Adelaide Observer (SA: 1843 - 1904), Saturday 22 January 1881, page 22

http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article160140444

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Synopsis: Comment on absenteeism of "the clerk of the weather"

Summary:

ECHOES AND RE-ECHOES.

<cli>> The location, if not the identity, of that much-abused and oft-quoted personage, the clerk of the weather, has been discovered at last. He exists in Mr. Todd's office, and his hours are the usual Government hours, which accounts for the vagaries in the weather during the night. Moreover, he gets a holiday occasionally which also accounts for the way the weather gets adrift. A note was sent from one of the newspaper offices to Mr. Todd's office, for information concerning the rainfall, and the reply was that—" The clerk who keeps the record is absent on leave." That accounts for the sudden and ill-regulated change in the weather we have had lately. <cli>>