

NOTES ON THE WEATHER DURING 1883.

JANUARY.—Very fine throughout, with generally moderate winds prevailing from N.E. and N.W.; little rain; temperature about the average.

FEBRUARY.—Rainfall at most places greatly in excess of average; on the whole a wet unpleasant month; temperature in excess. Earthquakes at Wellington on 5th at 10 p.m., slight, and 14th, between 2 and 3 a.m., slight.

MARCH.—Rain generally in excess, but some very fine pleasant weather, with prevailing southerly winds; the temperature about the average. Earthquakes at Wellington on 21st at 7-30 a.m., slight, and 28th at 10-30 p.m., slight. Aurora on 28th.

APRIL.—Generally wet unpleasant weather, with S. and S.W. winds and low temperature. Tongariro in eruption.

MAY.—In the north rain in excess, but moderate in south; moderate winds, and temperature above the average.

JUNE.—On the whole fine for time of year, with little rain, and temperature above average; strong winds at Central Station from westward, with hail, showers, and squally.

JULY.—A showery month generally, although some fine weather at intervals; temperature about the average. Earthquakes reported at Wellington on 4th after midnight, smart; on 5th at 3-3 a.m., slight; and on 9th at 2-40 p.m., slight.

AUGUST.—Fine month, with rain below the average, but at times squally cold weather. Tidal disturbances felt, and sharp earthquake in north.

SEPTEMBER.—Generally showery early and latter part of month, but fine during middle, with moderate variable winds. Earthquake at Wellington on 27th at 7-15 p.m. A vivid colouration of the southern sky after sunset and before sunrise was observed during this month, due probably to vapour being suspended at an unusually great altitude.

OCTOBER.—Rainfall in north in excess of average, but in south less; the temperature generally under the average; unseasonable weather.

NOVEMBER.—Generally a showery unpleasant month; rainfall in excess, and temperature below the average, and squally.

DECEMBER.—Most unseasonable weather, cold, showery and squally at most places north and south. Earthquakes recorded at Wellington on 8th at 9-30 p.m., slight; and at Dunedin on 18th, slight.

EARTHQUAKES reported in NEW ZEALAND during 1883.

Place.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Taupo	24,* 25*	14†	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Gisborne	15†	..	..	..	..	1
Patea	29*	..	..	..	..	1
Wanganui	24*	1
Wellington	5, 14	21, 28	..	..	..	4,* 5, 9	..	27	..	..	8	9
Blenheim	26*	..	..	..	1
Kaikoura	5*	..	..	..	24*	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Christchurch	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hokitika	18	1
Westport	18*	1
Timaru	18, 19	2
Balclutha	18*	1
Dunedin	18*	2
Greymouth	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18*	1
Queenstown	18†	1
Invercargill	18†	1
Bluff	18*	1

The figures denote the days of the month on which one or more shocks were felt. Those with an asterisk affixed were described as *smart*, those with a dagger as *severe shocks*. The remainder were only slight tremors, and no doubt escaped record at most stations, there being no instrumental means employed for their detection. These tables are therefore not reliable so far as indicating the geographical distribution of the shocks.