

MORNING AND EVENING PLANETS.

MERCURY, the least of the six old planets, is but seldom seen by the naked eye, and is not even under favourable circumstances visible more than two hours before the rising or after the setting of the sun, but when seen it appears at a little elevation like Antares, or Arcturus, red stars of the first magnitude. The following will be the most favourable opportunities for observing this planet during the year 1844.

April 24 to May 15 in the evening after sunset bearing W. N. W. Oct. 6. to Oct. 24 in the morning before sunrise bearing East.

For the conjunction of this and the other planets, see Calendar pages.

VENUS, will be visible in the evening, in the West, after sunset until July 23 the day of her inferior conjunction, and then in the morning in the East, before sunrise. In the months of June and the latter part of Augt. and first of Sept. her brilliancy will be so great that she may be seen at noon by the naked eye, without much difficulty, even amidst the strongest sunshine.

MARS, will be visible in the evening in the West after sunset until Augt. 4, the day of his conjunction, and then in the morning before sunrise.

The four small planets VESTA, JUNO, CERES, and PALLAS are seldom if ever seen by the naked eye even when nearest the earth. JUPITER will be in conjunction March 1, and in opposition Sept. 21. This planet is always easily distinguished by his beautiful white light, which though inferior to that of VENUS is by far more brilliant than that of any other planet or star.

SATURN, which shines with a pale red light will be about fifty degrees to the West of JUPITER the whole year, and therefore easily distinguished.

URANUS, will be in conjunction March 22 and in opposition Sept. 27, but cannot be seen without a telescope.

Beginning and length of Seasons.

		H.	M.	D.	H.	M.
Winter begins	1843, Dec. 21	-	18	34	-	89 1 7
Spring	" 1844, March 19	-	19	41	-	92 20 51
Summer	" " June 20	-	16	32	-	93 14 10
Autumn	" " Sept. 22	-	6	42	-	89 17 34
Winter	" " Dec. 21	-	0	16		

Length of the year - - - 365 5 42

Average length of the year being 365 5 49

ECLIPSES IN 1844.

Five Eclipses will happen this year of which three will be visible here.

I. May 31, a total Eclipse of the moon partially visible.