

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

JULY 1892.

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General Summary.—The weather of July was cold and unsettled, with occasional thunderstorms over Great Britain. Pressure was above the average; temperature was low, especially in the north of England; the winds were variable, and one or two gales of unusual severity for the time of year; and rainfall was less than the normal in all localities, excepting the south of Ireland, the southern and midland counties of England, and the extreme north of Scotland. Bright sunshine was generally deficient, but at some of our western and southern stations the amount was in excess of the average.

Pressure.—*Mean for the month at 8 a.m.* ranged from between 30·00 ins. and 30·04 ins. over nearly the whole of Ireland and England to a little above 29·90 ins. in the Shetlands. The general distribution was therefore anticyclonic, and the mean values were everywhere in excess of the average,* the difference varying from less than 0·05 in. in the extreme south of England to between 0·12 in. and 0·14 in. in Scotland and the north of Ireland, and to nearly 0·16 in. at Belmullet. *Highest* readings were recorded generally on the 24th, when the barometer rose to between 30·3 ins. and 30·4 ins. over the entire kingdom. In many parts of our western and northern districts, however, the mercury continued equally high during nearly the whole of the concluding week. *Lowest* readings were observed in the northern districts on the 6th or 7th, when the barometer fell below 29·3 ins. in most places, and below 29·0 ins. in the Shetlands. Over the southern parts of the kingdom pressure was lowest on the 12th, when the mercury fell below 29·7 ins. in the south of England, and below 29·5 ins. in the south of Ireland. *Range* was moderate.

Depressions were not very numerous, the only important system being observed on the 19th, when a rather deep disturbance travelled in a south-south-easterly direction across Scotland and along the east coasts of England. Between the 12th and 17th two complex depressions skirted our south-west coasts, moving from the north-westward and afterwards spreading in over the Channel and France. Numerous secondary disturbances were developed around the main systems, but the movements both of these and of their primaries were too irregular to admit of their tracks being shown with any precision on Map 2, Plate VII.

Anticyclones.—During the early part of the month no anticyclones of note were observed. On the 21st, however, a large one advanced over our islands from the Atlantic, and remained with us until the 30th, when it passed away to the south-westward.

Winds were somewhat variable. At the northern stations there was a slight preponderance of breezes from the Westward, but in the southern parts of the United Kingdom the North-easterly current was the most frequent. Gales were rather numerous, especially on the Irish and English coasts; at Spurn Head, Hurst Castle, and Malin Head, there were five, while at Mullaghmore there were as many as nine. The Northerly gale which visited our islands on the 19th was remarkable for the time of year both as regards direction and force.

Temperature.—*Mean at sea level* ranged from 63° at Jersey, and 60° or more, in the extreme south of England, to about 53° in the north of Scotland, and to a little above 51° in the Shetlands. The general distribution was fairly normal, but the actual values were everywhere below the average,* the deficit being greatest (4° or more) over the northern parts of England, and least (0°·5 or less) in the Channel Islands and the south-west of Ireland. *Highest* readings were recorded over England on the 3rd, but over Ireland and Scotland at various times during the concluding week. Over the inland parts of England the thermometer rose to between 80° and 85°, but in other districts it did not get much above 70°. *Lowest* readings occurred mostly on the 1st or 21st in the eastern, central, and southern parts of the kingdom, but on very irregular dates in the west and north. *Range* was moderate. *Vapour Tension* was rather high, being above 0·35 in. in all but the north-eastern parts of Great Britain, and above 0·40 in. on the south coasts of England and Ireland. *Relative Humidity* ranged from 73 per cent. in London, and 76 per cent. at York and Liverpool, to 91 per cent. in the Shetlands, and 95 per cent. in the Hebrides.

Rainfall was in excess of the average* in the north of Scotland, the south of Ireland, and the south midlands and some southern districts of England. Elsewhere there was a deficit, and in some parts of the north of England, as well as at Leith, the total for the month amounted to less than half the normal. The largest aggregates were 5·7 ins. at Valencia, 5·4 ins. at Laudale, 5·3 ins. at Fort William, and 5·2 ins. at Glen Carron; the smallest were 0·9 in. at Scilly, 1·1 ins. at Leith, and 1·3 ins. at Shields and Scarborough. Falls exceeding an inch in 24 hours were recorded at many of our stations, the most widespread example being that of the 2nd–3rd, when a considerable portion of Ireland and Scotland was affected.

Bright Sunshine was a little in excess of the average* on some parts of our western and southern coasts, but considerably below it elsewhere. The per-centage of the possible amount of duration was as high as 57 at Guernsey, 56 at Jersey, and between 45 and 50 at several of the other Channel stations; over the more northern parts of the kingdom, however, the values were nearly all below 30 per cent., the lowest of all being 22 at Aberdeen and Worksop, and 23 at Fort Augustus and Edinburgh.

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