

DECEMBER.—XXXI DAYS.

PHASES OF THE MOON.

	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
New Moon	7 4 56 p.m.	Full Moon	22 8 5 a.m.
First Quarter	15 4 14 p.m.	Last Quarter	29 6 54 a.m.
Apogee, 7d. 1h. a.m.		Perigee, 21d. 4h. p.m.	

DAYS.	REMARKABLE DAYS.	SUN'S AP- ARENT DE- CLINATION.	EQUATION OF TIME SUBT. FROM — ADD TO APPARENT TIME.		MOON'S AGE AT NOON.	MOON'S MERIDIAN PASSAGE.		MEAN TIME CORRECTED.		DAYS.
			M. S.	D.		H. M.	Mean Time.	Sun Rises.	Sun Sets.	
1 Sat	Lytton & Chch. railway opened, 1863	21 49 10	10 59-09	23	7 14 a.m.	4 22	7 16	1		
2 S	First Sunday in Advent. French	21 54 8	10 36-46	24	7 59	4 21	7 17	2		
3 M	[Empire, 1852]	22 3 1	10 13-22	25	8 43	4 21	7 18	3		
4 T		22 11 30	9 48-08	26	9 27	4 21	7 19	4		
5 W		22 19 32	9 24-68	27	10 11	4 20	7 20	5		
6 Th	Cawnpore taken by Clyde, 1857	22 27 8	8 59-61	28	10 57	4 20	7 21	6		
7 F	Execution of Marshal Ney, 1815	22 34 18	8 34-03	29	11 43	4 20	7 22	7		
8 Sat		22 41 2	8 7-86	0	0 31 p.m.	4 20	7 23	8		
9 S	Second Sunday in Advent	22 47 18	7 41-26	1	1 18	4 21	7 24	9		
10 M		22 53 8	7 14-19	2	2 6	4 21	7 25	10		
11 T	James II abdicated, 1688	22 58 31	6 46-74	3	2 53	4 21	7 26	11		
12 W		23 3 27	6 18-71	4	3 40	4 21	7 27	12		
13 Th		23 7 55	5 50-46	5	4 27	4 21	7 28	13		
14 F	Prince Consort d, 1861. Washington	23 11 55	5 22-03	6	5 14	4 21	7 29	14		
15 Sat	[died, 1799]	23 15 23	4 53-21	7	6 2	4 22	7 30	15		
16 S	Third Sunday in Advent. Canterbury	23 18 33	4 24-22	8	6 52	4 22	7 30	16		
17 M	[Anniversary]	23 21 9	3 54-71	9	7 42	4 22	7 31	17		
18 T		23 23 18	3 25-36	10	8 37	4 23	7 31	18		
19 W		23 24 53	2 55-83	11	9 34	4 23	7 32	19		
20 Th	L. Napoleon elected President, 1848	23 26 11	2 26-17	12	10 34	4 23	7 33	20		
21 F	St. Thomas. Ferozeshah, 1845	23 28 65	1 56-41	13	11 36	4 24	7 34	21		
22 Sat		23 27 9	1 26-56	14	—	4 24	7 34	22		
23 S	Fourth Sunday in Advent	23 26 56	0 56-57	15	0 38 a.m.	4 24	7 34	23		
24 M		23 26 29	— 26-66	16	1 40	4 25	7 35	24		
25 T	Christmas Day	23 25 8	+ 3-24	17	2 38	4 25	7 35	25		
26 W	St. Stephen. S. Australia colon, 1836	23 23 30	0 33-08	18	3 32	4 26	7 36	26		
27 Th	St. John Evangelist	23 21 25	1 2-75	19	4 22	4 27	7 36	27		
28 F	Innocents. Macaulay died, 1859	23 18 51	1 32-32	20	5 10	4 28	7 36	28		
29 Sat		23 15 49	2 1-79	21	5 56	4 29	7 37	29		
30 S	First Sunday after Christmas	23 12 19	2 30-99	22	6 41	4 30	7 37	30		
31 M		23 8 21	3 0-05	23	7 25	4 31	7 38	31		

PHENOMENA FOR THE MONTH.

DECEMBER—3rd, 3h. 53m. a.m., Mars stationary; 3rd, 2h. 39m. p.m., Mercury in ascending node; 5th, 9h. 58m. a.m., Saturn in conjunction with the Moon, Saturn 1 deg. 14 min. south; 7th, 6h. 34m. p.m., Mercury in conjunction with the Moon, Mercury 3 deg. 29 min. south; 8th, 4h. 27m. a.m., Mercury in Perihelion; 8th, 5h. 29m. a.m., Mercury in inferior conjunction with the Sun; 8th, 6h. 8m. a.m., Venus in conjunction with the Moon, Venus 5 deg. 20 min. south; 9th, 4h. 39m. p.m., Venus in ascending node; 11th, 5h. 33m. p.m., Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon, Jupiter 4 deg. 51 min. south; 12th, 3h. 54m. a.m. Venus in inferior conjunction with the Sun; 18th, 3h. 44m. a.m., Mercury stationary; 18th, 0h. 13m. p.m., Mercury in greatest heliocentric latitude north; 22nd, 0h. 20m. p.m., Sun enters Capricorn; 22nd, 7h. 16m. p.m., Uranus in conjunction with the Moon, Uranus 5 deg. 16 min. north; 24th, 5h. 50m. a.m., Mars in conjunction with the Moon, Mars 8 deg. 4 min. north; 27th, 7h. 53m. a.m., Mercury in conjunction with Venus, Mercury 1 deg. 54 min. south; 27th, 7h. 39m. p.m., Mercury at greatest elongation, Mercury 22 deg. 16 min. west; 28th, 7h. 0m. p.m., Uranus in opposition to the Sun.

FARMING OPERATIONS.

Attend to the hoeing and weeding of the carrots, parsnips, and mangolds. Continue and finish potato planting. For every root or bulb crop deep ploughing and perfect tillage are required. Cut potatoes into sets, and from 10 to 12 cwt. per acre will be required for planting. Sow white turnips, and in no case neglect the hoeing and weeding of the root and cabbage crops. Mow grass for hay. Rye-grass is fit when the pollen from the flowers blows over the land in a sort of smoke; common clover, when the whole field is a bloom of purple, but before any fades; and cow-grass, when from two-thirds to three-fourths of the flowers are developed.

GARDEN CALENDAR.

These, as they change, Almighty Father, these
 Are but the varied God. The rolling year
 Is full of Thee. Forth in the pleasing Spring
 Thy beauty walks, Thy tenderness and love.
 Wide flush the fields: the softening air is balm;
 Echo the mountains round; the forest smiles;
 And every sense and every heart is joy.
 Then comes Thy glory in the summer months,
 With light and heat refulgent. Then Thy sun
 Shoots full perfection through the swelling year;
 And oft Thy voice in dreadful thunder speaks;
 And oft at dawn, deep noon, or falling eve,
 By brooks and groves, in hollow whisp'ring gales.
 Thy beauty shines in Autumn, unconfin'd,
 And spreads a common feast for all that lives.
 In Winter, awful Thou! with clouds and storms
 Around Thee thrown, tempest o'er tempest roll'd,
 Majestic darkness! On the whirlwind's wing,
 Riding sublime, Thou bidd'st the world adore,
 And humblest nature with Thy southern blast.—THOMSON.