



ECLIPSE OF THE SUN IN 1838

The sun will be eclipsed visibly throughout the United States, on the 18th of September next, between 3 and 6 o'clock P. M. The eclipse will not be total, but annular; that is the motion being too near the sun to hide it entirely from our view will leave its margin visible like a luminous ring (annulus) to those beholders whose place makes the moon pass directly between them and the sun's exact centre.

The tract of country to which the eclipse will be thus central, is stated in the American Almanac to be the following

Beginning to be visible in the unknown regions near the North Pole the central or annular eclipses will pass through Kamalchatka in Asia, the British Possessions in North America, not far west of Hudson's Bay Lake Superior Wisconsin Territory, Michigan, Lake Erie, the N. E. part of Ohio, the southeastern part of Pennsylvania the west part of Maryland northern part of Virginia, and into the Atlantic Ocean: its course being from N. W. to S. E. The eclipses will be annular; over a space of 420 miles wide. The ring in the places where it may be seen will continue only from four to about six and a half minutes.

At Baltimore the eclipse will begin at 9 minutes past 3, P. M. The Ring will be formed at 25 minutes past 4, and be central at 27 1-2 minutes past 4. The eclipse will end at 40 minutes past 5.

At Washington City and Richmond, the several phases will be within a small fraction of a minute of the same times as at Baltimore.

At Raleigh, within about 2 minutes of the same times. But there no ring will appear. The sun will be a very slender crescent.

This crescent will be wider and wider, with horns less and less sharp as we go south and southwest, or north and northeast from the part of the central eclipse.

This path first touches the earth at a point near the North Pole a little east of the meridian of Greenwich. In a few seconds afterwards it attains its greatest northern latitude (81) whilst for the first 8 minutes it moves rapidly westward until it is 99 west of that meridian. In ten minutes after passing into the Atlantic Ocean, it leaves the earth at a point about 34 north latitude and 58 west longitude! just one hour, 48 minutes and 32 seconds after its first touching the earth; having traversed a somewhat circuitous track of 5000 miles in length and (as we said before) the whole annular part being 42 miles in breadth.—It reaches in with from Fairfield country in Connecticut nearly to Raleigh in North Carolina.

The counties of Virginia, through which the exact centre of the eclipse will pass are Morgan, Berkeley, Jefferson, Loudon, Fairfax and Accomac.

This will be the last central eclipse of the sun visible in the United States until that of May 26th, 1854; which will be also annular. The next total eclipses of the sun will be August 7th, 1869.—*Southern Literary Messenger.*

SPANISH TRIBUTE TO THE VIRTUES OF THE QUAKERS.—"Noticioso de Ambos Mundos" of Saturday, in an article entitled "Poverty is not a natural evil," has the following remarks upon the characteristic-traits of the Quakers which are as striking for their originality as truth. "It has never been proved until of late that poverty is not a natural or necessary evil! A remarkable example of its absence in a numerous class of society is to be found among the quakers of the community of Friends established in England and America. With some peculiarities of very little importance in dress and language this numerous body of individuals act upon the uniform principle of stifling the passions. They subdue the ignoble impulses of our nature

and in this lies the basis of moral truth. The quakers practice habitually what all other sects admire only as theories.—The consequence of this dominion over their thoughts and actions is that although there are many thousands of Quakers in England and the United States of America in neither country do we ever see a mendicant or intoxicated Quaker in the streets and seldom or ever do we find any of them cited before the criminal courts.—Yet, as all other classes the Quakers are engaged in the common affairs of life, as merchants, mechanics, artists, &c. and indeed they are employed in every kind of trade and occupation. They are subjected to the same temptations and the same moral perversity as all others and yet though the exercise of a singular kind of prudence and discipline they shun them all. Here then is a clear demonstration that without the aid of civil power, and through the influence of moral force alone there is a class of men in the midst of Society itself, who escape poverty, and are in general exempt from vices and crimes.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM is a fair subject for ridicule. Those who dignify it with the name of a science and claim for it a learned and laborious examination can hardly understand we suspect, what is the meaning of that much abused term.—Repeated evidences from the days of Mesmer down to the present time have shown most conclusively, that it is not only one of the most irrational but also one of the most mischievous impostures that ever seriously claimed the attention of man of otherwise sound minds. The repeated trials which have been made of its specious pretensions before learned associations in France, which a single exception have all failed; and that exception may be classed with the strange anomaly of such men as Dr. Johnson believing in ghosts. Credulity no more than fanaticism, is a defect of ignorance alone nor is it solely to be met with among the lower and less enlightened classes. Of this we need no stronger proof than may be found in the history of witchcraft. Learned and in other respects sound-minded men, are strangely mad on subjects which could never deceive the mass of individuals of plain and ordinary intellect. Johnson, as it is well known believed in ghosts, and Cotton Mather, in witches—and it is not at all strange that even a committee of French doctors should have made a favorable report of animal magnetism in 1836, although the thing had previously failed before the Academy of Science in 1785, and the Royal Society of Medicine in 1794, when Mesmerism was in its full bloom of glory.

While on the subject a little anecdote is brought to our recollection; a Frenchman who was attached to one of the departments at West Point, some years since, was a firm believer in Animal Magnetism. With him it was a system on physiology that unravelled the whole mystery of our being and sovereign remedy for all "the ills that flesh is heir to" He had a daughter, we believe, who from some malady was unfortunately left with one leg much shorter than the other. Upon all discussions on the subject of Mesmerism, his summing up of his arguments was an appeal to the asserted fact that he put the maimed limb under a series of magnetic "passes" and perseveringly "willed" it to lengthen, and gentlemen he would say in the accent and with all the mercurial enthusiasm of this nation, "the leg at last grew longer and longer—and longer—and longer—and longer—and, Mon Dieu, he grew so I was not able to stop him!" So the short leg grew one inch longer than the long leg—and the long leg now is the short one.—This is certainly a much better argument than any of Col. Stone's facts; and would be conclusive with us if we intended to write a book in favour of Animal Magnetism.—*Balt. America*

From the New Orleans Commercial Bulletin Oct. 2 AWFUL SHIPWRECK.

Ship Amelia reports that on the 20th of September in lat. 32 23 long. 73 she fell in with the schooner Pennsylvania, Capt. Williams bottom up with two men in a very exhausted state clinging to her bottom. The survivors stated that she sailed from New York, 10th Sept. with 21 passengers and a crew of six persons including officers and that she was capsized on the 16th Sept. after the passengers had retired for the night.

The captain and crew were on the deck at the time of the accident, & supposed to have been immediately lost—7 being immediately drowned below and the rest of them continued to survive struggling in the hold among the cargo when J. P. Williams and Lausing Dougherty escaped from the cabin, and by great exertions gained the bottom of the vessel the cries of their comrades being distinctly heard throughout the day but gradually sunk to a dismal moan and became extinct during the following night.

The officers of the Amelia, indulging the faint hope that some of the unfortunate passengers in the hold of the schr. might yet be alive, despatched her jolly boat with tools to scuttle her and providentially discovered one young man yet breathing but quite senseless, and bruised a shocking manner; the remains of the other persons were floating about the hold of the vessel.

The youth being conveyed to the ship every medical aid within the reach of her company was administered to him, but all without success; the poor fellow survived only two days.

The unitarians of Manchester are holding a discussion with the dissenters and churchmen on the necessity of having a national system of education in which no religious principle should be inculcated as part of the educational system. The unitarians are joined by the extreme radicals, and opposed by all the churchmen, methodists, and Presbyterians.—*Blackburn Standard.*

Activity of the French Government.—It is scarcely a month since the patent safety coach recently described in this journal was tested at Blackhead by a series of experiments; in the above short period the plan has been taken up by the French government the minister of the interior having sent to London as an accredited agent, who ordered a public trial of the vehicle to be made in his presence. This functionary, with a full description drawings and plans, started yesterday for the French capital, guaranteeing to Mr Stafford patentee the exclusive use and benefit of his invention in France.

Election of Speaker.—So fearful were ministers and their adherents of a contest for the speakership, that one of their evenings organs on Wednesday, actually published a second edition, merely to announce the important event of the re-election Mr. J. Abercromby.

The Hon. Mr. Debertzch has been obliged to fly from his seigniorial residence at St. Charles,

where an attempt, we learn was made by the revolutionary party to seize him and detain him as a hostage for the safety of any of their friends who might fall under the cognizance of justice. The pursuit was so hot that the Hon. Gentleman owed his safety solely to the swiftness of his horse. We hear that Madame Debertzch and her family have also been compelled to retire from their dwelling and arrived at Sorel on Thursday last on their way to Montreal.—*Quebec Mercury.*

KINGSTON, UPPER CANADA MEETING.

At a very numerous and respectable meeting of the inhabitants of Kingston, convened by a requisition addressed to Richard Bullock, Esq. H. Sheriff of the midland district, and held at the Court-House, on Thursday, the 2nd day of Nov. The following resolutions were put and carried unanimously.

Moved by John Cartwright, Esq., seconded by James McFarlane, Esq.

That we are at all times ready to unite with the different Provinces of British North America, in all proper measures of Reform, and on all matters concerning our interests, or those of the British Colonies, or any thing tending to support & defend our right as British subjects, consistent with the supremacy of the British Government.

Moved by Thos. Kirkpatrick, Esq., seconded by John Counter, Esq.

That this meeting looks with concern and regret on the proceedings of the revolutionary faction in Lower Canada, as tending, not to the legitimate removal of any known or imaginary grievances, but to the subversion of the British Constitution.

Moved by Anthony Monaghan, Esq., M. P. P. seconded by John Strange, Esq.

That circumstanced as this Province is in relation to Lower Canada, we cannot any longer defer our determination to support with our lives and fortunes, the supremacy of the British Constitution, and the just dependence of the Canadas upon the British Crown.

Moved by John Esquire, M. P. P. seconded by Major Logie.

That this meeting will promptly assist their loyal and well disposed inhabitants of Lower Canada in maintaining the laws and liberty of the British Constitution in that Province. Being convinced that it only requires moderate firmness, on the part of our general government, to suppress the attempts of the rebellious party who for many years, have retarded our agricultural and commercial prosperity, and the general improvement of both Provinces.

Moved by John Richardson Forsyth, Esq., seconded by Walter McCuniffe, Esq.

That understanding that His Excellency Sir Francis Bond Head, has signified his assent to the removal of her majesty's troops of the line from the Province, for the purpose of aiding the civil power in Lower Canada, this meeting cannot but feel gratified at the confidence which his Excellency has thus manifested in the loyalty of the people in Upper Canada, and which we are determined to prove, should occasion required it has not been misplaced.

Moved by James Simpson, Esq., seconded by J. M. Hill, Esq.

That proud as we are of our origin as Britons, and dearly as we value the blessings of our glorious Constitution, we cannot but regard as our enemies all those who would assail the one, or endeavour to subvert the other; and in or-