

the Spaniards, we learn, that the manure of sea birds was at that period in general use, on the Sea Coast, from above Arequepa to Turapoca, which is more than 200 leagues of coast. These birds were in the habit of frequenting the whole coast of Peru in such large flocks as to exceed belief, without having seen them. From a distance the heaps of dung appeared upon the coast like ridges of hills covered with snow. The dung of those birds is of a most fertilizing quality. In the time of the King's Incas such vigilance was used in protecting those birds, that at the time of incubation, none were permitted to go upon those islands, under the forfeiture of life, because they might frighten them and drive them from their nests, neither were they allowed to be killed at any time, either within or without the Islands, under the same penalty.

ASTRONOMICAL, &c.

Eclipses.

There will be two Eclipses of the Sun, and two of the Moon, and a Transit of Mercury, during the year 1845; viz.

First—An Annular Eclipse of the Sun on Tuesday, May 6, and visible at Halifax, as follows:—

First contact of limbs,	4 7	} Mean Time, in the Morning.
Sun rises partially eclipsed,	4 56	
Greatest Phase,	5 2	
Last contact,	5 58	

9½ digits eclipsed on the Sun's northern limb.

Second—A Transit of Mercury over the Sun's disc, on Thursday, May 8th. The ingress will be visible in Great Britain and Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, north western part of Africa, and North and South America. The egress will be visible in North America, north eastern extremity of South America, Austria, China, Kamschatka and Siberia. Visible at Halifax.

First contact of limbs, 0 5 P. M., Mean Time.

Least distance of centres, 3 21

Last contact of limbs, 6 37

The best method of viewing this beautiful phenomenon is to smoke the object glass of a telescope over a candle. Mercury will appear as a black spot traversing the Sun's disc, from West to East.

Third—A Total Eclipse of the Moon, on Wednesday, May 21st; invisible in the Western Hemisphere altogether.

Fourth—An Annular Eclipse of the Sun, on Thursday, October 30th, visible only around the South Pole of the Earth.

Fifth—A partial Eclipse of the Moon, visible in Nova-Scotia, on Thursday, November 13th.

First contact with Penumbra,	5 43	} Mean Time, in the Evening, at Halifax.
First contact with Dark Shadow,	6 56	
Middle of Eclipse,	8 35	
Last contact with Dark Shadow,	10 14	
Last contact with Penumbra,	11 27	

More than nine-tenths of the Moon's disc will be obscured at the time of the greatest eclipse.

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♁ Earth.
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♂ Juno.
♂ Ceres.
♂ Jupiter.