

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

## NOVEMBER 1896.

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**General Summary.**—The weather of November was cold and somewhat changeable, especially in the early part of the month, when rain or sleet occurred at frequent intervals. Lightning occurred on the 1st at several of our southern and eastern stations, and thunderstorms on the 19th in the west of Scotland. Pressure was in excess of the average; temperature was above the normal in Scotland, but below it over Ireland and England; the winds were mainly from West or South-West; rainfall was very deficient; bright sunshine exceeded the normal amount in England and Ireland, but was rather deficient in Scotland.

**Pressure.**—*Mean at 8 a.m.* ranged from 30·15 ins. and upwards over the south of Ireland, Wales, and the central parts of England to 30·00 ins. and less in the Orkneys and Shetlands. Over the country generally the mean distribution was anticyclonic, the actual values showing an excess above the average\* amounting to over a quarter of an inch at all but our extreme southern stations and to over three tenths of an inch in the more central parts of the kingdom. *Highest* readings were recorded on the 24th or 25th, when the barometer rose to 30·6 ins. and upwards in all but the extreme north-western and northern districts, where the readings were very little above 30·5 ins. *Lowest* readings occurred on the 14th or 15th, when the barometer fell to 29·0 ins. and less in the west of Scotland and the extreme north of Ireland, and to 29·3 ins. and less in all other parts of the kingdom. *Range* was moderate.

**Depressions.**—The depressions observed in our neighbourhood were few in number, and, as a rule, of very little importance. The only system deserving note advanced over Scotland on the night of the 14th, and afterwards moved southwards across England to central France, where it filled up.

**Anticyclones.**—Three such systems were observed. The first two advanced from the westward respectively on the 3rd, and between the 8th and 9th, and after spreading over a considerable portion of Europe moved away to the southward, and broke up. The third extended from the south-westward on the 19th, and increased both in size and height until it finally embraced nearly the whole continent. After the 26th it moved gradually away to the northward, but at the close of the month the system (now greatly reduced in area) advanced in a southerly direction across Great Britain.

**Winds.**—Over the more northern and eastern parts of the kingdom the winds were mainly from the Westward or South-Westward, but in the south-west they were rather variable, with a considerable admixture of breezes from the North-Eastward. Gales were somewhat frequent on our south-western and also on our extreme northern coasts; elsewhere the weather was unusually quiet for the time of year.

**Temperature.**—*Mean at sea level* ranged from 47° in the Scilly Islands, and from 44° and upwards on our extreme west and south-west coasts generally, to 42° or less over central Ireland and the east of Scotland, and to 40° or less at many stations in the central and southern parts of England and Wales. In Scotland the values were above the average,\* the excess being rather large in the north, but in England and Ireland there was a general deficit, amounting at several of the southern stations to more than four degrees. *Highest* readings were observed in the eastern and central districts mainly on the 11th or 12th, but in the west and north they occurred as a rule on the 21st or 22nd. Over England the thermometer rose very little above 50°, but on the east coast of Scotland and in many parts of Ireland it touched 55° or 56°. *Lowest* readings occurred in Ireland and the south-west of England on the 6th or 7th, but in other parts of the kingdom they were observed mainly between the 28th and 30th. On each of these dates sharp frost occurred over nearly the whole country, the lowest readings in the screen being 18° at Braemar and Ochertyre, and 19° at Glenlee, Churchstoke, and Llandovery. *Range* was moderate. *Vapour Tension* ranged from 0·29 in. at Stornoway, and 0·26 in. and upwards on our north-west and extreme south-west coasts generally, to 0·22 in. and less in the east of Scotland, and to 0·20 in. and less over central England. *Relative Humidity* varied from 99 per cent. at Stornoway and Ardrossan, and 90 per cent. or more at several of our northern and central stations, to 82 per cent. at Liverpool and Scilly.

**Rainfall** was very deficient over the United Kingdom generally, the only stations with any excess being Stornoway and Alnwick Castle. As a rule, the amount was considerably less than one half, while at some stations in Scotland and the west and south of England it was less than one fourth of the average.\* The largest aggregates for the month were 6·7 ins. at Glencarron, 6·3 ins. at Stornoway, and 5·0 ins. at Laudale; the smallest being 0·4 in. at Leith and Hereford, and 0·7 in. at Clifton and Dublin. At Hereford, Oxford, Southampton, and Clifton there were only six rainy days, less than ten being reported at several other English stations. Snow or sleet showers fell in many of the northern and eastern districts on the 7th or 8th, and in Devonshire, Cornwall, and the Channel Islands on the 27th or 28th.

**Bright Sunshine** exceeded the average\* amount in England and Ireland, the excess being large in the south. In Scotland, however, there was, as a rule, a deficiency—slight in most places, but considerable at Edinburgh. The per-centage of the possible duration ranged from 43 at Pembroke, 41 at Brighton, and 35 or more at many of the south coast stations to 10 at Glasgow, 9 at Edinburgh, and 6 at Manchester (Oldham Road).

\* The averages employed are—*Pressure* and *Temperature* for the 25 years, 1871–95; *Rainfall* for the 30 years, 1866–95; and *Bright Sunshine* for the 15 years, 1881–95.