Prior to the Brussels Conference in 1853, Lt. M.F. Maury already prepared a draft model of a meteorological abstract log for use on board ships. As this model could be useful for the Maritime Conference, it was tested in May and June 1853 on board two Dutch naval frigates: 'Prince of Oranje' and 'Palembang'. The international abstract logs, a result of the Brussels Conference, are mainly based on the experience gained with these two logbooks. One of the original logbooks is exhibited and an explanation of its use is given.