

Metropolitan London Meteorological Observations

Sunday 27 August through Saturday 2 September, 1854

(the outbreak began Thursday evening, 31 August)

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean reading of the barometer in the week was 30.212 in. The mean readings were above 30 in. every day in the week. The mean temperature of the week was 65.1°, which is 5.9° above the average of the same week in 38 years; on Monday 11.2° above the average, on Tuesday 8.1°, and on Wednesday 10.1°. The highest temperature of the week occurred on Monday, and was 85.2°; the lowest on Saturday, and was 44.5°. The mean dew-point temperature was 55.4°, and the difference between this and the temperature of the air was 9.6°. The temperature of the water of the Thames was above 60° every day in the week. The wind was calm and blew generally from the north. No rain fell during the week.

General Register Office,
Weekly Return (2 September 1854): 316.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, during the Week ending Saturday, 2d September 1854. Under the Superintendence of the Astronomer Royal.																						
1854. Month and Day.	Phases of the Moon.	Mean daily reading of the Barometer (corrected and reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit).	Readings of Thermometers.								Difference between the Dew Point Temperature and Air Temperature.			Difference between the temperature of the day and the mean temperature of the same day on an average of 38 years.	Wind as deduced from Anemometer.					Rain in inches, read at 9h. p.m.		
			Dry.			Dew Point.	In the Water of the Thames at Greenwich, by self-registering Thermometers, read at 9 o'clock next morning.	Mean daily value.	Greatest.	Least.	Osler's.				Amount of Horizontal Movement of the Air in each day.							
			High-est.	Low-est.	Mean daily value.	Mean daily value.					High-est.	Low-est.	General Direction.			Pressure in lbs. on the square foot.						
		in.																				
AUGUST.																						
SUNDAY	27	..	30.285	80.2	54.8	67.2	59.0	108.0	45.8	63.7	60.6	8.2	17.7	5.0	+ 7.6	Calm	Calm & N.	0.0	0.0	0.0	25	0.00
MONDAY	28	..	30.323	85.2	62.1	70.7	60.6	110.5	57.8	64.7	61.5	10.1	21.3	1.9	+ 11.2	Calm	N. & Calm	0.0	0.0	0.0	40	0.00
TUESDAY	29	..	30.287	82.7	55.1	67.4	58.3	100.7	47.0	66.2	62.2	9.1	19.5	3.0	+ 8.1	Calm	Calm & N.	0.0	0.0	0.0	10	0.00
WEDNESDAY	30	..	30.080	84.8	54.9	69.3	56.8	111.0	46.5	67.3	64.2	12.5	23.6	1.2	+ 10.1	Calm & N. S.W.	W.S.W.	0.0	0.0	0.0	50	0.00
THURSDAY	31	First Quarter.	30.075	77.2	55.1	62.1	56.0	98.5	48.2	66.7	62.0	6.1	15.0	0.6	+ 3.1	N. S.W.	N.E.	0.0	0.0	0.0	35	0.00
FRIDAY	1	..	30.183	72.5	44.6	58.3	48.4	94.5	37.0	67.7	62.0	9.9	17.3	0.7	- 0.6	N. & Calm	Calm	0.0	0.0	0.0	40	0.00
SATURDAY	2	Greatest Dec. S.	30.252	75.8	44.5	60.4	48.9	98.3	35.5	65.7	61.0	11.5	19.2	1.8	+ 1.6	Calm & S.E.	E.	0.0	0.0	0.0	45	0.00
MEANS		..	30.212	79.8	53.0	65.1	55.4	103.1	45.4	66.0	61.9	9.6	19.1	2.0	+ 5.9	Calm	Sum 245	Sum 0.00
No. of Columns		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
ELECTRICITY.			GENERAL REMARKS.																			
SUNDAY			The sky was generally obscured with thin cloud and haze throughout the day. A dense blue mist till 10h. A.M. A black night.																			
MONDAY			Three fourths of the sky were covered with cloud during the morning and afternoon, and at night it was for the most part clear. Haze.																			
TUESDAY	During the first four days of the week the apparatus was under repair.		At noon a considerable portion of the sky was covered with strati, at other times of the day it was clear. Thick haze.																			
WEDNESDAY	Positive, with variable tension during the remainder of the week.		The sky was cloudless throughout the day.																			
THURSDAY			Between the hours of noon and 3h. 30m. P.M. the sky was covered with cloud, and at other times it was clear.																			
FRIDAY			The sky was generally free from cloud throughout the day.																			
SATURDAY			Light clouds were prevalent about noon, at other times of the day the sky was clear.																			
			Cistern of bar. 159 ft. above mean level of sea. Readings coincident with those of R.S.'s flint-glass standard bar. Obs. taken at 9h. A.M.; noon; 3h. P.M.; 9h. P.M. The means of readings in Cols. 4, 7, 8, observed at these times, stand as corrected by Mr. Glaisher from obs. of 5 yrs. ending Dec. 31, 1845 (<i>Phil. Trans.</i> , Pt. 1, 1845). From values thus obtained, Col. 13 is derived. Col. 7 includes results deduced from max. and min. (self-registering) thermom. with corrections. Readings in Cols. 9, 10, 11, 12 are placed opposite the day which precedes that on which the thermometers are read. The numbers in Cols. 14 and 15 are determined by the use of maximum and minimum thermometers with wetted bulbs. Col. 16 is determined by Mr. Glaisher from all the thermometrical observations made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in the 38 years ending 1851. In Col. 16, + means higher, - lower than average. Temp. of Thames is obtained from self-registering therm. suspended from Dreadnought Hosp. Ship, 2 ft. below the surface (under Captain Sanders, R.N., Superintendent). Whewell's anemometer (Col. 22.) is read at 10h. A.M. The result is for 24 hours previous, and is placed opposite the day preceding that on which the reading is taken. The observations during this week have been made by an inexperienced observer. The reading of the barometer increased from 30.25 in. at the beginning of the week to 30.30 in. by the morning of the 27th; remained at about this reading during the day; was 30.34 in. by 9h. A.M. on the 28th; and remained at this reading, with very slight variation, till noon on the 29th; decreased to 30.12 in. by the evening of the 30th; and increased to 30.27 in. by the end of the week.																			

Meteorological Observations.

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