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WAR DEPARTMENT,

Office of the Chief Signal Officer,

DIVISION OF

TELEGRAMS AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE.

INTRODUCTION.

The following is a general summary of the meteorological data collected in the Office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army during the current month. The regular tri-daily charts, containing the data of the simultaneous observations taken at ninety-two regular and thirty-eight special Signal Service stations, and fourteen Canadian stations, have been carefully examined, together with monthly journals and monthly reports from four hundred and ten stations classified as Voluntary Observers, Army Post, and Signal Service Stations.

These stations are geographically distributed as follows: Alabama, five; Arizona, ten; Arkansas, four; California, three; Colorado, five; Connecticut, five; Dakota, six; Delaware, two; District of Columbia, one; Florida, seven; Georgia, ten; Illinois, twenty; Indiana, eleven; Indian Territory, one; Iowa, twenty; Kansas, fifteen; Kentucky, six; Louisiana, five; Maine, eleven; Maryland, nine; Massachusetts, twenty; Michigan, thirteen; Minnesota, eight; Mississippi, four; Missouri, five; Montana, two; Nebraska, nine; Nevada, one; New Hampshire, eleven; New Jersey, twelve; New York, thirty-six; North Carolina, seventeen; Ohio, twenty-one; Oregon, one; Pennsylvania, twenty-three; Rhode Island, two; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, seven; Texas, fourteen; Utah, two; Vermont, six; Virginia, sixteen; West Virginia, three; Wisconsin, ten; Wyoming Territory, two.

In comparing these records with those of a corresponding period of previous years, the most marked conditions are, *first*—the continued high temperature during the greater portion of the month throughout the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, the heat in many places becoming so intense as to produce fatal results, to cause the suspension of business, and an increase of the death rate of many of the large cities to the highest reported percentage; *second*—the absence of well-defined barometric depressions, the excess of pressure on the South Atlantic coast and in the Gulf States; *third*—the destructive tornadoes which occurred in Iowa on the night of the 4th, attending the depression marked as No. II on the storm chart; *fourth*—the floods in the Red river, which were very destructive to the cotton crop between the Red River Raft and Fulton.

The month has proved generally favorable to the agricultural interests of the country, although local droughts occurred in the Middle States, followed at the close of the month by an excess of rain. The heavy rains in the South Atlantic States and in the Missouri and Ohio valleys resulted in destructive floods, which injured the growing crops on the bottom lands. Reports from over two hundred stations in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee, show that heavy rains in these regions have reduced the grain crops below the average.