

vations; thus we arrive at the mean temperature of the day, by adding together the temperatures observed at different hours of the day, and dividing the sum by the number of temperatures. In like manner, by adding together the mean temperatures of every day of a week, or of a month, and dividing the sum by the number of days, we obtain the mean temperature of the week or month; and so on, by similarly treating the mean temperatures of the months, or of any number of years, we obtain the *mean* temperature of the year, at a given place: and it is to be remembered, that the more numerous the observations, the more accurate will be the mean result.

Lastly, it remains to state, that the temperature always understood by the Meteorologist, (unless otherwise expressed), is the temperature of the air near the surface of the earth, as indicated by a thermometer, effectually protected from radiation and foreign influence of every kind. The temperature as indicated by a thermometer fully exposed to solar radiation, and which in its turn is allowed to radiate freely in the sun's absence, is altogether a different thing; and may be imagined to coincide very nearly with the actual temperature of the earth's surface, when similarly exposed. The fluctuations of temperature indicated under these circumstances, are much greater than those of the air above noticed;