ}9$.

In column 11, the mean temperature of each month, as found from observations of the maximum and minimum thermometers only. The month of lowest temperature was January, $50^{\circ}7$, and that of the highest was August, 79° . The mean temperature for the year was $66^{\circ}4$.

The numbers in columns 12 and 13 are the monthly means of a dry and wet-bulb thermometer taken daily at 9 a.m.; and in column 14 the monthly temperature of the dew point at the same hour, or that of temperature at which dew would have been deposited. The elastic force of vapour is shown in column 15, and in column 16 the water present in a cubic foot of air in January was as small as $3\frac{1}{4}$ grains, whilst in July it was as large as $9\frac{1}{4}$ grains. The numbers in column 18 show the degree of humidity, saturation being condensed as 100; the smallest number is in April, and the largest numbers are in January and September. The weight of a cubic foot of air under its pressure, temperature, and humidity at 9 a.m. is shown in column 19.

The most prevalent winds in January were S.E. and S., and the least prevalent were N. and N.W. In February the most prevalent was S.E., and the least prevalent N. and N.W. In March the most prevalent were N.E. and W., and the least prevalent N. and N.W. In April the most prevalent was S.W., and the least were N., N.E., and E. In May the most prevalent were W. and its compounds, and the least N., S.E., and S. In June, July, August, September, and October the most prevalent were the S. winds, and the least prevalent were N., E., and its compounds.

In November the most prevalent were S.E. and S.W., and the least prevalent were N., N.W.; and in December the most prevalent wind was S., and the least prevalent were N. and N.W.

The numbers in column 29 show the mean amount of cloud at 9 a.m.; the month with the smallest amount is June, and the largest March. Of the cumulus, or fine weather cloud, there were 111 instances in the year; of these there were 15 in May, 17 in June, 18 in July, and 19 in August, and but 2 only in each of the months February and December. Of the nimbus, or rain cloud, there were 58 instances in the year, of which 12 were in January, 12 in February, and 13 in December, and but 3 only from May to October. Of the cirro-cumulus there were 38 instances; of the cirrus, 41; of stratus, 10; and cirro-stratus, 5. There were 103 instances in the year of cloudless skies, of which 15 were in September, 12 in June, 12 in October, 10 in August, and 9 in May and November.

The largest fall of rain for the month was in December, 10.05 ins., of which 1.37 in. fell on the 7th, 1.24 in. on the 8th, and 1.08 in. on the 6th. The next largest falls for the month were in January, 5.32 ins., and in November, 4.95 ins., of which 2.15 ins. fell on Nov. 28th, and 1.11 in. on the 29th. No rain fell from the 2nd of May till the 18th of October, making a period of 168 consecutive days without rain.

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