

# SUMMARY of the OBSERVATIONS made at the STATIONS included in the DAILY and WEEKLY WEATHER REPORTS, for the CALENDAR MONTH,

## APRIL 1894.

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**General Summary.**—During the early part of the month the weather in the eastern and southern parts of the United Kingdom was mostly fair and dry. In the west, however, the conditions were less settled, and during the latter half of the period changeable showery weather became general, with thunderstorms in many places. Pressure was above the average in the east, but below it in the west; temperature was high in all districts; the winds were chiefly Southerly or South-easterly; rainfall was in excess of the normal in Ireland and at several of the English stations, but considerably below it in the north of Scotland; bright sunshine was deficient in Ireland and the west of Scotland, but fairly abundant in other localities.

**Pressure.**—*Mean for the month at 8 a.m.* ranged from 29·90 ins. in the east of Scotland, and from 29·88 ins. and upwards over the eastern parts of England to about 29·72 ins. in the west of Ireland. In the former localities the mean values were a trifle in excess of the average\* but in the more western parts of the kingdom they were below it, the deficit being greatest (0·1 in. or more) in the west and south of Ireland. *Highest* readings were recorded on the 29th or 30th, when the barometer rose to about 30·5 ins. in the west of Ireland and to 30·2 ins. and upwards in all districts excepting the extreme south and south-east of England. *Lowest* readings were observed in Ireland on the 24th, when the mercury fell to between 28·8 ins. and 29·2 ins.; over Great Britain they occurred mostly on the 16th or 17th, and varied between 29·3 ins. and 29·4 ins. *Range* was moderate in the western districts, but slight elsewhere.

**Depressions.**—In the course of the month several depressions travelled northwards outside the Irish coasts, their centres being in most instances too far to the westward for the tracks to be shown in Map 2, Plate IV. The disturbance of the 24th was of considerable depth, and occasioned very strong Southerly gales in the south of Ireland. Between the 16th and 17th a shallow depression advanced over our Islands from the south-westward and travelled across Great Britain in a northerly direction, while on the 17th and again on the 27th a small system moved south-eastwards across the south-western parts of the United Kingdom and disappeared over France.

**Anticyclones.**—Two such systems were observed. The first of these extended over our Islands from Northern Europe on the 4th and remained with us until the 7th, when it moved away to the region whence it originally sprang. The second appeared on the 19th in the form of a "col" uniting an anticyclone over Scandinavia with another lying to the south-westward of our Islands. During the 21st the system gradually broke up.

**Winds,** although rather variable, were mainly from the Southward or South-eastward. Gales were rather frequent for the time of year on our western coasts, and especially in Ireland; at Roche's Point gale force was reached on eight days. At the majority of our northern and eastern stations there was an entire absence of stormy weather, and at Stornoway the per-centage of calms was very large.

**Temperature.**—*Mean at Sea Level* ranged from 53° and upwards in the Channel Islands, and 51° and upwards over the south-east and extreme south of England to 46° or less on isolated parts of our north and north-east coasts, the general distribution being somewhat irregular. The mean values were above the average\* in all places, the excess being greatest (4° to 5°) over the central and southern parts of England, and least (2° or less) on the north-east coasts of Great Britain and in the west and south of Ireland. *Highest* readings were observed mainly on the 4th or 5th in Ireland, and between the 8th and 11th over England, but in Scotland they occurred in many places on the 28th or 29th; over the inland parts of England the thermometer rose to 70° or more, and at Cambridge it reached 77°. *Lowest* readings were observed at various times in the different localities, but mostly between the 19th and 22nd, when frost occurred in many parts of Great Britain. *Range* was moderate in Ireland and Scotland, but large at the inland stations over England; at Stamford it amounted to 48°, and at Loughborough to 51°. *Vapour Tension* ranged from about 0·26 in. in the north eastern parts of Great Britain to between 0·31 in., and 0·33 in. on our south-west coasts. *Relative Humidity* varied from 77 per cent. at Jersey and 79 per cent. at Liverpool and in London to 92 per cent. at Donaghadee, and to 94 per cent. at Pembroke.

**Rainfall** was in excess of the average\* in Ireland, as well as at several stations in the western, southern, and eastern parts of England, but was below the normal in nearly all other districts, the deficiency being very large in the north of Scotland. The largest amounts recorded during the month were 7·1 ins. at Killarney, 6·3 ins. at Valencia, and 4·8 ins. at Parsonstown; the smallest being 0·1 in. at Lairg and 0·5 in. at Sumburgh Head, Wick, and Fort Augustus. Falls exceeding an inch. in 24 hours were recorded in various parts of Ireland on the 11th, the 14th, the 24th, and the 29th, the largest of all being 1·7 ins. at Killarney on the 24th.

**Bright Sunshine** was deficient in Ireland and the west of Scotland, but was in excess of the average\* in most other localities. More than 40 per cent. of the possible amount was recorded over the southern parts of England as well as in the Hebrides, the highest value of all being 51 per cent. at Tenby. The lowest per-centages were 24 at Glasgow, 27 at Edinburgh, and 28 at Markree Castle and Parsonstown.

\* The averages employed are—*Pressure* and *Temperature* for the 20 years, 1871–90; *Rainfall* for the 25 years, 1866–90; and *Bright Sunshine* for the 10 years, 1881–90.