

EMBER DAYS.

Feb. 29—March 1, 2—May 30—June 1, 2—Sept. 19, 21, 22—Deer.
19, 21, 22.

The following signs are used in our Almanack to denote the different positions and phases of the Moon. ☾ denotes the Moon in the first quadrature—that is, the quadrature between change and full. ☾ denotes the Moon in the last quadrature—that is the quadrature between full and change. ● denotes New Moon. ○ denotes Full Moon.

When viewed through a telescope, the surface of the Moon appears wonderfully diversified. Large dark spots, supposed to be excavations or valleys, are visible to the eye; some parts also appear more level than the general surface. These are ascertained to be mountains, by the shadows which they cast. Maps of the Moon's surface have been drawn, on which most of these valleys and mountains are delineated, and names are given to them. Some of these excavations are thought to be four miles deep and forty wide. A high ridge generally surrounds them, and often a mountain rises in the centre.

HALIFAX.

Latitude, North, $44^{\circ} 39' 20''$

Longitude, West, $63^{\circ} 36' 40''$ in time 4h. 14m. 26.7s.

NOTE—It is to be observed that throughout the Calendar pages the Computations are in *Mean Time*, with the exception of the rising and setting of the Sun. Also that the Sun and Moon's declinations are given for the Meridian of Greenwich.

CAUSE OF THE AURORA-BOREALIS.—M. de la Lave, the celebrated French Astronomer, explains the production of the Aurora-Borealis in the following manner:—"When the sun, having passed into the Southern hemisphere, no longer heats so much of our hemisphere, the aqueous vapors which have accumulated during the summer in this part of the atmosphere begin to condense, the kind of humid cap enveloping the polar regions extends more and more, and facilitates the passage of the electricity accumulated in the upper portions of the air. But in these elevated regions, and especially at this period of the year, the aqueous vapors must frequently pass into the state of minute particles of ice or snow floating in the air, similar to those which give rise to the halos; they form, as it were, a kind of semi-transparent mist. These half-frozen fogs conduct the electricity to the surface of the earth, near the pole, and are at the same time illumined by these currents or electric discharges. In fact all observers agree in asserting that the Aurora-Borealis is constantly preceded by a mist, which rises from the pole, and the margins of which, less dense than the remainder, are colored the first; and indeed it is very frequent near the pole in the winter months, and especially in those where there is abundance of vapor in the air.