

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

SEPTEMBER 1892.

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General Summary.—The weather of September was cool and unsettled, with occasional thunderstorms over England. Pressure was below the average in all but the extreme southern districts; temperature was low, especially in the north; the winds were chiefly Westerly, and gales rather frequent on our north and north-west coasts; and rainfall was in excess of the average in the western districts, but deficient in most other localities. The amount of bright sunshine showed no great divergence from the normal.

Pressure.—*Mean for the Month at 8 a.m.* ranged from between 30·00 ins. and 30·05 ins. over the English Channel to 29·65 ins. in the Hebrides, and to 29·61 ins. in the Shetlands. The general distribution agreed very closely in type with the normal, but the readings were below the average* in all but the extreme southern districts; and, as the deficit was greatest (0·15 in. to 0·20 in.) in the north, the mean gradient over the United Kingdom was steeper than usual. *Highest* readings were recorded in the western and southern districts on the 4th or 5th, but in the northern and eastern districts on the 22nd, when the barometer exceeded 30·3 ins. in most parts of the kingdom, *Lowest* readings were registered at the northern stations either on the 2nd, the 16th, the 27th, or the 29th, when the barometer fell to between 29·1 ins. and 29·3 ins. in most parts of Scotland. In the southern portions of the kingdom the lowest pressures, which occurred on the 30th, were very little below 29·5 ins. *Range* was moderate in the north, but small in the south.

Depressions.—During nearly the whole month a series of depressions travelled along to the northward of our Islands in the direction shown by the arrow A in Map 2, Plate IX. On some occasions well-marked secondaries appeared further south, the most important being that of the 16th, which occasioned severe gales in the north of Scotland. On the 20th and 21st two shallow and rather complex systems passed eastwards over the south of England, and produced heavy rain over the southern parts of the kingdom, while at the close of the month a depression advanced over Great Britain from the northward, and its movements being gradual, its stay in our neighbourhood was prolonged through the first few days of October.

Anticyclones.—The anticyclone observed during September lay as a rule to the southward of our Islands. On the 4th, however, a large system extended over us from the westward, while on the 20th–22nd an anticyclone—formed off our northern coasts—spread temporarily southwards, and afterwards travelled away to northern and central Europe.

Winds were chiefly from the Westward or South-westward, but on our western and southern coasts there was a fair proportion of Northerly breezes. Gales were rather numerous, especially in the north and north-west; at Aberdeen and Belmullet there were 8, at Stornoway 9, and at Mullaghmore as many as 13. At several of our western and southern stations there was an entire absence of calms.

Temperature.—*Mean at sea level* ranged from about 61° in the Channel Islands from a little below 58° on the extreme south and south-east coasts of England to about 49° in the Shetlands and Hebrides. The general distribution was of a fairly normal character, but the actual values were everywhere below the average,* the deficit varying from less than a degree in the south of England to between two and a half and three and a half degrees in Scotland and the north-west of Ireland. *Highest* readings occurred at somewhat irregular times in the various districts, but mostly on the 6th in Ireland and Scotland, and on the 13th or 19th over England. *Lowest* readings were recorded between the 17th and 18th, or on the 21st and 22nd, when sharp frost occurred at many of the inland stations in Great Britain. *Range* was moderate generally, but rather large in some of the English districts; at Stamford, Hillington, and Cambridge, it amounted to 39°, at Strathfield Turgiss to 41°, and at Cullompton to 42°. *Vapour Tension* ranged from 0·30 in. or less in the north-east of Scotland to between 0·40 in. and 0·42 in. on the south coasts of Great Britain. *Relative Humidity* varied from 77 per. cent. at Aberdeen and 80 per. cent. at Leith, Mullaghmore, and Jersey, to 93 per. cent. at Stornoway and Ardrossan.

Rainfall was in excess of the average* over the western parts of Great Britain and also over central Ireland, but in most other localities a deficit was shown. In the west of Scotland the fall amounted to about twice as much as the normal, the values being as large as 14·0 ins. at Fort William, 12·9 ins. at Glencarron, and 12·3 ins. at Laudale. With these exceptions the heaviest amounts recorded over our Islands were 9·4 ins. at Hawes Junction, 6·8 ins. at Belmullet, and 5·6 ins. at Arlington, the smallest being 1·0 ins. at Leith. 1·1 ins. at York and Spurn Head, and 1·2 ins. at Scarborough. Falls exceeding an inch in 24 hours were experienced at several of the western, central, and southern stations, the largest of all being 2·2 ins. at Hawes Junction, and 1·7 ins. at Fort William and Laudale.

Bright Sunshine.—The amount of bright sunshine was slightly in excess of the average* in the northern districts, but a trifle below it in the south. The per-centage of the possible amount of duration exceeded 35 in the eastern and southern parts of Great Britain, and reached 42 at Guernsey, and 48 at Jersey. In the western parts of the kingdom the values were mostly below 30, and at Fort Augustus the per-centage was as low as 12.

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