

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

APRIL 1895.

(Issued as a Supplement to the Weekly Weather Report, 1895.)

ISSUED BY THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, 63, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON; R. H. SCOTT, F.R.S., SECRETARY.
PUBLISHED BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER ST., EDINBURGH, and 90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; AND HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

General Summary.—The weather of April was very variable—cold at first, with occasional snow showers in the north and east, then fairly mild, with dry weather about the middle of the month, but with frequent rains and occasional thunderstorms during the third week. Fog was very prevalent on our south and south-west coasts between the 8th and 10th, and again in the English Channel on the 19th. Pressure was low in the north, but rather high in the south; temperature was in excess of the average; the winds were variable; rainfall was less than the normal excepting in the western and extreme northern parts of Great Britain; bright sunshine was deficient in Ireland and the south of England, but fairly abundant elsewhere.

Pressure.—*Mean for the month at 8 a.m.* ranged from 29·9 ins. and upwards over the Channel and the central and southern parts of England, to between 29·75 ins. and 29·76 ins. in the Shetlands and Hebrides, the values being slightly above the average* over the southern half of the kingdom, but below it in the northern districts. *Highest* readings were recorded mostly on the 11th, when the barometer rose to 30·5 ins. and upwards in the west of Ireland and to 30·3 ins. or more in all other parts of the kingdom. At some of our northern and eastern stations, however, the highest readings (30·35 ins. to 30·40 ins.) were registered on the 14th. *Lowest* readings were observed over the northern parts of the kingdom on the 6th, when the barometer ranged from 28·9 ins. and less in the north-east of Scotland to 29·1 ins. and less in the north of England. Over the southern districts the lowest readings (29·3 ins. to 29·5 ins.) were recorded on the 25th. *Range* was moderate in the south, but rather large in the west and north.

Depressions.—The centres of these moved as a rule outside our north-western and northern coasts, the most important depression being that of the 6th. Between the 15th and 18th, a complex but rather ill-defined system advanced over our islands from Spain, while on the 26th and 27th a small disturbance, which was formed in the neighbourhood of the Irish Sea, moved south-eastwards across the north and east of England to the north-east of France, where it gradually dispersed.

Anticyclones.—Two only were observed in our immediate neighbourhood. The first of these spread over our islands from the Atlantic between the 2nd and 4th, but soon moved away to the southward. The second advanced from the south-westward on the 10th and remained with us until the 16th, when it travelled away to northern Europe. During the latter part of the month the distribution of pressure was mainly cyclonic.

Winds were very variable in all districts, but chiefly from the South-westward over the eastern and central parts of Great Britain. Scarcely any gales were experienced on our south and east coasts, but at Aberdeen and Holyhead there were 6, while at Stornoway there were as many as 7.

Temperature.—*Mean at Sea Level* ranged from 49° and upwards over the inland parts of the south of England and also in the Channel Islands and the extreme south-west of Ireland, to 45° and less over the north of Scotland generally, and to a little below 42° in the Shetlands. The mean values were in nearly all cases above the average,* the excess being small in many places, but large (2° to 3°) at a few isolated stations situated in the western and northern parts of Great Britain. *Highest* readings were recorded at various times in the different districts, but mainly between the 17th and 23rd; over Ireland and Scotland, as a whole, the thermometer did not rise much above 60°, but at Londonderry it reached 68°, while at many of the English stations it rose to between 65° and 67°. *Lowest* readings were observed during the opening week, — mostly on the 1st or 5th, when sharp frost was experienced in nearly all the northern and inland districts; at Cheadle the thermometer fell to 23° and at Sumburgh Head (on the 4th) to 22°. *Range* was moderate generally. *Vapour Tension* ranged from 0·30 in. at Scilly and from 0·27 in. and upwards on all our southern coasts to 0·24 in. at Sumburgh Head, York, and Liverpool, and to 0·23 in. at Aberdeen. *Relative Humidity* was below 80 per cent. in the east of Scotland, but exceeded 90 per cent. in the Shetlands and the Hebrides, as well as at Scilly and Dungeness.

Rainfall was in excess of the average* in the north of Scotland and also in the western parts of Great Britain generally. Elsewhere there was a deficit—slight in many places, but large at some stations situated in the east and south-east of England. The largest amounts reported were 5·9 ins. at Glencarron, 5·3 ins. at Fort William, and 3·7 ins. at Glenlee; the smallest being 0·7 in. at Spurn Head, and 0·8 in. at Geldeston and the North Foreland. The number of rainy days was rather large in the extreme west, but small in the east; at Glencarron, Belmullet, and Killarney there were as many as 23 recorded, but at some of our eastern stations only 10, and at Scarborough only 8. Snow or sleet showers were experienced over the northern and eastern parts of Great Britain during the opening week.

Bright Sunshine was deficient in Ireland and the south and south-west of England, but was in excess of the normal in most other localities. The per-centage of the possible duration ranged from 46 at Jersey, and 40 or more on the south-west coasts of England generally, as well as at Aberdeen, to 26 at Manchester (Oldham Road), 25 at Parsonstown, and 23 at Fort Augustus and Braemar.

* 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.