

The air climate is in fact *postponed* by so many days; just as in an apartment some time elapses after the fire is at the hottest before the cold of the walls is reduced enough to allow of the full warming of the air. If instead of taking the register of the daily temperature in the open air, we try it in a large building without fire, we find the climate of the building *further postponed*. In York Minster, for example, it is found by a series of daily observations continued for three years, that the hottest day is nearly six weeks after the summer solstice, or a fortnight after the hottest day in the open air; and the coldest day nearly six weeks after the winter solstice, or a fortnight after the coldest day in the open air. (See Appendix.)

This postponement of the effect of summer and winter influences is still more sensible and regular below the surface of the ground. By many experiments in Scotland, France, Belgium, and Germany, which have been completely studied by Quetelet and Forbes, it is found that the middle of summer and winter, so to speak, occur—

At the surface in July and January;
3 feet deep in August and February;
12 feet deep in October and April;
24 feet deep in December and June;

And at less than 100 feet the variations of summer and winter become wholly insensible.

Masses of elevated land, and broad tracts of deep water, affect climate in the same way, by giving out in late autumn and winter some warmth which they had acquired in summer, and on the other hand, by absorbing in spring and early summer a more than fair proportion of the solar heat. Hence one of the advantages to the invalid of a prolonged residence at Scarborough, or in some sheltered Yorkshire dale, till December, January, and even February, have spent their cooling power on the inland surfaces; but for the same reasons the disadvantage of these stations in March, April, and even May.

But it is not only by prolonging the summer and postponing