

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

JUNE 1901.

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General Summary.—The weather of June was of a rather changeable character. In the first and last weeks it was mostly fine, but less so in the western and northern, than in the eastern and southern districts. During the middle portion of the month it was generally cool and unsettled, with frequent rains (heavy in places) and occasional thunderstorms. Quite at the close of the time another spell of unsettled weather was experienced, with a heavy fall of rain over nearly the whole of England. Pressure was slightly above the average; temperature was below the normal; the winds varied considerably both in direction and force; rainfall also showed great variations, but was mostly deficient excepting in the west and north; bright sunshine was in excess of the average in most parts of Great Britain, but rather deficient in Ireland.

Pressure.—*Mean at 8 a.m.* ranged from 30·09 ins. at Jersey, and 30·05 ins. and upwards over all the more southern parts of the United Kingdom, to 29·85 ins. and less in the Shetlands, the general distribution being favourable for winds from the Westward or North-westward. In the north and north-east of Scotland the values were slightly below the average,* but in all other districts they were a little above it; and as the excess was greatest in the south, the gradient over our islands was somewhat steeper than that shown by the chart of normal values. *Highest* readings were observed on the 25th, when the barometer rose to 30·5 ins. and upwards in the south of Ireland, and to 30·4 ins. and upwards in all but the extreme northern parts of the United Kingdom. *Lowest* readings were recorded in the northern and eastern districts on the 13th, and ranged from about 29·1 ins. in the Shetlands to 29·5 ins. and less in the north and east generally. Over the western and south-western parts of the Kingdom the lowest readings (29·3 ins. to 29·5 ins.) occurred on the 22nd or 23rd. *Range* differed but little from the normal for the time of year.

Depressions were rather numerous and moved in various directions (*see* Map 2, Pl. VI.), the majority of the centres passing over or to the eastward of the North Sea. The depressions which had the most effect upon the weather in our islands were those of the 13th and the 23rd. In the former case the centre of the disturbance travelled in a south-south-easterly direction along the east coasts of Great Britain, the system ultimately dispersing over Holland. In the latter case, that of the 23rd, the centre moved north-eastward across Ireland and Scotland, and passed away to the northward.

Anticyclones.—Two such systems were observed. The first advanced over our islands from the westward on the 5th, and afterwards spread over the whole of North-Western and Northern Europe, but broke up rapidly after the 8th. The second advanced from the south-westward on the 24th, and gradually extended over nearly the entire Continent. At the end of the month it was moving away to the northward, and shallow depressions were in course of development over France and the South of England.

Winds showed considerable variability excepting over the eastern and central parts of England, where they were mainly from the Westward or South-westward. Gales were rather frequent for the time of year on our north-west, north, and north-east coasts, but were of little strength; the principal cases occurred either at the beginning of the month or between the 10th and 13th.

Temperature.—*Mean at sea level* ranged from a little above 60° in London and at Southampton, and from 59° and upwards over Cambridgeshire and the inland parts of the south of England generally, to 54° and less in all our extreme northern and north-western districts, and to a little below 51° in the Shetlands. The general distribution over our islands agreed very closely with the normal, but the actual values were below the average* at all but a few of our eastern and southern stations, the deficit being slight in most places, but rather large in some parts of Ireland and Central Scotland. *Highest* readings occurred mainly on the 8th or 9th in the northern and eastern districts, but on the 28th or 29th in the western and central parts of the Kingdom. On one or other of these dates the thermometer rose to 75° and upwards in most districts, and to 80° or slightly above it in several parts of England, the highest readings reported being 83° at Bawtry and 82° at Colly Weston. *Lowest* readings occurred on varying dates, but mostly at some time between the 13th and 19th, when the sheltered thermometer fell below 40° at many of our northern and central stations; at Braemar and Loughborough it sank to 34°, and at Bawtry to 33°. *Range* was large,—between 40° and 45° in several parts of Great Britain, and as much as 50° at Bawtry. *Vapour Tension* ranged from 0·40 in. at Portland Bill, and 0·38 in. or more at most of the coast stations in the east and south, to 0·34 and less over the northern and central parts of the Kingdom generally, and to 0·32 in. and less in the east of Scotland. *Relative Humidity* varied from 91 per cent. at Sumburgh Head, and between 87 and 90 per cent. on the south-west coasts of Great Britain to 75 per cent. and less over the east of Scotland and the northern and central parts of England, and to only 67 per cent. at Leith.

Rainfall varied considerably in different parts of the Kingdom. In the west and north it was, as a rule, in excess of the average,* a deficit being shown, however, in the eastern and southern parts both of Ireland and Scotland. In other districts the fall was generally less than the normal, and at some places in the south of England it did not amount to one half the average. The largest aggregates reported were 5·9 ins. at Fort William, 5·8 ins. at Landale and 4·9 ins. at Glencarron; the smallest being 0·8 in. at Rothamsted and Portland Bill, 0·9 in. at Jersey, and 1·0 in. at Shaftesbury. Heavy falls were recorded in the western parts of Great Britain on the 19th or 20th, over Ireland and Scotland on the 22nd, and over England on the 30th, amounts exceeding an inch in the 24 hours being measured on each occasion. On the 20th a fall of 1·7 in. was registered at Arlington, and on the 30th a fall of 1·5 in. at Colly Weston. Snow was seen on the hills in Scotland on the 11th.

Bright Sunshine was in excess of the average* in most parts of Great Britain, but showed a slight deficiency in the north of Scotland and the south-west of England; in Ireland there was a general deficiency. The percentage of the possible duration ranged from 59 at Hastings, 57 at Worthing, and 50 and upwards at several other places in the south and east of England, to 35 and less in the north of Scotland generally, and to only 24 at Fort Augustus.

* The averages employed are—*Pressure and Temperature* for the 30 years, 1871–1900; *Rainfall* for the 35 years, 1866–1900; and *Bright Sunshine* for the 20 years, 1881–1900. (The averages will be published shortly as an appendix to the "Weekly Weather Report.")