

37TH MEETING.

DECEMBER 21, 187

The President in the Chair.

Mr. CHARLES S. PEIRCE, of Cambridge, made some remarks
ON THE COINCIDENCE OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF RAINFALL
AND OF ILLITERACY, AS SHOWN BY THE STATISTICAL
MAPS OF THE NINTH CENSUS REPORTS.

(ABSTRACT.)

The author called attention to the striking resemblance between the map showing the distribution of illiteracy (the percentage of population unable to read or write) in the United States, given in the Report of the Census of 1870, and the map showing the distribution of rainfall during the three winter months published in Mr. Schott's reduction and discussion of the Smithsonian observations of that element. Mr. Peirce suggested as a possible explanation for the resemblance that the copious winter rains would produce agricultural plenty, which in its turn would induce indolence.

Mr. T. GILL read a paper

ON THE SCOMBROCOTTUS SALMONEUS OF PETERS.

Mr. J. E. HILGARD read a report

ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL
COMMISSION.

38TH MEETING.

JANUARY 4, 187

The President in the Chair.

Prof. J. R. EASTMAN read a paper on

A COMPARISON OF THE THERMOMETERS USED TO DETERMINE
CORRECTION FOR ATMOSPHERIC REFRACTION AT THE U. S.
NAVAL OBSERVATORY.

(ABSTRACT.)

The discrepancies between the two thermometers used in observations with the transit circle and the standard thermometer

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