

ECLIPSES FOR 1851.

There will be four eclipses in 1851—two of the sun and two of the moon. A partial eclipse of the moon on the 17th of January, will be invisible on this continent. An annular eclipse of the sun on the 1st of Feb., invisible in North America, but central and vertical in the Indian Ocean, near the Isle of Java. A partial eclipse of the moon, on the 18th of July, visible throughout the United States; first contact with shadow, 1 o'clock, 6 min.; middle of eclipse, 2 o'clock, 35 min.; last contact with shadow, 4 o'clock, 8 min.; mean time, morn.; magnitude of eclipse, 8 2-5 digits on moon's southern limb. A total eclipse of the sun on the 28th of July, partially visible as follows:—Beginning of eclipse 7 o'clock, 30 min. A.M.; middle, 9 o'clock, 37 min. A.M.; end of eclipse, 7 min. P.M. This eclipse will be total at Baffin's Bay, Labrador, a part of Greenland, and in the Atlantic Ocean, east of Newfoundland. Eclipse on the sun's northern limb.

NEW YORK CODE IN ENGLAND.—We are pleased to hear that the New York Code is now exciting great attention in England. It is hoped that these proceedings of ours may be translated, as it is out of the question for the people as well as difficult for nine-tenths of the lawyers to translate them, and keep up with the changes. No doubt but our mother country, with her profound heads, will render a very efficient work in interpreting the said Code,—provided it remains unaltered for any length of time sufficient for investigation. We fear this investigation will have to be abandoned for similar reason to that given by an eminent daguerreotypist, who, upon being applied to by the general standing committee to take daguerreotypes of the different political parties in this State, refused on the grounds that their *expressions* were too *changeable*.

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DISCOVERY OF ANOTHER COMET.—We are informed by a gentleman who passed through Cambridge on the 2d inst., that W. C. Bond, Esq., Director of the Observatory, while making observations with the great refractor, at about 8 o'clock on the evening of the 1st of January, discovered a telescopic comet, whose right ascension was 22h 33 1-2m., and its south declination 4° 36'. This comet was discovered while sweeping with the great Refractor, it being so faint it could not be seen through a four-foot telescope. It is supposed to be the same as that seen by M. Faye in 1843. Nicolai assigns to it, by his calculation, a period of "2717.68 days, with an eccentricity of 0.55595, and an inclination of its orbit to the ecliptic of eleven degrees twenty-two minutes and thirty-one seconds."

BLACK SPECKS ON THE DAGUERRETYPE.—Many of our daguerreotypists are complaining of black specks. This difficulty occurs more frequent when they have changed their hyposulphite of soda; a new article will be much stronger, and less will be required than from an old bottle that has been opened and not closely sealed. This may be obviated in a measure by placing a handful of chloride of sodium (*common salt*;) in the filtering paper, through which the gilding is to be filtered. The following solution will be found effectual in clearing off these specks:—In an ounce of water dissolve a bit of cyanide of potassium the size of a large pea, filter and apply in the manner of gilding, only with less heat and shorter time.

It is always desirable that the impression on the daguerreotype plate should be gilded immediately after it has been washed, with the hyposulphate washed, as it is liable to spot, and the impressions will appear brighter.

The lenses should be wiped after every damp spell.