

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

SEPTEMBER 1895.

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General Summary.—The weather of September was mostly fine and dry, excepting in the extreme north, where rain was rather frequent. Thunderstorms were, however, experienced in many districts, those reported over the south and east of England on the night of the 6th being of considerable severity. During the closing week the weather over the United Kingdom was exceptionally warm for the time of year. Pressure and temperature were high; the winds were rather variable; rainfall was very deficient; and bright sunshine was largely in excess of the average.

Pressure.—*Mean at 8 a.m.* ranged from 30·1 ins. and upwards over the Channel and the central and south-eastern parts of England, to a little below 29·9 ins. in the Hebrides. The values were in all cases above the average,* the excess being greatest over England and least in the north-west of Scotland. *Highest* readings were observed on the 20th and 21st, when the barometer rose to 30·3 ins. and upwards over the whole kingdom, and to a little above 30·4 ins. at many of the English and Irish stations. *Lowest* readings were recorded between the 10th and 11th, and varied from 29·0 ins. and less in the north of Scotland to 29·9 ins. and less on our extreme southern coasts. *Range* was, consequently, slight in the south, but rather large in the extreme north.

Depressions.—Very few depressions appeared in our immediate neighbourhood. During the greater part of the month, however, large cyclonic systems were passing eastwards across the north of Scandinavia, and in some few instances their secondaries skirted our extreme northern coasts, and produced gales in Scotland and the north of Ireland.

Anticyclones.—Three such systems were observed. The first extended over our Islands from the Continent on the 3rd and 4th, and with the exception of a slight and very temporary break on the night of the 6th, remained with us until the 9th, when it passed away to the eastward. The second advanced from the Atlantic on the 12th, and continued over Western and Northern Europe until the 16th-17th, when it moved slowly southwards. The third also advanced from the Atlantic on the 19th, and soon spread over nearly the whole Continent, the system remaining in force until the end of the month.

Winds.—Over the northern parts of the kingdom the winds were chiefly from the South-westward, while in the extreme south they were mainly Easterly. In the intermediate districts, however, they were very variable, with a large proportion of calms. Scarcely any gales were experienced on our east and south coasts, but in the west and north there were two or three, and at Malin Head as many as six.

Temperature.—*Mean at sea level* ranged from 66° at Jersey, and 63° and upwards over all the more eastern parts of southern England, to a little above 53° in the Shetlands. The general distribution was fairly normal, but the actual values were considerably above the average,* the excess being upon the whole greatest over the more central parts of the United Kingdom, where it amounted to between 5° and 6°. *Highest* readings were recorded mostly on varying dates between the 24th and 29th; but at several of our northern and north-western stations the thermometer was equally high on the 9th. In Ireland and Scotland the absolute maxima were in most cases above 75°, and in England above 80°, the temperatures recorded during the closing week being in some instances the highest ever observed at so advanced a period in the season. *Lowest* readings were observed on the 6th in the north of Scotland, but between the 20th and 23rd in most other districts. At many of the inland stations the thermometer fell below 40°, the lowest readings of all being 31° at Glenlee and 32° at Loughborough and Stamford. *Range* was large, especially over the inland parts of England, where it amounted in many cases to 50° or more. *Vapour Tension* ranged from between 0·45 in. and 0·47 in. at the English Channel stations to 0·38 in. and less over the central and north eastern parts of Great Britain. *Relative Humidity* varied from 93 per cent. at Wick and Cambridge to 78 per cent. at Liverpool and 76 per cent. at Jersey.

Rainfall was very deficient, especially over England, Ireland, and the south of Scotland, where the amounts were in many places considerably less than one fourth of the average.* The largest aggregates were 6·2 ins. at Glencarron, 5·2 ins. at Fort William, and 5·1 ins. at Laudale; the smallest were 0·2 in. at Marchmont, Hurst Castle, and Scilly, and 0·3 in. at Southampton and Donaghadee, less than half an inch being reported at several other stations. In many parts of our southern counties most of the month's rainfall occurred during the severe thunderstorms of the 6th-7th. The number of rainy days was very small; at many stations in the east and south-east of England there were only two or three.

Bright Sunshine was largely in excess of the average,* excepting in the north of Scotland, the total duration being in nearly all places the highest in September since the records commenced in 1881. The per-centage of the possible amount was above 50 at many of our western and central stations, and above 60 in the east and south of England, the highest values of all being 73 per cent. at Guernsey and Jersey and 71 per cent. at Hastings and Eastbourne. In the north of Scotland, however, the per-centage ranged between 20 and 28.

* 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.