

of that tide which immediately precedes the southing of the moon. These four columns being computed on the supposition, that the time of High Water on the days of New and Full Moon, (*L'establissement du port*) is at Halifax, 7h. 15m.—at Annapolis, 10h. 45m.—at Charlotte Town, 10h. 15m.—and at Windsor, and St. John, N. B. 11h. 45m. The tides of January 27, February 15, March 17, August 26, September 24, April 15, May 14, October 24, and November 22, will be the highest of all this year, *uninfluenced by wind*, and in like manner the tides of January 30, March 31, April 30, May 30, June 29, July 12, October 9, November 19, and December 8, will be very low for spring tides.

* * It will be particularly noticed that all the calculations in this Almanack have been adapted to *mean* solar time; a mode of computation which has recently come into very general use, and which will probably soon entirely supersede the old mode of reckoning, as a clock regulated to *apparent* solar time, must, in consequence of the inequality of the solar days, be frequently adjusted. To those persons, however, who may prefer to use *apparent* time the calculations will be equally useful, as *mean* is easily converted into *apparent* time by subtracting the quantity in the *sixth* column of the left hand calendar pages, when the Sun is slow of clock, and adding it when fast of clock.—Thus, on 1st February the Sun rises in mean time at 7h. 20m. and sets at 5h. 8m. from which (if we subtract 14m. the quantity by which the Sun is that day too slow,) we obtain 7h. 6m. and 4h. 54m. the apparent time.

ALMANACS.

The history of Almanacs, and even the etymology of the word Almanac, are involved in considerable obscurity. By some, the name is derived from the Arabic *almanach*, to count. Verstegan, the author of "The Restitution of Decayed Intelligence concerning Britaine," makes the word of German origin, *Almonat*; and says that our Saxon ancestors were in the practice of carving the annual courses of the moon upon a square piece of wood, which they called *Almonaught*—(al-moon-heed). There are several very splendid English Almanacs, of the 14th Century, existing in MS., particularly in the British Museum. A very curious specimen of these early Almanacs is in one of the Colleges at Cambridge. Almanacs became generally used in Europe, within a short time after the invention of printing; and they were very early remarkable, for the mixture of truth and falsehood which they contained. In 1759, their effects in France were found so mischievous, from the pretended prophecies which they published, that an edict was promulgated by Henry III., forbidding any prediction to be inserted in them relating to civil affairs, whether those of the state or of private persons—no such law was ever enacted in England.