

THE PLANETS

MERCURY will commence the year with direct apparent motion, and will be alternately retrograde and direct between the following dates:--January 29th, R.; February 20th, D.; May 29th, R.; June 21st, D.; September 25th, R.; October 16th, D.; to the end of the year, his only planetary conjunctions will be with Venus, June 14th, three times with Neptune May 15th, June 14th and 29th. The best chance of finding the Planet will be after sunset, about May 16th; Sept. 12th; or before sunrise, March 4th; July 4th.

VENUS will commence the year as a morning star with direct motion throughout the year, coming to superior conjunction with the Sun, July 9th, reappears shortly afterward as an Evening Star, so to continue to the years end. Coming into conjunction with Mars February 9th; Jupiter, August 2nd; Saturn, October 15th; Uranus, October 18th.

MARS will be a morning star from the beginning of the year to his opposition to the Sun, December 7th; his only conjunctions will be with Venus as noted above, and Neptune September 23rd.

JUPITER will be a morning star till his opposition to the Sun January 24th, he will be in conjunction with the Sun August 11th, appear again as a morning star to the years end. His apparent motion will be retrograde from the beginning of the year to March 24th, then direct to December 25th.

SATURN and **URANUS** will be near companions throughout the year, continually approaching till their conjunction December 28th, having no connection with any of the other Planets except with Venus on the 15th and 18th October, and Mercury the 19th and 20th November.

NEPTUNE will commence the year as an evening star coming in conjunction with the Sun June 7th, after which a morning star till his opposition to the Sun, December 9th, his other conjunctions have been already noticed.

This distant and minute Planet is not easily found without the help of a powerful telescope, the best guide to his position will be his conjunction with Mars September 23rd, when he will be 46' ($1\frac{1}{2}$ Moon's diameter) north of that Planet.

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