

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

JUNE 1898.

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General Summary.—The weather of June was changeable and showery, with occasional thunderstorms in most districts. Showers of snow or sleet were experienced on the 1st in several parts of Great Britain,—as far south even as Dunstable and Oxford. Pressure differed but little from the average; temperature was rather low for the time of year excepting in Scotland; the winds were mainly from between West and North; rainfall varied greatly in different places, but was upon the whole rather deficient over Great Britain, and in excess of the average in Ireland; bright sunshine was less than the normal at all but a few of our western stations.

Pressure.—*Mean at 8 a.m.* ranged from 30.0 ins. and upwards over the southern parts of Ireland and England, to 29.9 ins. and less in the north of Scotland, and to very little above 29.85 ins. in the Shetlands and Hebrides, the gradient over our islands being more decided than usual for the time of year, and favourable for winds from the northward of West. The actual mean values differed but little from the average,* a slight excess being shown in the west, but a deficiency in most other parts of the Kingdom. *Highest* readings occurred at various times between the 11th and 15th, when the barometer rose to 30.3 ins. and upwards in all localities excepting the south-east of England. *Lowest* readings were observed on the 24th and 25th, the mercury falling to 29.3 ins. and less over the northern parts of Great Britain, and to 29.5 ins. and less in nearly all other parts of the United Kingdom. *Range* was moderate in the north, but slight in the south.

Depressions were rather numerous for the time of year, and moved in various directions. The most important systems were those which travelled respectively northward over the North Sea on the 1st and 2nd, and southward over Great Britain between the 24th and 26th. The small shallow disturbance which hung over France and Belgium on the 8th and 9th occasioned very heavy falls of rain in the neighbouring parts of England.

Anticyclones.—On the 7th a large anticyclone began to extend southward from northern Europe, its influence being felt over all the north western countries until the 17th, when the system moved southwards, and took up a position to the south-westward of our islands. Another system spread in from the Atlantic on the 27th, but this soon passed away to France and Southern Europe.

Winds, though rather variable, were chiefly from some point between West and North, the polar current being most in evidence on our east coast. At some of the southern Stations, *e.g.*, London and Jersey, there was a somewhat large admixture of breezes from the North-eastward. No gales were reported in the east and south, but at several of our western and northern stations there were 2 or 3, at Malin Head 4, and at Scilly as many as 5.

Temperature.—*Mean at sea level* ranged from 58° and upwards at most inland stations in the south of England, and also at Dublin, and 57° and upwards in some parts of central Scotland, to 53° and less in Caithness and the Hebrides, and to 49° and less in the Shetlands. The general distribution was in fair agreement with the normal, but the actual values were below the average* in most districts, a slight excess being reported, however, at some of the Scotch Stations. *Highest* readings were reported at various times in the different districts,—mainly between the 9th and 11th in the west, but on the 17th the 18th or the 29th in most other places. On one or other of these dates readings above 75° were recorded in most parts of the kingdom, but in no case did the thermometer reach 80°. *Lowest* readings occurred chiefly between the 1st and 3rd, but at some of the central English stations on the 15th, and in the north of Scotland mainly on the 27th or 28th. On each of these occasions a ground frost was experienced in many places, while on the morning of the 15th the thermometer even in the screen fell to 32° at Bawtry, Loughborough and Shirley. Owing to the low minima the extreme range of temperature was large at many of the inland stations,—as much as 44° at Loughborough and 43° at Bawtry and Llandovery. *Vapour Tension* ranged from 0.39 in. and upwards at most of the English Channel stations, and at Ardrossan, to between 0.32 in. and 0.34 in. in the east and north-east of Scotland. *Relative Humidity* varied from 92 per cent. at Sumburgh Head, and 85 per cent. at many of the coast stations, to 75 per cent. at Aberdeen, Leith and in London.

Rainfall varied greatly in amount in different localities. Over Great Britain, as a whole, it was less than the average,* and at a few of the English stations, including London, less than half the normal. In many parts of our eastern and south-western counties, however, and also over the northern and central parts of Ireland the amount was more than the average, the excess in the east of England being due entirely to a heavy fall which occurred on the 9th. The largest aggregates recorded in the month were 4.4 ins. at Hawes Junction, 4.1 ins. at Glencarron, Laudale, and Fort William, 3.9 ins. at Markree Castle, and 3.7 ins. at Edgeworthstown; the smallest being 0.7 in. at Bawtry, 0.8 in. at Loughborough, and 0.9 in. at Stamford. In addition to the heavy fall noticed in the east of England on the 9th, when 1.7 in. fell at Yarmouth and 1.6 in. at Geldeston, amounts exceeding an inch in 24 hours were reported at Plymouth on the 12th, and at Laudale, Fort William and Gilcrux on the 23rd.

Bright Sunshine was slightly in excess of the average* at some of the western stations in Great Britain, but showed a deficit over the country generally, and especially in the east and south-east of England. The percentage of the possible duration ranged from between 50 and 53 on several parts of our south-west coasts, to 30 and less at many of the northern and eastern stations, to 23 at Deerness and Morpeth, and to 22 at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

* 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.