

II. March 15. An annular Eclipse of the Sun. This Eclipse will be partial and visible in Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick :

Beginning.....6h. 28m. M. }
Ending.....9h. 14m. M. } Mean time at Halifax.

The Sun will rise partially eclipsed, and but a small portion of its disc will be obscured

III. August 24. A partial Eclipse of the Moon in the morning. This Eclipse will be invisible in North America, excepting on the shores of the Pacific.

IV. A total Eclipse of the Sun, September 7. This Eclipse will be invisible in British North America, but will be total in South America.

THE COMET.

The phenomena which have created most fear and alarm amongst mankind, have been those of Eclipses and Comets; and it was not until the science of Astronomy had been cultivated for years, that any rational ideas regarding the latter were promulgated.

Dr. Halley, after laborious calculation—even nights, days and years spent in figures and planetary observations—calculated the return of twenty-four Comets. He discovered that the Comet of 1682 was the same that appeared in 1607 and 1531; whose path, in its orbit, is completed in seventy-five or seventy-six years. The Comet of 1661 was supposed to be the one of 1532, completing every journey in 129 years—that the Comet of 1680 was the same one that appeared in 1106, and previous to that period in 531; first noted fourty-four years before Christ.

Some Comets, noted in ancient times, have not yet become visible, inasmuch as their range, or the distance they are permitted to soar above the planetary system, may be to within a comparatively short space of the Fixed Stars; so that thousands of years may elapse before some return to their perihelion, or point of a planet's orbit wherein it is nearest the Sun.

The great Comet of 1680 was the most magnificent object of its kind seen in modern times. Its tail was 112 millions of miles in length, reaching ninety degrees across the heavens. When in its perihelion, it came so near the Sun, that, in accordance with Sir Isaac Newton's calculations, the body of the Comet must have been heated 2000 times hotter than red-hot iron, and could not get cool again in upwards of a million of years! Our readers may congratulate themselves that this Comet of 1680 is *not* the same with the one expected to flame in the firmament in 1857—8; but our posterity will have to tremble at the approach of the terrific monster in 2255!!

Halley's Comet, which appeared in 1682, two years after its big brother had winged its way from the Sun, returns, by Halley's computation, every seventy-six years. It came as predicted, in 1759 and 1835, and its next advent will be in 1911. That Comet travels a million miles or more beyond the orbit of the planet Neptune. It is, however, a pigmy compared to the one now approaching us—the Comet of 1556, whose unexpected advent struck terror throughout all Europe.

The best authorities are of opinion that the Comet of 1264 and that of 1556, which is now approaching, are identical. It does not appear