

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

## SEPTEMBER 1889.

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**General Summary.**—The weather of September was fine, mild, and quiet during the earlier half of the month, but changeable, cold, and gusty during the latter part of the time. Pressure was in excess of the average, especially in the north. Temperature was below the average in Great Britain, but a little above the normal in Ireland. The winds were light and variable during the first half of the month, but occasionally strong from between West and North during the remainder of the period. Rainfall was generally slight, and the amount of bright sunshine fairly normal. Severe thunderstorms occurred over England on the 2nd.

**Pressure.**—*Mean for the month* varied from 29·91 ins. in the Shetlands and 29·94 ins. in the Hebrides to 30·05 ins. and upwards over all the more southern parts of England and Ireland. The values were everywhere in excess of the average\* for September, the difference being as much as 0·15 in. in the extreme north. The distribution had a cyclonic tendency at the northern stations, but an anticyclonic tendency in the south, and the mean gradient was less steep than usual. *Highest*, values 30·3 ins. to 30·4 ins. and upwards, were recorded during the prevalence of an anticyclone on the 14th and 15th. *Lowest* values were recorded over the northern part of the kingdom on the 19th and 20th, when the barometer ranged between 29·1 ins. and 29·5 ins.; but in the south the absolute minima (29·5 ins. and less) were observed on the 24th. *Range* was moderate.

**Depressions.**—The only depressions of importance were—one, which advanced from the westward over the southern parts of the kingdom on the 24th, and travelling southwards to the Bay of Biscay, filled up rapidly; another was developed over the east of England on the 24th, and travelled thence to Denmark and the south of Sweden. During its passage across the North Sea the latter depression increased rapidly in depth, but on reaching the Danish coasts it gradually filled up.

**Anticyclones.**—During the early part of the month anticyclonic conditions were very prevalent. The three most important observed were those of the 1st (when a large system moved eastwards across the kingdom), of the 3rd to 7th (when another extended over Great Britain from Scandinavia), and of the 13th to 16th, when a third system travelled slowly across our Islands in a south-easterly direction.

**Wind** was extremely light and variable during the earlier half of the month. On the 19th, however, a strong breeze from the Westward was experienced generally; on the 24th a fresh gale from the Northward blew at the mouth of the Channel, while on the 28th there was a North-westerly gale in the extreme north of Scotland.

**Temperature.**—*Mean for the month* varied from a little below 50° in the Shetlands to a little below 61° at Jersey. The distribution was mainly of an autumnal character, but patches of relative cold over the north of Ireland and the south-west of Scotland indicated the early appearance in those regions of more wintry conditions. It was a little above the average\* in Ireland, but below it over Great Britain, the deficit being greatest (about 2°) in the south-east of England. *Highest* values were recorded mostly between the 10th and 12th, but in Scotland they were reached between the 4th and 6th. *Lowest* values were registered between the 22nd and 26th, excepting in the central and eastern parts of England, where the weather was coldest on the 17th and 18th. Slight frost was experienced at these times at several of the inland stations. *Range* was large (45° or more) over England; at Cirencester it was as large as 52°. *Vapour Tension* varied from about 0·32 in. in the north and east of Scotland and over the north-west of England to between 0·40 in. and 0·44 in. on our extreme south and south-west coasts. *Relative Humidity* ranged from about 80 per cent. in the south-east of Scotland, the south-east of England, and the Channel Islands, to 95 or more in the Hebrides.

**Rainfall** was upon the whole considerably less than the average,\* especially in some of the central parts of Ireland and Scotland, where the total fall was less than an inch. In the east of England, however, where heavy rains accompanied the formation of the depression of the 24th, the aggregate fall was slightly more than the normal.

**Bright Sunshine** amounted in most cases to about 30 per cent. of the possible duration. At some of the Irish stations, however, the per-centage was below 25, while the extreme south of England had, on the other hand, more than 40 per cent.; the largest proportion was at Jersey, where the value was as high as 53.

\* The averages employed are—*Pressure* and *Temperature* for the 20 years, 1861–80; *Rainfall* for 20 years, 1866–85.