

VULGAR NOTES for the Year 1784.

Dominical or Sund. Letter D & C.		Full Moon bef. Easter Ap.	5
Golden Number,	18	Easter Sunday April	11
Epact	7	Rogation Sunday May	16
Cycle of the Sun	1	Ascension Day May	20
Roman Indiction	2	Whitsunday May	30
Sundays after Epiphany	4	Sundays after Trinity	24
Septuagesima Sunday, Feb.	8	Advent Sunday Nov.	28
Ash Wednesday, Feb.	25		

BALLS of FIRE explained.

Various have been the opinions of the balls of fire seen in different parts through Britain. The elements contained a great quantity of electric fluid, but the clouds not sufficiently condensed to form a regular and strong charge of lightning, these balls dropt from a surcharge, of course, without the report of thunder, and the thin dark clouds, opening a small bore, and dispersing on the discharge. These balls having dropped from a greater quantity, rolled along the atmosphere, and were round at first as a drop of water, till the compression of the air, as they approached the earth, either give different shapes to, or divide them when dropped, in that other and grosser medium of air. These fire-balls were strongly ignited, and, had they fallen upon hay, straw, or the like, would have readily communicated fire: they were charges of lightning dropped from uncompressed clouds, and in the same state would all like lightning fall, without force or impetuosity, did not the great body and compression of the clouds hurl it forth with such violence, that nothing can resist it, immediately followed by reports of thunder.

SANCHO, in doleful Dumps,

To his good Friend, Mrs. N—— N.

A Friend in need's a friend indeed:

Oh may my humble prayer succeed!

Poor Sancho is in great distress,

Disgrac'd, in debt, and penniless.

Alas! alas! what must he do?

Unless he finds relief from you.

'Twas yesterday (O day of woe!

May I ne'er such another know!)

A mutton-chop my sense allur'd,

To which a kidney plumb was skewer'd:

It tempting lay, and cry'd, "Come, eat me."

"I will," said I, "though they should bear me,"

So up I sprung, and seiz'd the prey,