

## Eclipses, 1868.

In the Year 1868 there will be *no Eclipse of the Moon*, but of the *SUN* there will be *Two Eclipses*, and also a *Transit of the planet Mercury over the Sun's disc*, but none of these phenomena will be visible in Newfoundland.

The first will be an *Annular Eclipse of the Sun*, February 22-23. The limiting lines of observation from the Earth, are, from 25.20 E. to 94.40 W. Long., and 14.26 S. to 19.26 N. Lat.

The second will be a *total Eclipse of the Sun*, August 17th.—This Eclipse will not be visible either in Europe or America, but will be visible in the Eastern part of the Pacific Ocean, in all Australia, the Indian Ocean, Abyssinia and other parts of Africa, but not visible in New Zealand.

The *Transit of Mercury over the Sun's disc*, November the 5th. Its external contact at Ingressa will be at 1h. 54m. A.M., and its Egress at 5h. 32m. A.M. at Newfoundland, and thus must necessarily be invisible. It will be visible from 40.12 E. to 94.46 E. of Greenwich, and on the parallel of Lat. 15.54 S., on this line the Sun will be in the zenith while the Planet is transiting his disc.

## Planetary Notice.

The Planets of the Solar System are 29 in number. Of them, 11 are *primary*, and 18 *secondary*, or Moons. Of these Moons, our *EARTH* has one, *Jupiter* four, *Saturn* seven, and *Uranus* six. Of the primary planets, two are called *inferior*, viz., *Mercury* and *Venus*, because they are nearer the *Sun* than the *Earth*; the others are called *superior*, because farther from the *Sun* than the *Earth*.

<i>Distance from the Sun.</i>	<i>Magnitude—diameters in miles.</i>	<i>Len. of year.</i>
Mercury, 37 millions of miles	3,140	3 months.
Venus, 68 millions of miles	7,700	7½ do.
Earth, 95 millions of miles	7,912	1 year.
Mars, 142 millions of miles	4,200	2 do.
Jupiter, 485 millions of miles	89,000	12 do.
Saturn, 890 millions of miles	79,000	29 do.
Uranus, 1800 millions of miles	35,000	84 do.