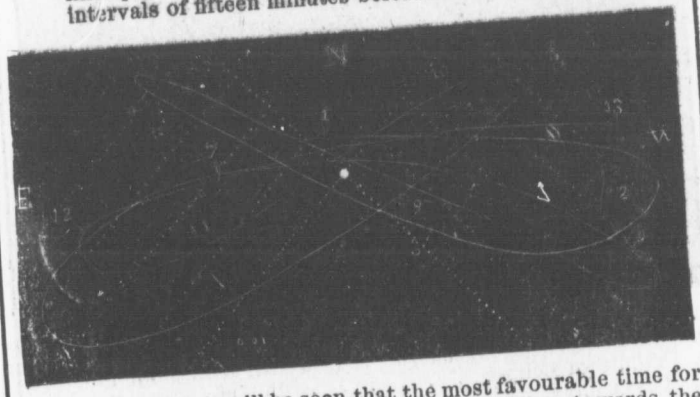
ica. The line of centrality passes from near the Friendly Islands to the Falklands. In this Eclipse the apparent diameter of the Sun and Moon are so nearly equal, that the Eclipse will be annular to places near the beginning and end of the line of centrality.

PLANETARY MOTIONS AND OCCULTATIONS.

MERCURY. The apparent motion is alternately retrograde and direct between the following dates, when he will be stationary either to the west or east of the sun:—January 13th, W.; April 14th, E.; May 7th, W.; Aug 16th, E.; September 8th, W.; December 6th, E. On account of its small size and close proximity to the sun, this excedingly beautiful planet is not very easily found. After being once seen, it can never be mistaken, shining as it does with a bright ruby light. The subjoined diagram represents the apparent motion of the planet around the sun throughout the year. The position of Mercury on the first day of each month and on the 31st December is indicated by Nos.1 to 13. The dotted line passing through the sun shows the position of the eastern and western horizon, according as Mercury is to the east or west of the sun. The dotted lines parellel to these represent the horizon at successive intervals of fifteen minutes before sunrise or after sunset.



From this it will be seen that the most favourable time for finding the planet will be as a morning star, towards the end of January, the middle of September, and the end of December; and as an evening star about the beginning of April, and the end of November. During May, June, July and August the twilight will be too strong, or the planet too near the horizon to be easily found. There will be an occultation of Mercury by the Moon on the first of December, but the Moon will be below the horizon.