

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

JUNE 1893.

(Issued as a Supplement to the Weekly Weather Report, 1893.)

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PUBLISHED BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER ST., EDINBURGH, and 90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; AND HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

General Summary.—With the exception of a few local thunderstorms the weather during the earlier half of the month was generally fine and dry. Towards the middle of the period, however, a decided change set in, and for the remainder of the time frequent showers were experienced in nearly all districts, with occasional thunderstorms. Pressure and temperature were above the average; the winds were variable in the north, but mostly Easterly in the south; rainfall was again deficient in most places, but in excess of the average in the east of Scotland; and bright sunshine was unusually prevalent especially in the southern and south-western parts of the Kingdom.

Pressure.—Mean at 8 a.m. ranged from between 30·00 ins. and 30·03 ins. over the greater part of England and Ireland to 29·95 ins. and less in the Shetlands and Hebrides. The values were everywhere a little above the average,* and, as the excess was somewhat larger in the north and north-west than it was in the south, the mean gradient was slighter than usual, the greatest difference between the readings at any two stations in our islands being less than one-tenth of an inch. *Highest* readings were observed between the 6th and 10th, when they exceeded 30·3 ins. in all districts and exceeded 30·4 ins. in the north-eastern parts of Great Britain. *Lowest* readings were recorded either between the 22nd and 24th or on the 27th, the barometer on one or other of these dates falling below 29·4 ins. in nearly all places. On the earlier occasion readings below 29·3 ins. were observed in the east of England, while on the later date similarly low values were recorded in many parts of Ireland and Scotland. *Range* was moderate.

Depressions.—Very few depressions of importance were observed in our immediate neighbourhood, the only systems worthy of note being (1) a shallow disturbance which formed over Scotland on the 22nd and which ultimately passed away over the North Sea and Norway, and (2) a rather deeper system which travelled north-eastwards across the north of Scotland between the 28th and 29th. Between the 12th and 15th a complex area of low pressure, with several distinct minima, spread over our islands from France, the movements of the various centres being, however, too irregular to be shown on Map 2, Plate VI.

Anticyclones.—Two well defined areas were noticed. The first spread over our islands from the southward on the 4th and remained with us until the 11th, when it passed away to the north-eastward. The second was developed over the United Kingdom and the neighbouring parts of the Continent on the 15th and continued in force until the 19th, when it passed away to the Atlantic.

Winds were very variable in the western and northern parts of the Kingdom, but mainly from the Eastward and North-eastward on our south and south-east coasts. One or two gales were experienced in all the districts excepting the east of Scotland and the Channel Islands, where none were reported.

Temperature.—*Mean at Sea Level* ranged from a little above 63° in the Channel Islands and from between 60° and 63° over the southern and midland parts of England to between 55° and 57° at most of our north-east and east coast stations, to about 54° in the Orkneys, and to 52° or less in the Shetlands. The general distribution showed a fair agreement with the normal, but the actual values were in nearly all cases above the average,* the excess amounting as a rule to between two and four degrees. *Highest* readings were recorded on the 18th or 19th, when the thermometer rose to 80°, or more, in most districts and to 85° and upwards in several of the inland parts of Great Britain. At Ochertyre, Strathfield Turgiss, and Bristol the absolute maxima were as high as 90°, while that at Southampton reached 91°. *Lowest* readings occurred over Great Britain on the 1st or 2nd, but in Ireland they were observed mostly during the closing week. At some of the English inland stations the absolute shade minima recorded at the commencement of the month were only a degree or two above the freezing point. *Range* was large—considerably over 40° in many places, and over 50° in several parts of England, the highest values of all being 57° at Strathfield Turgiss, and 54° at Llandovery. *Vapour Tension* ranged from between 0·42 in. and 0·44 in. on our extreme western and southern coasts to 0·36 in. or less in the east of Scotland. *Relative Humidity* was below 75 per cent. in the Channel Islands and the central parts of England, but above 85 per cent. in the north of Scotland and as high as 94 per cent. in the Shetlands.

Rainfall was less than the average* in most districts, but was in excess in the eastern and central parts of Scotland, as well as at Llandudno and Parsonstown. In the west and north of Scotland and the central and southern parts of England the total fall was in most cases less than half the average, and at Laudale less than one-eighth. The largest falls in the month were 3·5 ins. at Aberdeen, 3·2 ins. at Ochertyre, and 3·1 ins. at Marchmont, the smallest 0·4 in. at Dungeness, 0·5 in. at the North Foreland, and 0·6 in. at Sumburgh Head, Laudale, Scilly, and Jersey. There were less than 10 rainy days at many of the English stations, as well as in the south of Ireland, and less than 15 days at all stations excepting Glencarron and Stowell.

Bright Sunshine was again very abundant, the amount being in excess of the average* in nearly all places. More than half the possible duration was recorded at most stations in the south of England and more than 60 per cent. on the coasts of Devon and Cornwall, while at Jersey there was as much as 72 per cent. Over the northern half of the United Kingdom the per-centage values were below 40, the lowest of all being 26 at Fort Augustus.

* 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.