

Exposed to unusually tempestuous weather, and precluded from some of the most important observations by the intervention of a thin veil of cloud between them and the sun just previous to its total immersion, the expedition to the Coast of Labrador has not contributed any novel truths to science. The intervening cloud, though but a fleecy veil, of utmost insignificance at any other moment, was sufficiently dense to almost entirely preclude the observation of the corona usually seen surrounding the moon during the period of total eclipse. It was the good fortune of Lieutenant Ashe alone, of all the observers, to catch a single point of brightness and fix its position in the corona; and thus to supply one precise observation for comparison with those simultaneously made in other parts of the globe. But it is of interest to us to know that our New World of the West bore its part, and our own young Province had its representative among those devotees of science who were engaged at widely separate stations: at Hereña, near Miranda de Ebro, and at Tarazona, in Spain, as well as at other favourable points along the line traversed by the great shadow; in watching the phases of this beautiful and rare phenomenon. Among the most striking results hitherto communicated to the scientific world, are the observations made under the direction of Le Verrier, at Tarazona; though in one respect an interesting correspondence is noticeable between the phenomena noted by the members of the French Astronomical expedition, and those which attracted the attention of the observers on our own Labrador Coast. At the period of total obscuration alike at Cape Chudleigh, and at Tarazona, the general illumination of the atmosphere proved much greater than the relations of former observers had led either party to anticipate. But the more important phenomena recorded by Le Verrier, are: first, the observation of three lofty peaks, 30° below the horizontal diameter on the eastern edge of the solar disc,—of the reality of the toothed form of which the French Astronomer entertains no doubt,—with their upper sides tinged with rosy and violet light, while the lower sides were brilliant white; and secondly, but of more importance, that as the moment of reappearance of the sun approached, and while watching for its first rays, the previously white margin of the disc appeared tinged with a delicate fillet of unappreciable thickness, of a purplish red, which enlarged by degrees until it formed around the black disc of the moon, over a breadth of about 30° , a red border perfectly defined in thickness, crescent shaped, and with an irregular outline