

## New Zealand Weather Summaries

February 1868 and 1877-1902

*Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute*

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Notes upon the great Floods of February 1868 by W. T. L. Travers, F.L.S.

*Source: Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute 1881*

### Extracts from the official Meteorological Reports for Feb, 1868.

The rainfall, especially in the earlier part of the month, was excessive in some districts. A storm, which commenced on the 3rd, appears to have backed round from north, through east, when the rainfall from this unusual quarter was productive of the most disastrous floods which have been recorded in the colony, and which devastated the eastern districts of the South Island.

**Taranaki:** On 2nd, barometer 29.628, wind SE; but scud coming from E and NE, threatening rain and wind; at 3pm barometer falling, wind SE and rising, evening wild looking, with heavy rain; at 10pm barometer 28.80. On 3rd, gale from SE, with thunder and lightening; about two inches of rain fell during night; wind changed to SW, and violent gale blew, breaking the anemometer; a maximum pressure of 18 lbs. to square foot was registered; barometer commenced to rise; at 4pm gale continued, with heavy squalls of rain, hail, thunder, and lightening, but moderated winds towards morning. It continued stormy up to 8th.

**Wellington:** On 3rd, very low barometer, strong wind from E; at 3pm, barometer 28.754; at 4.15pm rose rapidly, wind shifting round to S, through E; no rain to speak of at this period.

**Nelson:** A storm commenced on 3rd, wind SE; on 4th, wind NE; and on 5th, N; the rainfall on the 5th, for 24 hours previous, was 7.03 inches; from 3rd to 5th the rainfall was 12.88 inches; barometer down to 28.83 inches.

**Christchurch:** Disastrous and unparalleled floods occurred throughout the eastern portion of the Province of Canterbury on 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The rainfall at Mount Peel was 8.08 inches in 24 hours, ending at 12pm on the 3rd. In Christchurch the rain was heavy, but not so severe as the above.

**Hokitika:** On the 3rd a heavy SE gale experienced, but no great rain.

**Dunedin:** On 3rd, a storm from SE; 1.37 inches rain, recorded on 4th, for previous 24 hours. There were great floods all over the Province, doing much damage.

**Southland:** Gale occurred on 3rd and 4th from ESE, but no rain.

Total rain (in inches) for Month of February 1868, compared with averages for same month previous years.

	Feb 1868	Previous Years
Taranaki	6.07	3.67
Wellington	8.76	3.28
Nelson	19.95	6.43
Christchurch	5.66	1.25
Dunedin	5.07	2.35

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**1877**

**January:** Wet, stormy, and unpleasant weather generally experienced throughout; wind prevailing from westward, and frequent thunder-storms. Earthquake reported by observer at Wellington on 10th, at 9.58pm, sharp, from SE.

**February:** During the first half of month the weather throughout was exceedingly wet and stormy, with thunder; floods occurred at several places throughout the colony; the latter part was fine generally. Earthquakes reported by observers at Wellington on 9th, at 6.49pm, slight, 4 secs., from SE, and on 10th at 8.49pm, slight, 2 secs., from E.; at Manawatu, 5th 10.24pm, sharp, preceded by slight noise; Governor's Bay, 2nd, at 10.10pm, SW; Wanganui, night of 7th, loud rumble.

**March:** With the exception of the heavy fall of rain at Mongonui between the 6th and 17th, the weather throughout during this period was exceedingly fine, with a remarkably small rainfall and generally light winds.

**April:** With few exceptions the weather during this period was fine for time of the year, with little rain, and no storms of any violence. The temperature was, however, rather below the average throughout. The Queenstown observer reports a smart shock of earthquake in neighbourhood of Skipper's, Upper Shotover, about the 13th.

**May:** With few exceptions the weather has been very wet and boisterous throughout the month, accompanied by thunder and hail storms, and excessive falls of rain; the wind was principally westerly; the barometer and thermometer readings were below the average. Earthquakes were reported by observers at Taranaki on 8th at 7.20am; and at Queenstown on 2nd, slight. A tidal disturbance was observed at many of the stations on the East Coast on the 11th. A brilliant meteor was observed in the extreme North on the 11th, and one at Lyttelton on the 15th.

**June:** Except in the interior and on the West Coast of the South Island, the rainfall has been small for the time of year, and on the whole fine weather was experienced.

**July:** Very fine weather generally throughout for time of year; small rainfall and moderate winds; exceeding high barometric pressure; temperature below the average. Earthquakes felt at Wellington, 4th, at 4.27pm, N to S., slight; and on 16th, slight double shock, between 10 and 11pm; at Nelson, on 4th, at 4.20pm, sharp, and at Westport, at 3.30pm, smart.

**August:** About the average weather for the time of year; the rain at most stations less than usual for this month, and no violent storms occurred; the temperature rather high. Earthquakes felt at Wanganui, on 11th, at 6.30am, slight; Wellington, same date, and about same hour, slight; at Queenstown, a slight shock reported on 14th, at 6am.

**September:** Very small rainfall during this month as compared with that for same period in former years; the atmospheric pressure was generally higher, and the temperature about the average on the whole; some strong winds were experienced from westward, but generally the weather for the time of year was fine. Earthquakes were felt at Wellington, on the 15th, between 8 and 9am, slight; on 22nd, at 4.40pm, two smart shocks with rumbling noise; and on 29th, at 1.50am, a slight movement; also at Rakaia, on 16th, a shock reported.

**October:** Generally fine and dry early part of month, but during latter half, at most of the stations, wet unpleasant weather was experienced, with much snow and thunder, and some strong SW gales. Earthquakes at Napier, on 25th, at 8.40pm, smart; at Wellington, on 10th, slight shock at 8.53pm; at Timaru and Waimate, on 10th, at night; at Dunedin, on 9th, shock reported.

**November:** During early part of month strong westerly gale experienced at almost all stations, accompanied at most places with heavy rain, hail, and thunder, causing floods; the latter part of month generally fine and pleasant; except at one or two localities the rain was under the average. Earthquakes felt at Wellington, on 6th, at 9.10am, slight; and on 7th at 8.21pm, slight; at Kaiapoi and Rangiora, on 21st.

**December:** Fine weather generally experienced during this month, although at some of the stations, especially in the South, the rain was in excess of average. Westerly winds prevailed, and on the 6<sup>th</sup> a storm from that quarter was felt at many places; the temperature was on the whole about the average. An earthquake at Taupo was reported by telegram on 8th, at 4.15am, smart.

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## 1878

**January:** The weather throughout for this month has been unusually cold, wet and boisterous for the time of year; frequent SW gales of violence have occurred, accompanied with thunder and hail, and the temperature has been considerably lower than the average, generally 4 and 5 degrees below; altogether it was a very unseasonable month. Earthquake at Queenstown on 15th, at 8.45pm, slight.

**February:** Fine weather generally throughout, with small rainfall at most places; strong winds were experienced at some of the stations, but no very violent gales; high barometer readings prevailed, but temperature below the average. Earthquake reported by Observer at Queenstown on 12th, at 3am, slight.

**March:** Except at the Southern stations, the rainfall was much below the average, and fine weather experienced; in the South, however, it was at times severe, and excessively wet and stormy. An earthquake was reported at Hokitika on 11th, at 9.35pm, slight.

**April:** The weather was exceedingly fine during this period, except at Bealey, where the rain was in excess, with strong westerly winds; also at Hokitika very wet, but winds moderate; and in the extreme South the rain was over the average, with cold stormy westerly weather. Earthquakes occurred at Wanganui on the 4th, at 12.50am; at Wellington on 28th, at 6.25pm, lasting six seconds, N and S, very slight; at Cape Campbell on 11th, at 9am, smart, and Blenheim 11th, at 8.55am, sharp, N to E; at Queenstown on the 25th, at 3.30am, smart. A meteor was observed at Christchurch on 27th, in SE.

**May:** On the whole, rain rather below the average; the temperature was lower than usual for time of year; very cold stormy weather experienced at most of the stations, with snow, and a good deal of thunder. A meteor seen in South on 7th, very brilliant.

**June:** A very cold, wet, and severe month throughout. The rainfall at nearly all places in excess, and frequent thunder storms, with hail and snow, and prevailing SW winds; very low atmospheric pressure throughout. Earthquakes at Napier on 5th, at 11.15pm, sharp, and on 23rd at 3.15pm, not so marked; at Wellington on 23rd, at 7.38am, slight, direction SE; at Wanganui on 23rd, at 4.50am, strong shake; at Nelson on 24th, at 8.30am; at Cape Campbell on 3rd, at 12.15am, smart.

**July:** Tolerably fine weather for time of year, though heavy rain at some of the stations, with strong gales, chiefly from westward; very heavy snow-storms, with hail and severe frosts, occurred in the South. Earthquakes occurred on 5th at Wellington, at 10.18pm, slight; at Foxton, 10.20pm, sharp, with loud noise; at Greytown, 10.17pm, smart, with noise; on 20th, at Wellington, 11.39pm, very slight; and at Wanganui, at midnight, smart, and on 21st a lighter shock at 3am; at Hokitika, 29th, at 12am, slight.

**August:** The weather was generally wet and stormy, principally from SW; frequent gales occurred, also snow and hail storms; low atmospheric pressure prevailed, and temperature below the average for same month in previous years. Earthquakes - Taranaki, 8th, at 8am; at Wellington, on 8th, at 7.53am, slight double shock; Wanganui, on 8th, at 8.10am, heavy; at Lawrence and Arrow, on 24th, rather severe; at Queenstown, on 23rd, at 7.35pm, slight and a very heavy shock on 24th, at 2.38pm; at Southland, a sharp shock on 25th, at 2.40pm.

**September:** Very high barometer readings throughout, and high temperature; in the North rain rather below the average, but in the South in excess, which combined with the flooding of the snow rivers, owing to the hot NW winds and warm rain, caused considerable damage to several districts in the South. Earthquakes - On the 14th, at Wellington, 5am, slight; Kaikoura, 4.45am, smart; Nelson, same time, smart; Westport, 4.40am, smart; Lyttelton, at 4.50am, also smart; Cape Campbell at 4.30am, smart; Christchurch, at 4.30am, S to N; also on the 30th, felt at Rangiora, from E to W.

**October:** Wet stormy SW and NW weather generally prevailed throughout this month. Earthquakes - Wellington on 21st, at 10.55pm, sharp, followed by lighter shocks; at Wanganui, on 21st, at 11pm, slight rumble; at Nelson on 21st, sharp shock, at 10.55pm, also at 11.45pm another movement; Cape Campbell, on 21st, at 11.15pm, sharp, and on 27th, at 3.30am, slight; Christchurch, on 21st, at 11pm; Hokitika, on 21st, at 11pm, slight; Queenstown, at midnight, slight. Meteors observed at Mongonui on 31st, and at Christchurch on 30th.

**November:** Rather a wet stormy month, wind generally from SW and westerly; temperature on the whole about the average; frequent thunder storms occurred. Earthquakes reported at Queenstown on 8th, at 2.30am; on 14th, at 12.8pm, smart; and on 27th, at 6.40am.

**December:** Generally fine, dry, warm weather at Northern stations, but in the South excessive rain and frequently stormy cold weather experienced for time of year. Earthquakes felt at Wellington on 6th, at 9pm, slight; on 7th, at 5am, slight; on 12th, at 11.39am, slight, followed by a smarter shock. Meteors observed in North on 15th, and in South on 20th and 25th.

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## 1879

**January:** Generally fine weather for time of year throughout with small rainfall; the temperature above average, and high atmospheric pressure; winds on the whole moderate. Earthquake at Napier on 16th at 10.45pm sharp; at Wanganui on 5th, at 8.47 and 9.50pm, sharp, and on 12th at 6.20pm, slight; at Wellington on 5<sup>th</sup> at 8.45am, smart, and 12th at 6.42pm, smart, with noise.

**February:** On the whole fine seasonable weather, except at some of the southern stations. The rain was light, and the temperature throughout rather below the average.

**March:** Rain generally in excess, but intervals of very fine bright weather experienced throughout. No storms of great violence recorded. Earthquake at Cape Campbell on 4th at 11.30pm, slight.

**April:** Very fine weather generally throughout; high barometer readings; temperature below the average, and small rainfall; winds on the whole moderate. Earthquake at Wellington, 24th, at 10.55pm, slight; Queenstown, 20th, at 12pm, slight.

**May:** The rainfall at northerly stations was in excess, but, otherwise, below average for time of year; the temperature throughout was above the average, and, on the whole, the weather was fine for this period; a strong southerly wind occurred at most stations about the 11th; the amount of cloud was unusually high throughout. Earthquakes at Wellington, on 3rd, between 2 and 3am, slight; and on 25th, at 12.16pm, NW to SE, slight; at Cape Campbell, on 3rd, at 2am; Waitangi (Chatham Islands) on 9th, at 1am.

**June:** On the whole wet, squally, and cold weather was experienced during this period; the rainfall at most places in excess; the temperature about the average, and barometer readings very low.

**July:** Rather colder and more severe than usual for this month; a good deal of snow and frost in the South, and squally from SW; very showery, but the total rain about the average. Earthquake at Wellington on 27th, at 6.15am, slight; at Christchurch on 22nd, at 10.15pm, sharp; at Queenstown, on 9th, at 2.35pm, slight; at Wanganui on 21st, at 10.40pm, slight.

**August:** Fine weather throughout for time of year with moderate winds, the latter part of month very fine, with high barometer readings at all stations, reaching 30.790 inches. Earthquakes felt at Wellington on 5th, at 7.45am, smart with noise; on the 8th, at noon, slight; and on 18th, at 3.30pm, very slight.

**September:** At many of the stations the rain was in excess, but on the whole the fall was about the average. The weather was generally fine; at times strong winds occurred, chiefly from the westward, but no severe gales. Earthquake at Taranaki on 17th, at 8.15am; and at Bealey on 23rd, at 4.4am, sharp.

**October:** Fine pleasant weather experienced at most of the stations; rainfall about the average; winds variable, and generally moderate. Earthquakes occurred on the 30th at New Plymouth, at 2.30am; at Napier, at 2.15am, slight; at Palmerston North and Foxton, at 2.25am, sharp; at Wellington at 2.25am, sharp; and at Cape Campbell, at 2.30am, slight.

**November:** Very wet, unpleasant weather; stormy, chiefly from NW, with frequent thunder. Earthquakes on 17th, at New Plymouth, at 6am; at Wellington, at 6.10am, slight; at Christchurch, at 12.15pm, sharp; at New Plymouth, on 19th, at 6.10am; and on the 25th, at Queenstown, at 2.20pm, slight.

**December:** Early part generally fine at northern stations, and remainder very wet, squally and unpleasant; in the South wet, stormy weather almost throughout; prevailing NW winds. Earthquake felt at Queenstown on 25th, at 6.30am, slight.

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## 1880

**January:** Very fine, bright, warm weather generally experienced, the temperature being rather above the average. Rain about the average, but chiefly occurring during middle of month. Winds moderate on the whole. Earthquake at Queenstown on 9th, at 12.15pm, slight.

**February:** Remarkably fine, warm, weather throughout; temperature greatly in excess of average, and rainfall much less. Winds moderate; very high atmospheric pressure. Earthquake felt at Napier on the 10th, at 1pm, slight, and at Hokitika on 22nd, at 9.30pm, slight. A large comet observed in SW on 2nd, and visible for many days; several meteors observed during this period.

**March:** At some stations exceedingly fine with little rain, while at others the rain was in excess and the temperature throughout high. The winds were on the whole moderate, and the weather generally agreeable. At some places it was very warm and sultry. Earthquakes at Wanganui on 10th, 5.30am, sharp with noise, and 11th, at 11.20pm, long heavy roll and noise; at Christchurch, early on 6th, smart, N to S; at Dunedin on 5th; at Queenstown on 4th, at 11.51am, smart, and on 5th, at 12.35am.

**April:** Fine, bright, dry weather almost throughout; remarkably high atmospheric pressure and high temperature; very small rainfall; moderate winds. Earthquakes reported at Wanganui on the 17th, slight shock; at Wellington on 20th, at 12.39pm, a noise followed by a smart shake N to S; at Queenstown on 29th, at 2.30am, sharp. Meteors observed on 10th, 18th and 23rd.

**May:** Generally stormy, wet, and unpleasant weather experienced throughout during this period, with much thunder and hail at several stations; in most places the rain was greatly in excess, but the temperature was generally high; the atmospheric pressure was low throughout. Earthquakes reported at Wanganui on 9th, two shakes at 8pm and 8.10pm, smart; at Queenstown on 4th, at 4.45am, and on 27th, at 11.30am, both slight.

**June:** For the time of year the weather throughout has been mild, with generally small rainfall and moderate winds; at some of the southern stations unusually fine. Earthquake at Queenstown on 8th, at 6.30pm, slight.

**July:** Although the rain has been in excess at most places, and some strong gales have occurred, yet on the whole the weather has been mild, and at times very pleasant for the time of year. Earthquakes at Wanganui on 4th at 10pm, and 28th, at 5.12pm, very sharp; at Wellington on 28th at 5.15pm, smart; at Nelson on 28th, at 5.5pm, slight; at New Plymouth on 28th at 5.12pm, sharp; and at Hokitika on 12th, at 11.30pm, slight, NW to SE. Also, by telegram, earthquakes reported as occurring on 28th, at Napier, Waipawa and Porangahau, at about 5.15pm, severe; at Bull's at 5.14pm, direction NW to SE, very heavy shake preceded by loud noise; Palmerston North at 5.13pm, sharp; Foxton at 5.13pm, sharp; Turakina at 5.13pm, violent, shake lasting some time. On the 31st at Gisborne, two shocks at 1.18 and 1.25am, NE to W, severe.

**August:** About average weather for the time of year, the winds rather high and chiefly from W; a good deal of thunder; rain and temperature, on the whole about the average. Earthquakes: Wellington, on 4th, at 2.57am, two smart movements; Blenheim, on 4th at 2.56am, sharp. Meteors, Mongonui, 19th, large, Dunedin on 2nd.

**September:** Remarkably fine and pleasant weather for time of year. In every case the temperature is above the average; the rainfall on the whole is much less than is usual for this month. Winds generally moderate.

**October:** Rainfall in the North generally in excess of average, while in the South, it was less than usual; but for the time of year the weather has been fine throughout.

**November:** The weather throughout was fine and seasonable with a rather higher temperature than usual, and about the average rainfall. The winds were principally northerly, and with few exceptions moderate. Earthquakes occurred at Wanganui on 27th, slight, at 1.15pm, and Nelson on 27th in afternoon, slight.

**December:** On the whole rather unpleasant stormy weather throughout for the time of year, with much thunder, hail and rain. In the South it was very unseasonable.

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**1881**

**January:** Fine weather, small rainfall and moderate winds; temperature rather below average. Earthquake occurred at Wellington on 3rd, at 8.30am, slight.

**February:** Remarkably fine throughout; at times very hot; temperature in excess of average, and very small rainfall; light winds.

**March:** Very warm and fine weather experienced; little rain, generally clear and bright, and moderate winds. Meteor observed in North on 27th.

**April:** Fine weather, with little rain, except in the South, where it was rather in excess. Temperature above the average, and high barometer. Winds moderate and variable. On the 8th, at Castle Hill, Canterbury, smart shock of earthquake reported at 6.45pm.

**May:** Fine weather throughout, rain below average and temperature above; barometric pressure high. Winds moderate from NW and SW. Thunder at times. On 6th smart shock of earthquake reported at Castle Hill, Canterbury, at 6.45pm; also on 14th, same place, at 11pm, slight; and 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, in Nelson District.

**June:** This has been a wet stormy month throughout; rainfall considerably over the average. A rather severe earthquake was experienced throughout the colony, on the 26th about 5.25am, followed by slight movements up to morning of 27th; another shock was felt on 29th, but slight.

**July:** Early part of month generally fine, wind northerly, but latter part showery, very heavy rain occurring at Wellington; wind chiefly SW during this period; temperature in excess of average; earthquake at Wellington on 6th, at 5.15am, and 12th, at 2.51am, both slight.

**August:** Showery and rather squally weather experienced; wind chiefly SW; rainfall slightly in excess, and temperature above the average, not severe for the time of year; earthquake on 8th, at Wellington, at 10.25am, very slight.

**September:** On the whole fine mild weather, with moderate rainfall, at times sudden changes from NW to SE, bringing rain, wind, hail, and slight thunder, but no severe gales were experienced. Earthquake at Wellington on 1st, at 2.25am, smart; on 14th, at 7.30am, slight; and on 15th, at 7.37pm, very slight.

**October:** Fine weather, with moderate NW and SW winds, and small rainfall.

**November:** Except in the north the rainfall has been under the average and the weather on the whole fine, with moderate SW and W winds prevailing.

**December:** On the whole a wet month, with at times strong winds, chiefly from SW and NW, and occasional thunder. Earthquakes occurred at Wellington on 3rd at 6.30am, slight; on 23rd at 7.13am and 10.54pm, E to W, slight; and 31st at 1pm, slight; at Lincoln on 5th at 7.37am, on 6th at 5.6am, and 9th at 5.22am, all slight; at Dunedin a slight shock on 5th.

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**1882**

**January:** A wet month, with strong SW and NW winds; temperature generally lower than the average. Earthquakes at Wellington on 9th at 2.20am, and on 17th at 10.45pm slight.

**February:** Fine weather except in the south, where the rain was rather in excess; occasional strong winds from NW and SW and at times thunder. Earthquakes: At Wellington on 1st at 2.20pm, slight and at 3.8pm, sharp; on 20th, very slight, about midnight; on 21st at 6.30am, slight. At Lincoln, on 1st, slight, at 3.5pm.

**March:** Wet close weather prevailed; wind moderate, and chiefly NE. Earthquake at Lincoln on 22nd at 9.10am, slight.

**April:** Generally showery month, but with moderate and variable winds. Earthquakes felt at Wellington on 6th at 4.10pm, sharp, and at 4.19pm, slight; on 16th at 7.30pm and 11pm, slight; at Lincoln on 6th at 3.45pm. Brilliant aurora observed on 16th, 17th, 18<sup>th</sup> and 20th.

**May:** On the whole a wet month and squally, with variable winds. Earthquakes at Wellington on 14th at 5.10pm, and 15th at 12.20 and 4.15am, all slight.

**June:** Rain rather in excess of usual average, and some unpleasant squally weather experienced, especially in earlier part. Earthquakes felt at Wellington on 6th at 8pm, and 11th at 7am, slight.

**July:** A very wet unpleasant month, with strong SW and W winds, very low pressure. Earthquakes occurred at Wellington on 24th at midnight, slight, and on 25th, early morning, slight.

**August:** Fine generally in north and south, but at Central Station much rain and stormy weather prevailed.

**September:** Stormy and wet weather with heavy showers, though total rain not excessive in the north; frequent thunder and hail and NW and SW winds; generally fine at southern stations. Great comet first observed on 7th.

**October:** Generally showery weather, but no heavy falls of rain; winds westerly. Earthquake at Wellington on 20th at 12.19am, slight. Brilliant meteors observed on 29th and 30th.

**November:** On the whole fine, with moderate rainfall and variable winds. Earthquakes felt at Wellington on 18th at 11.4pm, slight, and on 25th at 10.50pm, smart. Auroras between 17th and 20th, and meteor on 29th.

**December:** Fine, with little rain and moderate winds prevailing from NW in the north, but wet dull weather with light winds in the south.

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**1883**

**January:** Very fine throughout, with generally moderate winds prevailing from NE and NW; little rain; temperature about the average

**February:** Rainfall at most places greatly in excess of average; on the whole a wet unpleasant month; temperature in excess. Earthquakes at Wellington on 5th at 10pm, slight, and 14th, between 2 and 3am, slight.

**March:** Rain generally in excess, but some very fine pleasant weather, with prevailing southerly winds; the temperature about the average. Earthquakes at Wellington on 21st at 7.30am, slight, and 28th at 10.30pm, slight. Aurora on 28th.

**April:** Generally wet unpleasant weather, with S and SW winds and low temperature. Tongariro in eruption.

**May:** In the north rain in excess, but moderate in south; moderate winds, and temperature above the average.

**June:** On the whole fine for time of year, with little rain, and temperature above average; strong winds at Central Station from westward, with hail, showers, and squally.

**July:** A showery month generally, although some fine weather at intervals; temperature about the average. Earthquakes reported at Wellington on 4th after midnight, smart; on 5th at 3.3am, slight; and on 9th at 2.40pm, slight.

**August:** Fine month, with rain below the average, but at times squally cold weather. Tidal disturbances felt, and sharp earthquake in north.

**September:** Generally showery early and latter part of month, but fine during middle, with moderate variable winds. Earthquake at Wellington on 27th at 7.15pm. A vivid colouration of the southern sky after sunset and before sunrise was observed during this month, due probably to vapour being suspended at an unusually great altitude.

**October:** Rainfall in north in excess of average, but in south less; the temperature generally under the average; unseasonable weather.

**November:** Generally a showery unpleasant month; rainfall in excess, and temperature below the average, and squally.

**December:** Most unseasonable weather, cold, showery and squally at most places north and south. Earthquakes recorded at Wellington on 8th at 9.30pm, slight; and at Dunedin on 18th, slight.

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**1884**

**January:** Squally wet weather generally with heavy rain, especially during middle of month; wind SW; temperature below average. Earthquake reported on 30th at Wellington, at 1am, slight.

**February:** On the whole fine weather prevailed, with moderate wind and small rainfall, except in south; temperature below average. Slight earthquake reported in north on 1st, after midnight. Meteors seen on 22nd and 23rd.

**March:** Fine weather, with moderate rainfall and winds; temperature below average. Earthquake in north on 19th, at 4.30pm, slight.

**April:** Fine weather during this period, rainfall below average, temperature less than average and high pressure. Earthquakes at Wellington on 11th, 6.49pm, sharp; 16th, 6.28am, smart; 25th, 11.55am, slight; at Lincoln on 11th, at 6.50pm.

**May:** Excess of rain generally; temperature below average; continued high pressure at times; strong winds. Earthquakes at Wellington on 1st, 8.40pm, slight; 8th, at 8.30pm, very slight.

**June:** Rainfall less than average during this month; temperature above average; generally fine weather. Earthquakes at Wellington on 5th, at 3am, slight; and at 12.10pm, slight.

**July:** Rather unpleasant weather, showery and changeable, though rain below average.

**August:** Showery squally weather generally during this period; temperature rather above the average.

**September:** Generally fair weather for the time of year, average temperature, rain rather in excess. Meteor observed at Wellington on 9th.

**October:** Rainfall generally in excess of average, and on the whole showery, squally, unpleasant month.

**November:** Rainfall about average, temperature under the average, weather on the whole unsettled.

**December:** A very wet month, rainfall at all stations in excess of average; temperature below average; squally weather.

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**1885**

**January:** On the whole, showery weather, but total rain under the average; temperature at all stations less than average; some bright, pleasant days; winds moderate. Earthquake felt in North on 15th, at 6.10pm, slight, N. and S.

**February:** Except in South, the rainfall has been much less than the usual average for this month, and the weather on the whole has been fine, with light variable wind. Earthquake felt on 19th, in North Island, at 8.30am; very slight; brilliant meteor on 20th

**March:** Generally a wet, unpleasant month, with frequent squalls and cold weather.

**April:** Fine weather, with generally light wind and small rainfall.

**May:** Showery weather during this month, but no heavy falls of rain. Wind, on the whole, moderate; temperature, below average.

**June:** Fine weather during this period for time of year; little rain, and moderate or light wind; temperature rather above the average.

**July:** Weather about the average for time of year. Earthquakes at Wellington, 18th, 9.43pm, and on 26th, 7.50pm slight; also at Lincoln on 26th, at same time, slight.

**August:** Rain rather under the average, and, on the whole, seasonable weather, though some severe days experienced in the South, with strong winds. Earthquake at Wellington on 5th, at 5.10pm, rather sharp.

**September:** Generally fine weather during this month, with small rainfall, and about the average temperature.

**October:** On the whole, fine for the time of year, except rain in excess at Wellington, and squally weather; temperature about the average. Meteor on 20th, to eastward.

**November:** Fine generally at all stations during the month, with moderate winds.

**December:** Very fine weather at all places, the rainfall considerably under the average; and the temperature was less than the usual average for this month. Earthquake reported on 13th, at 7.15am, and on the 20th, at 7.20am, at Wellington.

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**1886**

**January:** A fine month, with moderate rain; wind generally from NE and moderate; temperature about the average. Earthquake at Rotorua on 26th at 4.30pm, slight. Meteor in South on 11th.

**February:** Generally fine weather, with little rainfall, except in North; wind moderate, and from NE; temperature above the average.

**March:** In the North rainfall below the average, but in the South rather in excess; temperature generally below the average; a tolerably fine month. Earthquake at Rotorua on 30th at 1am, slight.

**April:** On the whole fine, though total rainfall above the average; winds moderate generally, the temperature rather above the average. Earthquakes at Rotorua on 22nd at 3pm, 28th at 4.30am, and 30th at 5.30pm, and at Wellington on 19th at 9.25pm, all slight.

**May:** In the extreme North small rainfall, but otherwise rain in excess and generally unpleasant weather with frequent squalls. Earthquake at Wellington and other places in the neighbourhood on 16th, about 4am, smart. Comet observed in South, direction W.

**June:** Generally a wet, cold, unpleasant month, with frequent strong winds and snow and hail. On 10th an eruption occurred at Tarawera, and there were earth tremors at Rotorua from 10th to 24th at frequent intervals, direction NW to SE. Earthquake also at Wellington on 29th at 12.30am, slight, and at Dunedin on 23rd. Meteors seen in South Island on 11th and 12th.

**July:** Rather showery, but on the whole fine weather, and rather cooler than is usual for this month. Earthquakes at Rotorua, frequent tremors, from 7th to 14th; at Wellington on 12th, at 7.30am, slight, N and S; and at Dunedin on 2nd.

**August:** An unusually wet, unpleasant month. Serious floods in the South; very cold and severe, with frequent snow-storms and strong wind. Earthquake at Rotorua on 29th, at 9pm.

**September:** On the whole a showery, unpleasant month, and strong winds. Earthquakes at Rotorua on 20th, at 6.15am, smart; and Wellington on 3rd, at noon, two smart shocks, E to W; and on 7th at 7am, slight, E to W.

**October:** A cold, wet month, with very unsettled weather, and frequently stormy. Earthquakes at Rotorua on 25th, at 11.15am, NW to SE; and at Wellington on 11th, at 4.12pm, slight, and 13th, about 8.30pm, very slight.

**November:** Fine seasonable weather during this month, and rainfall under the average. Earthquakes at Rotorua on 5th, at 6am, and on 17<sup>th</sup> at 1.30 and 5.10am; at Wellington on 10th, at 5am, E to W, slight; 14th, two slight shocks, morning and afternoon; on 26th, at 1am, very smart, and at 3pm, E and W, slight.

**December:** A fine month, with very little rainfall, except in South; wind frequently strong, and prevailing from N and NE. Earthquake at Rotorua on 28th, smart, at 10.20am.

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**1887**

**January:** Fine warm weather throughout this month, with little rain and moderate wind. Earthquakes recorded at Wellington on 16th, at 4am, slight, and on 31st at 6.20pm, slight, E. and W. Comet observed in south at Lincoln on 25th and 26th at 10.30pm, in SW horizon.

**February:** On the whole, fine bright warm weather, with little rainfall and moderate wind.

**March:** The weather during this period has been generally fine, with small rainfall and moderate wind.

**April:** A fine month throughout, with rainfall less than the average, and moderate wind. Earthquake at Rotorua on 28th, slight and at Wellington on 12th, E., and long. Meteor observed in south, on 29th, to east.

**May:** Rainfall considerably in excess of average, and on the whole an unpleasant month, with strong wind. Earthquakes recorded at Wellington on 13th at noon, very slight; and on the 22nd at 2am, slight.

**June:** Early part of month at most places fine, but on whole wet, with occasional strong winds. Earthquake at Rotorua on 21st at 1.50pm, slight; and at Wellington on 11th at 9.30pm, sharp, and 27th, E to W, at 1.50pm, sharp.

**July:** Generally a wet month; temperature above average; prevailing SW and NW winds, and strong at times.

**August:** Except in north, the rainfall over the average, and temperature below; on the whole a wet squally cold month. Earthquake at Wellington on 13th at 6.35am, slight.

**September:** A wet stormy, and cold month generally.

**October:** Rainfall in excess of average, and generally cold stormy weather during this period. Earthquakes at Wellington on 6th, at 7am and 10.30pm, slight.

**November:** A cold and rather unpleasant month for time of year. Earthquakes recorded at Rotorua on 13th, slight, and Wellington on 11th, at 2am, smart. Meteor observed in south on 9th, NE to SW.

**December:** Small total rainfall, but weather generally windy and cold for time of year. Earthquake at Rotorua on 18th, at 11.30pm, slight.

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**1888**

**January:** A fine month, with rainfall under the average, and moderate wind. Meteor observed at Wellington on 25th, travelling eastward; and slight earthquake felt at Lincoln on 19th.

**February:** Rainfall below the average, and temperatures also under; on the whole, fine weather. Earthquake felt at Wellington, slight, on 17th, at 7am.

**March:** Rainfall in excess of average generally, and temperature on the whole below the average for this month. High wind prevailed. Earthquake at Wellington on 31st, at 7.30am, slight, E and W. High tides on 28th.

**April:** Rainfall about the average; temperature under average; generally fine weather. Earthquake at Wellington on 3rd, at 6.50am, smart, N. and S.; and on 21st, at 6.55am, slight.

**May:** About the average rainfall, though at some places in excess; temperature about the average; seasonable weather. Earthquakes - at Rotorua on 29th, at 11.15am, smart; and on 31st, at 2.15pm, smart; at Wellington on 3rd, at 2.15am and 6.4am, slight; and on 4th, at 5am, slight, and two sharp shocks at 8.25am. Meteor on 4th, observed in Wellington, brilliant; and lunar halo on 20<sup>th</sup> with brilliant colours. At Dunedin an aurora observed on 11th.

**June:** On the whole, fine weather with moderate rain and wind, and the temperature about the average for this time of year.

**July:** Showery weather, with strong NW and SE winds over centre.

**August:** A wet month generally. Earthquake at Wellington on 16th, at 6.10am, very slight; and 17th, at 7.20am, slight; at Lincoln on 30th, at 10.30pm.

**September:** Very fine weather, with moderate winds and small rainfall. Earthquakes reported at Wellington on 1st, at 4.15am, long double shock, E to W; on 5th, during night, slight, E to W; on 20th, at 10pm, slight; Amuri and North Canterbury on 1st, at 4.14am, severe; also on 4th, 5th, and 9th, all smart: at Dunedin on 1st, at 4.15am.

**October:** Rather wet weather towards end of month, but otherwise fine. Earthquakes - at Rotorua on 17th, at 8.15pm, smart, SE to NW; at Wellington on 23rd, at 8.15pm, two shocks, moderate; and on 26th, after midnight, sharp; at Lincoln on 12th, 2.25am; and on 23rd at 8.19pm.

**November:** Showery weather prevailed during this period, with strong S and W winds. Earthquake reported at Dunedin on 23rd.

**December:** Generally fine pleasant weather and moderate winds, except strong from NW over centre. Earthquakes - at Wellington on 8th, at 7.10am, slight; at Lincoln on 27th, at 9.30pm; on 31st, at 9pm; at Dunedin on 27th.

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**1889**

**January:** Very fine weather, with rainfall considerably below the average, and temperature rather in excess.

**February:** In North rain in excess, but below the average in South; temperature in excess; rather strong wind.

**March:** Small rainfall in North, but generally showery over centre and in South, and windy, the temperature generally slightly below the average.

**April:** Generally fine weather throughout. Earthquake at Rotorua on 19th, at 12.30pm, slight, and at Wellington, 8am, slight. Lunar halo on 16th.

**May:** Fine seasonable weather; small rainfall in South. Earthquakes at Wellington on 13th and 27th, at 8am, slight.

**June:** Excessive rain in North, and generally stormy weather; generally fine in South and cold; the temperature generally below the average.

**July:** Generally showery weather in North, but little rain in South; moderate winds. Slight earthquakes at Rotorua on 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 25th.

**August:** A showery month, but rainfall below the average; some pleasant weather; at times windy. A slight earthshake at Rotorua on 13th.

**September:** In the North rainfall rather over the average, but deficient in the South; strong NE and NW winds prevailed; temperature rather above the average. Earthquake at Wellington on 19th, at 10.30pm, slight.

**October:** The early part of month showery, generally fine during the latter part; strong NW winds over centre; temperature about the average. A meteor observed in South on 30th.

**November:** Very fine weather in North, rainfall much below average, rather in excess in South, with strong NE winds. Earthquake felt at Wellington on 29th, at 10pm, slight.

**December:** On the whole fine weather; rainfall under the average; strong NE and NW winds; temperature rather in excess. Earthquake at Wellington on 10th, at 5.35pm., sharp double shock.

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**1890**

**January:** Very fine in North; generally showery during middle of month over centre, and showery in South; winds on the whole moderate, and prevailed from SW and NW.

**February:** Very fine dry weather throughout, with moderate variable winds.

**March:** Generally fine weather, with pleasant showers, especially towards end of month. Earthquake over centre on 7th, at 5.30pm, slight.

**April:** In North heavy rain, especially in early part of month, and strong NE and NW winds; in South showery, but small total fall, and light winds. Earthquake over centre on 9th at 4.5am, smart.

**May:** Generally showery unpleasant weather throughout. Slight earthquake in South on 1st, and meteor on 21st.

**June:** Showery, with intervals of fine weather; wind moderate.

**July:** A very wet month, with prevailing NE and SE winds, and frequently strong. Slight earthquake over centre on 16<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am.

**August:** In North and over centre showery weather, with strong NE and SE winds; in South fine, with moderate W and SW winds. Slight shocks of earthquake on 15th, at 6.45am, over centre.

**September:** In extreme North showery during middle of month with strong NE winds; over centre showers with intervals of fine, and strong winds from NW and S.; in South, fine with moderate winds.

**October:** In North heavy rain, especially in latter part of month, and strong winds from NE, NW and SW, also thunder; over centre showery, but not excessive rain, and strong NW winds; in South frequent showers of rain, but not heavy fall; strong W and SW wind during latter part of month.

**November:** Generally fine weather, although rather showery in early part of month in South; rather windy from NW over centre.

**December:** In North, fine with little rain; over centre heavy rain in early part and showery during latter part of month, and strong NW winds; in South generally showery from SW and NW.

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**1891**

**January:** Showery changeable weather, especially over centre and South; prevailing NW and SW winds and fresh. Earthquake over centre on 13th.

**February:** Generally heavy rain, with SW and NW winds; early part of month rather fine and bright.

**March:** Fine weather; rainfall much below the average, and winds light and from NW and SW. Slight shock of earthquake over centre on 9th. Meteor on 10th and 31st.

**April:** A good deal of rain during this period, especially over centre and in North, with strong NW and SW winds; finer in South. Earthquake on 7th, over centre, slight. Aurora on night of 17th.

**May:** On the whole seasonable weather, with about the average quantity of rain and moderate winds. Eclipse of moon on 25th at 4am.

**June:** Generally fine weather, especially in North and South; moderate winds. Slight earthquake on 2nd and 30th over centre, and on 24th in North.

**July:** Showery unpleasant weather generally and cold, with frequent fogs. Earthquake over centre on 5th and 10th.

**August:** Small rainfall over centre and in North, but heavy in South; winds moderate. Earthquake over centre on 10th, 16th and 20th.

**September:** Very fine dry month; total rain greatly below the average, and moderate winds. Earthquakes over centre on 25th.

**October:** Fine weather, with moderate winds from N and NE in North, NW over centre, and W in South.

**November:** Small total rainfall in North and over centre, though pleasant showers, but in South very showery and disagreeable.

**December:** Very fine bright weather in North and over centre, but heavy rain in South and frequent thunder. Earthquake on 4th, 8th and 15th.

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**1892**

**January:** Generally fine in North, showery and unpleasant over centre, with strong winds and showery dull weather in South. Slight earthquake in South on 11th.

**February:** Fine in North and over centre, but heavy rain in southern districts, causing floods. Earthquake over centre on 14th and 28th.

**March:** Weather fine in North, heavy rain during middle of month over centre, and showery during latter part in South; moderate winds. Slight earthquake on 17th over centre.

**April:** Tolerably fine in North, but showery weather over centre and in South, with southerly winds. A slight earthquake on 11th at Wellington at noon.

**May:** On the whole showery weather, with prevailing southerly winds. Earthquake in South on 7th, slight.

**June:** Heavy rainfall throughout, and strong SW winds in North and over centre.

**July:** Showery weather in North, with prevailing strong NE winds; over centre very heavy rainfall - the heaviest monthly record for twenty-eight years (12.165in.) - and strong southerly winds, and frequent hail, snow, and fog; tolerably fine, but changeable, in South. Earthquake on 8th over centre, slight.

**August:** In North, showery and strong NW and NE gales, also heavy rain with strong NW winds over centre, and in South changeable but moderately fine weather. Earthquakes over centre on 1st, 14th, 19th, and 24th, slight; and in South, slight on 23rd.

**September:** Finer weather in North, but frequent strong winds from NE and SW; showery unpleasant weather over centre, and showery in South. Earthquake on 25th over centre, slight.

**October:** Still showery weather generally, especially in earlier part of month, but on the whole finer than previous months. Earthquake on 13th over centre, slight.

**November:** Still showery in North, with strong NE winds; much finer over centre and in South. Earthquake over central localities on 9<sup>th</sup> and 30th, slight.

**December:** Fine in North, and on the whole finer over central districts, although heavy rain during early part and strong NW winds; in South cold showery weather, with prevailing SW winds. Earthquake at Wellington on 2nd, slight.

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**1893**

**January:** Generally fine weather, with prevailing northerly winds. Very showery during latter part in South.

**February:** On the whole a wet month in North and over centre, with strong NE and NW winds; in the South small rainfall, but changeable weather.

**March:** Fine weather in North; but heavy rain over centre; and fine with light showers in South. Moderate winds.

**April:** Fine in North and over centre; but showery and foggy in South.

**May:** In North showery, with prevailing SW winds; over centre also generally wet weather from SE and NW; and in South showery, except fine during middle of month. Winds SW, and foggy at times.

**June:** A wet and severe month, with prevailing southerly winds and frequent hail and snow, especially in South.

**July:** Unpleasant wet weather generally, although mild for time of year.

**August:** In North wet, with prevailing SW winds; over centre very heavy rains, especially in early part of month, from NW; in South showery, but small total rainfall, and moderate SW winds.

**September:** In North fine weather, with moderate variable winds; over centre still heavy rain from NW and SE, but not cold; in the South also showery and unpleasant, with variable winds.

**October:** In North and over centre much finer weather, although strong NW winds over latter; in the South very showery, with prevailing NE winds.

**November:** Heavy rainfall in North; generally fine over centre, with fresh NW winds; and very heavy total rainfall in South, with intervals of fine weather; winds NE and SW.

**December:** Showery in early and latter part of month in North, with prevailing SW winds; over centre generally fine, winds SE and NW and moderate; in the South wet weather, with NE and SW winds.

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**1894**

**January:** Fine in North; showery over centre, especially during latter part; and wet and unpleasant in South; generally moderate winds.

**February:** Latter part showery in North; very wet over centre, and strong NW and SE winds; and showery and cold weather in South, with prevailing SW winds.

**March:** Fine in North, with prevailing SW wind; still showery over centre, chiefly from NW; and wet in South, with prevailing moderate SW winds.

**April:** Generally fine weather throughout; strong NW winds over centre, otherwise moderate; rather showery in extreme South.

**May:** Showery weather generally, with moderate variable winds; high winds in South from SW.

**June:** A wet month generally, with prevailing strong SE and NW winds.

**July:** Showery in North and over centre, and strong winds with thunder on 10th, 19th and 20th, and hail on 20th and 26th; fine in South, and light winds.

**August:** Wet in North, and strong SW winds, with thunder on 2nd and 29th; over centre showery, but some fine days, prevailing NW wind and strong during end of month; in South showery, but moderate rainfall, prevailing SW winds.

**September:** In the North unpleasant showery weather, with strong NE and SW winds, frequent thunder and hail; also showery over centre, with prevailing southerly winds and strong; in South wet early part, but fine towards end of month, with moderate winds.

**October:** Very fine, bright, dry weather throughout during this period, with moderate winds.

**November:** Weather generally showery throughout, with strong NW winds over centre; and hailstorms in South on 3rd and 27th.

**December:** Very fine in North, with fresh NE winds towards end; also fine over centre, with prevailing NW winds; fine in South, with prevailing W winds.

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**1895**

**January:** Showery in early part of month in North and over centre, but fine latter part, with NE and NW winds. Fine weather in South.

**February:** Fine weather in North; a wet month over centre; and heavy rain in South in early and latter part of month.

**March:** Fine weather generally, except heavy rain in South, chiefly from SW.

**April:** Fine in North; over centre heavy rain in middle of month, causing floods; wind SE. In South changeable and unpleasant weather, with strong winds and fogs.

**May:** An excess of rain throughout, and unpleasant weather; and heavy snowfall in South.

**June:** Very heavy rainfall generally, with strong NW and SW winds; fogs and hail over centre; and snow in South.

**July:** Heavy rain generally, with storms from SW in North, and frequent hail and fog; and severe snowstorms in South.

**August:** Fine weather, but showery over centre, with strong NW winds and frequent hail; rather finer in South.

**September:** Heavy rain in North and strong NW and SW winds and thunder; rather finer over centre, but with fresh NW winds and thunder; fine in South

**October:** Generally showery, with intervals of fine weather and strong NW winds over centre.

**November:** The rainfall this month over the average, and generally unpleasant weather.

**December:** A very fine pleasant month generally, although rather showery in South; strong NW winds over centre.

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**1896**

**January:** Generally fine in North and over centre, with strong SW and NW winds, and thunder early part. In South showery and changeable.

**February:** In extreme North very fine; over centre heavy rain early and latter part of month; winds NW and frequently strong. In South fine, with light winds.

**March:** Fine in North; over centre heavy rain during latter part, and strong NW and SE winds; in South changeable weather.

**April:** Heavy rain in North and centre, with prevailing SW and NW winds; with thunder over centre; in South showery and unsettled.

**May:** Generally showery weather throughout, but not a heavy total rainfall; moderate winds.

**June:** Fine early part of month in North, but showery towards end; over centre heavy rain generally; moderate winds. In South fine, with light showers.

**July:** Very wet weather throughout; prevailing SW and NW winds, and often strong; thunder in early part of month in North.

**August:** Generally showery during this month, and moderate winds; occasional snow and cold weather in South.

**September:** Wet early and latter part of month in North and over centre; prevailing NW and SW winds, and frequently strong; snow and hail towards end of month. In South fine weather.

**October:** Fine in North, but strong SW winds prevailed; over centre showery, but fine at intervals, and strong NW winds. In South showery, with hail towards end, and prevailing SW winds.

**November:** Generally fine weather in North and over centre, but strong SW winds in North; snow (on hills) and hail in early part over centre. In South cold wet weather, with snow, early part of month; winds SW.

**December:** Fine weather throughout, with moderate winds.

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**1897**

**January:** Heavy rain in North, with strong prevailing NE and SW winds; also showery and strong NW winds over centre; and generally fine in South.

**February:** Generally wet weather and strong winds in North; in South fine, with light showers.

**March:** On the whole fine weather, though showery during latter part of month; strong wind over centre from NW; rather changeable in South.

**April:** Fine in North; heavy rain and wind from SE causing floods over centre; and fine in South.

**May:** Showery weather in North and strong SW winds, also thunder; over centre generally fine, with variable wind, and at times strong; in South fine, with light showers.

**June:** Pleasant weather in North, and light showers; over centre fine, with light showers, frequent fogs; very fine in South

**July:** A showery month, prevailing SW and W winds and frequently stormy in North; over centre generally pleasant, with showers at intervals; fine and dry in South.

**August:** Wet weather in latter part of month in North, but otherwise fine; over centre generally showery, but at times pleasant, prevailing SE wind; in South middle of month showery, but otherwise fine and clear, with light NE winds.

**September:** Generally fine seasonable weather, but heavy rain over centre during latter part; winds moderate.

**October:** Showery weather generally, and strong SW winds in North and South; strong winds from NW over centre.

**November:** Fine weather in North and over centre, but strong NW winds at latter, and very showery in South; winds SW and W.

**December:** Generally fine weather throughout during this month.

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**1898**

**January:** Showery, with intervals of fine weather. Prevailing SW wind and often strong in North; generally fine over centre; and changeable and showery in South, and westerly winds.

**February:** Generally fine in North and over centre, with fresh SW and NW winds; in South showery and cold.

**March:** On the whole a fine month, with fresh NW and SW winds, and showery at intervals; cold in South.

**April:** In North fine weather and moderate variable winds; over centre heavy rain and strong NW winds; in South cold and changeable, and light showers.

**May:** Showery weather and strong NE winds, especially in early part; over centre heavy rain and strong NW winds, frequent fogs, and thunder; and in South showery, and fresh SW winds.

**June:** Heavy rain latter part, otherwise fine, with prevailing S and SW winds; over centre showery towards end of month, and strong NW winds; frequent fogs. In South fine early part and showery towards end of month; prevailing SW winds, but moderate.

**July:** A very wet stormy month in North, with SW winds, frequent thunder and hail; also showery over centre, with thunder, hail and snow, and strong NW winds; and in South cold and showery; winds SW generally, and frequent snow.

**August:** In North a wet month, with NE gales in early part, a few fine days at end; over centre a showery cold month, with prevailing SE winds and fresh; frequent fogs; in South changeable in early part and fine towards end, and SW winds.

**September:** A showery but pleasant month in North, with moderate SW winds; over centre some heavy rain, with intervals of fine weather; prevailing NW winds and fresh. In South generally fine, with moderate winds.

**October:** In North generally showery, but some fine days; prevailing SW winds and strong; also strong NE towards end of month, and thunderstorms. Over centre stormy from NW, but clear weather; fine middle of month, and showery and strong NW wind during latter part. In South changeable and showery weather, with SW winds.

**November:** In North, generally fine, with SW winds, strong at commencement but generally moderate; over centre showery first half, and the latter part fine; prevailing NW winds, and generally strong. In South showery early part and fine during latter part, with SW and W winds.

**December:** In North some fine weather, but on the whole showery, with NE and SW winds; over centre a fine month, with light showers; prevailing NW winds and often strong. In South showery during middle of month, but fine early and latter parts; moderate variable winds.

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**1899**

**January:** Heavy rain generally during this month, and strong winds prevailing from NW over centre; changeable weather in South.

**February:** Fine in North, but heavy rain over centre in early part of month; in South unsettled. Moderate winds.

**March:** In North fine in early part, but strong NE gales in latter, with rain; over centre generally showery, moderate winds, or calm; in South showery, with light winds.

**April:** Generally fine in North, and heavy showers of rain in latter part over centre and in South; moderate winds.

**May:** Fine in North; very wet over centre, and strong SE winds; frequent fogs. Changeable and showery in South, with prevailing SW winds and moderate.

**June:** Strong NE winds in North, and heavy rain at intervals; over centre damp unpleasant weather, but small total rainfall, moderate or light winds, frequent fogs; in South very fine, with light winds.

**July:** In North fine in middle of month, but otherwise wet weather and prevailing SW winds and often strong; centre, heavy rains from NW and S; frequent hail and fog; in South unpleasant changeable weather, prevailing SW winds.

**August:** In North generally fine, but severe gale 14th to 19th from E and SE; over centre generally fine frosty weather, moderate winds; in South light showers and pleasant weather.

**September:** Fine in North, with moderate SW winds; over centre very wet latter part, and severe hail-storm on 30th; in South generally fine.

**October:** In North a wet month, prevailing SW wind and strong at times; over centre fine but variable weather, prevailing NW wind and frequently strong; in South fine, with occasional light showers, prevailing SW wind.

**November:** In North generally fine, but some strong gales from SW and NE; over centre fine, though showery at times, prevailing NW winds and often strong; in South very showery weather, and prevailing SW winds.

**December:** In North a very fine, dry, pleasant month; over centre wet early part, but fine during latter, prevailing strong NW winds; in South showery unpleasant weather, with cold SW winds.

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**1900**

**January:** Generally fine weather in North and over centre, but showery in South.

**February:** In North fine weather, rain much below average, and moderate winds; showery and cold in South, and westerly winds.

**March:** Fine in early part of month in North, but latter part showery, with prevailing NW winds and strong; showery and changeable weather in South, with SW winds.

**April:** Showery but small total rainfall in North; heavy rain over centre, and prevailing NW and SW winds and often strong; in South showery weather, winds NE.

**May:** Heavy rain in North, with prevailing NE and SW winds and strong; also heavy rain over centre, wind prevailed from NW; showery weather in South, chiefly from SW.

**June:** In North and over centre generally showery, but rain not in excess; in South very slight rain and fine weather.

**July:** In North very showery, and frequent thunder, prevailing SW wind; over centre very heavy rainfall, and strong SW winds, frequent fogs, and hail. Showery weather in South; winds chiefly SW.

**August:** Heavy rain and strong E and NE winds in North; over centre showery during latter part of month, and some strong NW winds. In South showery weather, except fine during middle of month; moderate winds, chiefly NE.

**September:** In North rain in excess, and strong winds from SW and NW; wet weather over centre, with moderate winds. In South wet, especially latter part; NE and SW winds generally.

**October:** Wet weather in North and over centre; strong winds from NW and SW. In South variable weather.

**November:** Fine weather in North and over centre, but strong winds from SW and NW; in South heavy rain during middle of month, moderate winds.

**December:** In North showery, and strong NE winds prevailed; over centre a wet month, with moderate winds; and in South changeable, cold and showery weather.

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**1901**

**January:** Fine weather with light rain in the extreme North; warm NE breezes with good rains over the centre and South.

**February:** Showery in the centre throughout the month; fine in North and South. W. and SW winds prevailed in the South Island.

**March:** S. and SW winds were general all over the colony, with fine weather in the South Island.

**April:** Heavy gales from NW; thunder on 18<sup>th</sup> over the South Island; prevailing SW winds in South.

**May:** Gales from the SW in the North, with light rain showers; good rains in south of North Island, with prevailing NW wind. NW gales with heavy rain on West Coast; in the South SW gales.

**June:** In the early part of the month cold SW winds were general all over the colony; heavy snow fell in the South. The end of the month was fine in the North, while there were heavy rains in the South.

**August:** SW wind in the North NE and SW winds; fine weather and good rains in south of North Island; SW winds all over South Island; heavy rain on West Coast.

**September:** In the North NE and SW winds; fine weather and good rains in south of North Island; SW winds all over South Island; heavy rain on West Coast.

**October:** Weather fine in the South, with small rainfall; prevailing wind from the west. Heavy NW and SW gales with heavy rains over West Coast; in the North fine weather, with prevailing NW wind.

**November:** SW winds with moderate rainfall all over North Island; heavy gales from SW all over South Island; heavy rains West Coast.

**December:** Local N and NE winds in extreme South, but over rest of the colony SW wind prevailed; moderate rainfall everywhere except West Coast.

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**1902**

**January:** Hot and calm with but little rain over North Island and east coast of South Island. Heavy rain with thunder over west coast of South Island. Wind prevalent in both Islands towards the close of the month.

**February:** Fine and warm over the north and centre; the rains not quite up to the average. Good rains on west coast and south of South Island.

**March:** Prevailing winds W and SW, the rainfall being slightly under the average everywhere except Dunedin.

**April:** Thunder in the extreme north. Good rain all over; prevailing wind from the SW.

**May:** Wet in the north, centre, and the west coast of South Island; but small rains over the East Coast. Prevailing wind SW.

**June:** Fine in the north; wet and changeable over the centre and south. Continued gales with rain were felt over the centre about the middle of the month. The rain not quite up to the average everywhere.

**July:** Calm and fine all over. Wind mostly from the SW, and but poor rains. Snow fell in the south on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**August:** Generally fine, the rainfall being small all over. Snow in the south.

**September:** Good rains in the north; wet and cold with SW winds and snow in the centre and south. In NE of South Island and centre changeable and wintry.

**October:** Windy in the north; small rainfall everywhere, except the west coast of the South Island. Snow in the south.

**November:** Fine all over at the beginning of the month, but later on cold and boisterous. Rain under the average in the north of North Island and east coast of the South.

**December:** Rain under the average in the north. Elsewhere wet and cold; W and SW winds prevailing. Hail over the north.

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