

TRUE TIME.

Two kinds of time are used in Almanacs; *clock* or *mean time* in some, and *apparent* or *sun-time* in others. *Clock-time* is always *right*, while *sun-time varies* every day. People generally suppose it is twelve o'clock when the sun is due South, or at a properly made noon-mark. But this is a mistake. The sun is seldom on the meridian *at twelve o'clock*; indeed, this is the case only on four days of the year: namely, April 15, June 15, September 1, and December 24. In this Almanac, as in most other Almanacs, the time used is *clock time*. The time when the sun is on the meridian or at the noon-mark, is also given under the head Sun slow or fast of clock. This affords a ready means of obtaining correct time and for setting a clock by using a noon-mark, adding or subtracting as the sun is slow or fast.

Old-fashioned Almanacs, which use *apparent* time, give the rising and setting of the sun's *centre*, and make no allowance for the effect of the refraction of the sun's rays by the atmosphere. The more modern and improved Almanacs, which use *clock-time*, give the rising and setting of the sun's *upper limb*, and duly allow for refraction.

ECLIPSES.

There will be five Eclipses this year, as follows:

- I. A total Eclipse of the Moon just before and after midnight of June 11. Size, 14. 4 digits. Commencing 0 32, ending 3 40.
- II. A partial Eclipse of the Sun, June 27, in the morning. Invisible in America, but visible in the Indian ocean.
- III. A partial Eclipse of the Sun, November 21. Invisible in America, but seen in the great Southern ocean.
- IV. A total Eclipse of the Moon early in the morning of December 6. Visible. Size 16.98 digits. Commencing 1 35, ending 4 17.
- V. A partial Eclipse of the Sun, December 20. Invisible in America, but visible in Asia generally.

CHRONOLOGICAL CYCLES.

Dominical Letter, E; Golden Number, 1; Jewish Lunar Cycle, 17; Epact—; Solar Cycle, 23; Roman Indictions, 5; Julian Period, 6,575.