

ECLIPSES FOR 1843.

This year there will be two Eclipses of the Sun, and one Eclipse of the Moon.

1st. Of the Sun, June 27th—invisible.

2d. Of the Moon, December 6th, visible at 7 o'clock 28min. in the evening.

3d. Of the Sun, December 21st—invisible.

CHRONOLOGICAL CYCLES FOR 1843.

Dominical Letter,	A	Solar Cycle,	4
Golden Number,	1	Roman Indiction,	1
Epact,	0	Julian Period,	6556

MOVEABLE FEASTS.

Easter Sunday,	April 16	Whit Sunday,	June 4
Rogation Sunday,	May 21	Advent Sunday,	December 3
Ascension Day,	May 25	First Day of Lent	March 1

Old and New Style.

The Julian Year, introduced by Julius Cæsar, 45 years before the Birth of Christ, made every fourth year, without exception a leap year. This however, was an over correction; for it supposed the length of the tropical year to be $365\frac{1}{4}$ days, which is too great, and induces an error of 7 days in 900 years. Accordingly, as early as the year 1414, it was perceived that the equinoxes were gradually moving from the 21st of March and September, where they ought always to have fallen, had the Julian year been exact. A new reform of the calendar was thus required; and it took place under the popedom of Gregory XIII., by the omission of ten nominal days after the 4th of October, 1582, so the next day was called the 15th and not the 5th. This change was immediately adopted in all Roman Catholic countries, but tardily in the countries of Protestantism.

In England, *the change of style*, as it was called, took place after the 2^d day of September, 1752. eleven nominal days being then struck out; so that the last day of Old style being the 2^d, the 1st of New style, (the next day,) was called the 14th instead of the 3rd. The same legislative enactment which established the Gregorian year in England in 1752, shortened the preceding year, 1751 by a full quarter. Previous to that time the year was held to begin with the 25th of March, and the year 1751 accordingly did so; but that year was not suffered to run out, being supplanted on the 1st of January by the year 1752, which it was enacted should commence on that day.

Russia is now the only country in Europe, in which the old style is still adhered to, and the difference between the other European and Russian dates amounts, at present to about two weeks.