

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT,

JUNE 1887.

SECTION I.

GENERAL SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH.

THE weather of June was unusually fine, warm, and dry, especially over England and the greater part of Ireland, where no rain fell after the 8th. Pressure was considerably in excess of the normal; temperature was above the average in all but the eastern and south-eastern portions of England; the winds were chiefly Easterly in the west and south, but Westerly in the far north, their force being usually light or moderate; the amount of rainfall was in most instances excessively small; and bright sunshine was unusually abundant.

June 1-4.—During this period barometrical pressure was highest over Scandinavia, and lowest to the southward or south-westward of our Islands. The prevailing winds were therefore Easterly, and temperature decidedly low for the time of year. In Ireland and Scotland the weather was mostly fine, but over England, and particularly over our south-eastern districts, it was less settled, owing to the advance of two small depressions from France and Spain. The first of these systems appeared near the mouth of the Garonne on the morning of the 1st and subsequently travelled to the north-east of France, where it gradually dispersed. The second (No. XX.*) appeared near Biarritz on the evening of the 1st, and thence travelled first in a northerly direction over a portion of the Bay of Biscay and afterwards in a north-easterly direction to Holland and North Germany, where it also filled up. The former disturbance occasioned very little rain over our Islands, but the latter produced considerable amounts of very cold rain in many parts of England and France, with local thunderstorms. Snow was observed at Lutterworth early on the 3rd.

June 5-8.—In the rear of the last-mentioned depression the barometer rose steadily, and on the 5th an area of high readings spread northwards from Spain to France and the Channel. South-westerly and Westerly winds now set in over our Islands generally, with some increase in temperature; but owing to the passage of some depressions outside our extreme north-western and northern coasts the weather remained in a somewhat showery state. The only disturbance of any consequence was that of the 7th (No. XXI.*), which occasioned strong South-westerly to Westerly winds in Ireland and Scotland.

June 9-12.—The anticyclone in the south now extended northwards over all the more southern parts of the kingdom, where fine weather set in, with a further rise of temperature. Thick fog was, however, very prevalent over the English Channel between the 8th and 10th. In the extreme north of our Islands conditions were still affected by some depressions moving eastwards towards the north of Scandinavia, and the weather in these districts therefore remained cool and showery.

June 13-26.—On the 13th the high-pressure system spread still further to the northward, and from this time onward till the 26th the conditions were almost continuously

* See Section II. and Map 2 Plate XII. for the history and tracks of depressions.

anticyclonic. Light or moderate breezes and fine warm weather were experienced generally, but owing to changes in the position of the anticyclonic centre, the direction of the wind varied greatly in different localities. As a rule the highest barometrical readings were found in the north, so that while light varying breezes were reported over Scotland and the north of Ireland, moderate to fresh winds from East or North-east were felt in the more southern districts. With the exception of a little rain at some of the Irish and Scotch stations on the 14th and 16th, the weather of the whole period may be said to have been absolutely dry, and over England and Ireland the amount of bright sunshine was unusually large. At times, when the North-easterly wind blew strongly, temperature over England was somewhat low, but on other occasions the thermometer rose to a very high level, the warmest days of all being the 15th, the 18th, and the 19th over England and the south of Scotland, and the 23rd and 24th over Ireland and our extreme northern districts. The daily maxima on these occasions were above 80° in many places, the highest readings of all being (?) 92° at Kilkenny, 89° at Llandovery, and 88° at Ochertyre. On the 25th and 26th, however, when a good deal of cloud prevailed, the maxima in the south-east of England were very little above 60° , and on the night of the latter date the thermometer on the grass at Cambridge registered three degrees of frost.

June 27-30.—The central portion of the anticyclone, after drifting in various directions, now settled down to the westward of our Islands, and moderate breezes from the Northward and North-westward set in generally, with a decided reduction in temperature. The weather, however, remained dry in all districts excepting the extreme north of Scotland, where showers were produced by some depressions travelling south-eastwards across Scandinavia. At the close of the month the anticyclone appeared to be again spreading eastwards over the United Kingdom.