

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

NOVEMBER 1895.

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General Summary.—The weather of November was very unsettled, especially during the earlier half of the month, when gales and heavy rains occurred at frequent intervals. Bright aurora was seen in many parts of Great Britain on the 9th, and thunder and lightning were reported at several of the western and southern stations between the 11th and 14th. Pressure was rather low, but temperature high, especially in the south of England; the winds were Westerly or South-westerly during the first fortnight, but afterwards South-easterly or Easterly; rainfall was mostly in excess of the average; bright sunshine was rather deficient at all but the western and extreme northern stations.

Pressure.—*Mean at 8 a.m.* ranged from 29·9 ins. and upwards in the south-east of England to 29·7 ins. and less in the Shetlands and the extreme north-west of Scotland; the values being slightly below the average* in all but the eastern parts of the kingdom. *Highest* readings were recorded, as a rule, on the 24th, when the barometer ranged from between 30·5 ins. and 30·6 ins. in the northern and north-eastern parts of Great Britain to 30·2 ins. and upwards in the extreme south of England. In the latter region, however, the readings were somewhat higher (30·3 ins. to 30·4 ins.) on the 1st. *Lowest* readings were observed between the 10th and 12th, when the barometer fell to between 28·3 ins. and 28·5 ins. on our extreme north and north-west coasts, and to 29·1 ins. or less in all other parts of the kingdom. *Range* was large in the west and north, but moderate elsewhere.

Depressions.—During the earlier half of the month several large depressions skirted our extreme western and northern coasts, the most important being those of the 5th–7th, and the 10th–11th, each of which occasioned strong Southerly to South-westerly gales over the whole kingdom. Later on, two large disturbances spread very gradually over us from the westward and south-westward, the interval between them being marked by the formation of a rather deep depression over the Netherlands, and its passage southwards over France to the Mediterranean.

Anticyclones.—Three such systems were observed. The first appears to have been formed over our Islands and the Continent at the close of October, but after the 2nd November it moved away to the eastward. The second spread over us from the south-westward on the 17th, but soon passed on to the north-eastward, its central portion remaining, however, over Northern Europe for some days. The third appeared off the north-west of Scotland on the night of the 22nd, and ultimately became united with the former system. On the 24th and 25th its central area was situated over our northern districts, after which the entire system travelled away to the eastward.

Winds varied greatly in direction; on our north and east coasts the South-westerly current was the most prevalent, but in the west there was a somewhat large proportion of winds from the Eastward. Gales were numerous, especially in the west and north; at Wick there were 11 days, at Pembroke, Prawle Point, and Scilly 12, and at Donaghadee 13. The Southerly and South-westerly gales of the 5th–6th, the 10th–11th, and the 15th–16th were very general and of considerable violence. The Northerly to North-easterly gales of the 23rd–24th were also severe, but were confined to our south-east coasts.

Temperature.—*Mean at sea level* ranged from 52° and upwards in the Scilly and Channel Islands to 44° and less over the northern parts of the kingdom generally, and to 41° and less over the inland parts of the north of Scotland. The general distribution agreed very fairly with the normal, but the actual values were high, the difference from the average* being large over the southern parts of England. *Highest* readings were recorded in Ireland and Scotland between the 6th and 11th, but over England they occurred very generally on the 16th, when the thermometer exceeded 60° in many places and reached a maximum of 65° at Cambridge. *Lowest* readings occurred in Scotland mostly between the 1st and 4th, but over England and Ireland either about the 18 and 19th or the 24th and 25th; the lowest readings of all were 21° at Nairn, Fort Augustus, and Braemar, and 23° at Glencarron, Stamford and Foynes. *Range* was somewhat large over the inland parts of England, but moderate elsewhere. *Vapour Tension* ranged from 0·36 in. at Scilly and 0·32 in. and upwards over the Channel and the south-west of England generally to 0·22 in. and less over central Scotland. *Relative Humidity* varied from 95 per cent. at Cambridge and 93 per cent. at Spurn Head, Ardrossan, Donaghadee, and Roche's Point, to 85 per cent. at Malin Head and Valencia and 83 per cent. at Sumburgh Head.

Rainfall was in excess of the average* in most districts, but showed a slight deficit in the west and north of Scotland and also along the east coasts of England. Over our southern counties the excess was in many instances very considerable. The largest totals for the month were 8·6 ins. at Fort William, 8·3 ins. at Hawes Junction, and 7·9 ins. at Killarney; the smallest being 1·2 ins. at Nairn and 1·6 ins. at Wick and Shields. The heaviest falls in 24 hours occurred over the western and northern parts of the kingdom on the 5th and 10th; on the latter occasion 1·5 ins. were registered at Churchstoke and Killarney. Snow and hail showers were experienced in the east and south-east of England on the 23rd.

Bright Sunshine exceeded the average* at most of our western and extreme northern stations, but was rather deficient elsewhere. Over Ireland and the south-west of England the per-centage of the possible duration ranged between 30 and 33, but in many parts of Great Britain it was below 20, the lowest proportions of all being 7 per cent. at Manchester (Oldham Road) and 12 per cent. at Fort Augustus and Glasgow.

* 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.