

Rain came down on thirteen days. The average rainfall at Malta was 3.09 inches or 0.19 lower than what it should have been. At Gozo, the mean rainfall was 2.91 inches. The greatest rainfall during one day was at Naxaro where 1.43 inches were recorded on the 10th. The maximum rainfall for one day at Gozo was at Sannat on the 9th, and it was equal to 0.89 inches. The average rainfall since last September is 19.18 inches for Malta and 18.48 for Gozo. The character of the rain was such that all the precipitation had full leasure to be absorbed by the soil. The water supply of the Island and the crops have already felt the full benefit of this regular and very fair rainfall. In January 1889, rain came down during twentyfour days and this establishes a record of the greatest number of days during which rain falls during this period of the year.

Hail came down on the 20th and on the 21st and thunderstorms were recorded on the 9th, 16th, 19th, 20th and 21st.

The average humidity for Valletta was 83 per cent. The first half of the month was the dampest and the percentage of humidity from 70 to 80 per cent rising at time up to and beyond 90 per cent. On the 11th a maximum of 96 per cent was recorded. The latter half of the month was much drier and the fluctuations of the humidity most marked; a lowest value of 58 per cent was noted on the 20th, and at 12 a.m. of the 29th it came down to 50 per cent. The average humidity for the last half of January oscillated between 55 and 60 per cent.

The average duration of bright sunshine was 5.5 hours daily or 0.5 above the ordinary value allowed to this month. Nine hours of sunshine were recorded on the 29th and 30th. Eight days had eight hours each; two days had seven hours; two days six. Four days had five hours each, three days had four hours, and three days had three hours. Two hours of sunshine were recorded on two days. No sunshine was noted on the 3th, 4th, 10th and 11th.

THOMAS AGIUS.

15th February 1921.

CANTI DI PRIMAVERA

I

Da fiore a fiore co' tuoi germi sani,
polline, vola a la stagion vernale,
e l'inno eterno matrimoniale
cantino l'erbe, gli animai, gli umani.
Già tiepida su i culmini montani
sorridente primavera inaugurale,
già molle di tepore il cielo albale
ride sereno ai sottostanti piani,
e sull'ala del vento galeotto
pronubo mentre, o polline, volando
l'alito infondi fecondante ai fiori,
negli effluvi dell'etere incorrotto
passa forse uno spirito cantando
il canto della vita e degli amori!

II

È pieno d'orti e casolari il sito
con dimezzati tratti di verzura,
è serena nel ciel la volta e pura,
è lungi il ritmo placido del lito.
Alta quiete giù ne la pianura
con secreto d'augelli umil garrito
e la tua mite spessa fioritura,
mandorlo bianco, mandorlo fiorito!
O candida innocenza floreale
senza lusso di verde in su le frondi
giulive ne la veste nuziale,
quanta è pace ne gli uberi fecondi
de la Natura santa e verginale,
la gran gestante fertile di mondi!

VINC. FRENO AZOPARDI.