

BAROMETERS FOR LIFE-BOAT STATIONS.

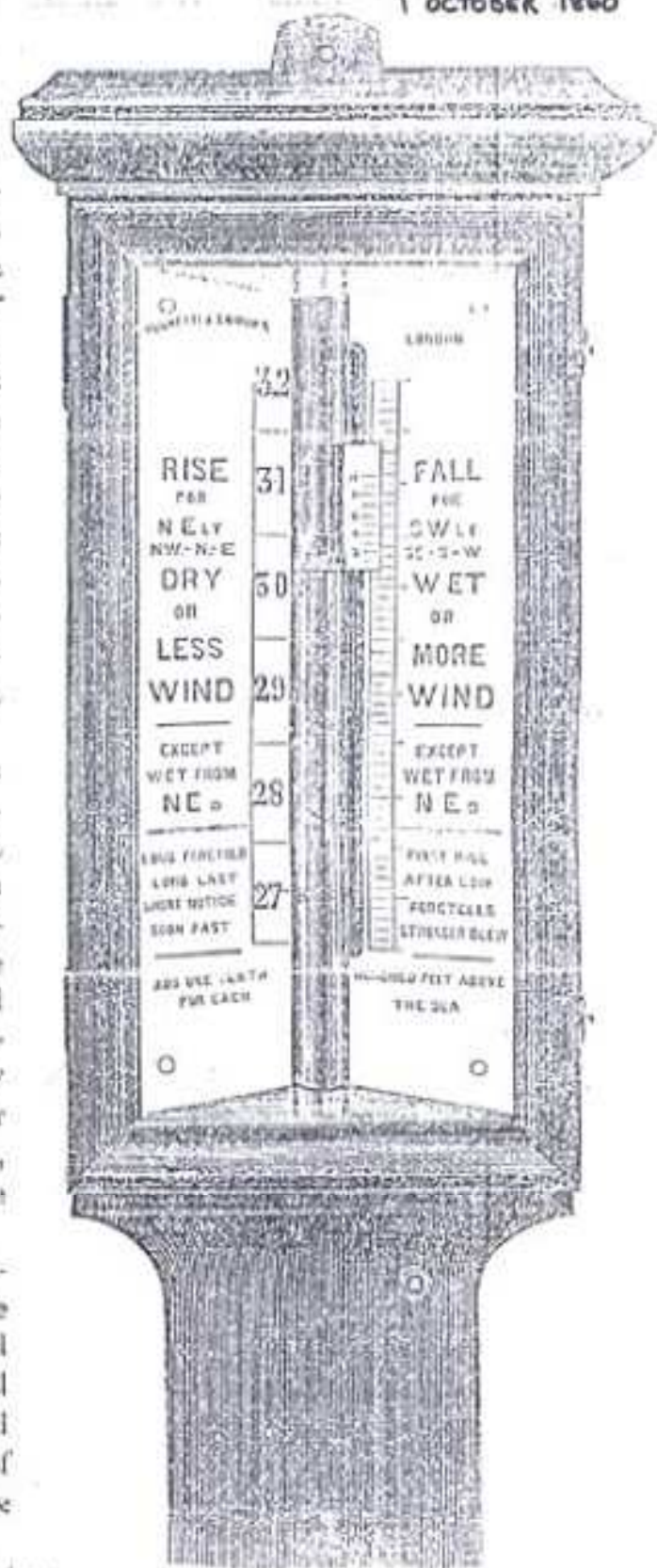
PUBLIC attention has frequently been called to the invaluable use of a barometer for indicating a coming storm. It not unfrequently happens that a notice of a gale is given by a barometer two or three days before it actually takes place. It seems plain that with such powers placed providentially in our hands the calamities now endured by our fishermen and coasters might in many instances be avoided. A good barometer in a public situation would warn them in time what to expect, and they could thus be frequently able to avoid the terrible consequences of storms, so often at present proving fatal to them.

Rear-Admiral FITZ-ROY, F.R.S., has compiled so thoroughly practical a Manual for the use of a barometer, that seafaring men or fishermen may soon become perfectly familiar with the indications of the instrument. Some time since, as Chief of the Meteorological Department of the Government, he obtained the sanction of the BOARD OF TRADE to supply some forty of our poorer fishing villages with barometers, some of which have been of great service to the fishermen.

His Grace the DUKE OF NORTHUMBURLAND, K.G., has also, jointly with the Meteorological Society, recently provided barometers for some of the principal fishing-stations on the Northumberland coast, under the superintendence of JAMES GLAISHER, Esq., F.R.S., of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

It is, however, evident that something more is absolutely required, in order to make barometers generally available for our fishing and seafaring population: it is therefore satisfactory to find that this important subject has been taken up practically by the NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.

Admiral FITZ-ROY, who is a Member of its Committee, and Mr GLAISHER, have promised to give the undertaking their cordial and valuable co-operation. Admiral



FITZ-ROY's own Manual, as well as large placards containing extracts from it, will be extensively circulated on the coast, fully explaining the working of the barometer.

It is proposed to fix such instruments, wherever found useful and practicable, in suitable positions at the Society's life-boat houses, which are situated on most parts of the coasts of the United Kingdom.