

VENUS.

VENUS will be morning star until February 25th, then evening star until December 11th, at which time it passes the inferior conjunction with the Sun, and becomes invisible. Just before this time it exhibits a long slender crescent, always *convex* towards the Sun, its horns being turned back, and towards the east; but when seen again, it appears in the east before sunrise, with its long crescent bowing back towards the west. On the 5th of November it will be brightest, being then about 40° east of the Sun.

MARS.

MARS will be morning star until October 8th, when it is 90° west of the Sun; then evening star the rest of the year. On the 2d of December it begins to retrograde, or move westward past the stars. It will be in the southern signs until May 7th, when it passes the equator northward. On the 28th of March it will be about 10° south of the central stars in the *Urn*; on the 20th of July it will be 5° south of the "Seven Stars;" on the 6th of August it will be 5° north of Aldebaran; on the 29th of August it will be 2° north of Tauri; September 14th it will be between and 1° north of Geminorum; October 18th it will be $9\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ south of Castor, and on the 25th, $5^\circ 37'$ south of Pollux. When a planet is north or south of a star, a straight line drawn from the North Star runs through both, whether they be in the meridian or not.

JUPITER.

JUPITER will be morning star until April 21st, when it is 90° west of the Sun; then evening star the rest of the year. It is in the southern signs yet, but is moving northward.

SATURN.

SATURN will be morning star until January 31st, being then 90° west of the Sun; then evening star until November 7th, when it is in conjunction with the Sun, and invisible; then morning star the rest of the year. It will be in *Libra* this year.

MERCURY.

MERCURY will be visible in the west soon after sunset, about March 23d, July 20th, and November 15th; also in the east just before sunrise, about January 16th, May 14th, September 9th, and December 30th, being at those times at its greatest brilliancy.

SHOOTING STARS.

OF SHOOTING STARS, there is an average of from five to seven visible every hour on a clear night. They are stray visitants in contradistinction to the prodigious swarms of November and August, which observation during twenty-five years has decided

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