Continued from page 19.

As the greatest elongation of Polaris often occurs during the day, or when the star is hidden by clouds, or at a time which necessitates inconvenient waiting; in order to increase the opportunities for this observation similar tables (XI, XII, XIII) are given for three other circumpolar stars, which though not so well suited as Polaris, will be found useful in determining the direction of the meridian.

Of these three β Ursæ Minoris, although convenient in account of being the most conpicuous is less favorable in other respects than the other two; since in consequence of its greater polar distance) both the length of the interval between the times of transit and of the greatest elongation) and the magnitude of the azimuth are greatly affected by a change in the latitude, or by any error therefore that may exist in the supposed latitude of the place of observation.

The intervals between the times of transit and greatest elongation of the four stars α, β, ϵ, δ, Ursæ Minoris, as well as their azimuths at the same instants are given together in Table XV.

Oriental Calendars.

CHINESE—The Chinese year is lunar. There are twelve months, alternately of 29 and 30 days. Every third year, a thirteenth month is added to make up for the difference between the solar and lunar year. In every cycle of 60 years, 22 intercalary months occur. The Chinese almanack is a matter of very great importance, "lucky and unlucky days" being carefully stated in it, and no true Chinese venturing to undertake a piece of work on an "unlucky" day. The year is divided into 24 periods, according to the sun's position in the heavens, at its entrance into each sign of the Zodiac, and its reaching the middle of each sign.

JAPANESE—In Japan the year is divided into twelve months, corresponding to the signs of the Zodiac. These months, however, are of different lengths: the necessary intercalary days that have to be added, and the months needed to accommodate the difference between solar and lunar years, are assigned by the Mikado, A peculiar sacredness is attached by the Japanese to the number 9.

MAHOMMEDAN—The Mahommedan Calendar was first reckoned from the date of Mahomet's flight, corresponding to our 15th of July. It is purely lunar being composed of alternate months of 29 and 30 days. Eleven times in each 30 years, a day is added similar to our 29th February in leap year. The lunar year has 354 days 8 hours, and a year of the Hegira, a fraction less. Each year begins from ten to eleven days earlier in the season than the last one, owing to the difference of the epact.

HINDU—For the regulation of domestic arrangements and festivals, the luni-solar year is employed among the Hindus. The beginning of the year dates from the instant of the conjunction of the sun and moon in the sidereal month *Chaitra*. The month has 30 lunar days, and is divided into two equal parts, according as the moon increases and decreases in brightness. Variations of this system occur in different parts of India, in order to make up the intercalary days necessary to fill up the deficiencies in the successive annual calendar.

PARSEE—365 days are allowed to the year in the Parsee calendar. There is no leap year, but a month is added in every 120 years, to make the necessary correspondence with the solar year. There are twelve months, each thirty days, every day named after a celestial being, To make up the deficiency in the year, five days called Gathas are added.

GENERAL COUNCILS.

		A.D.
Jerusalem	Against Judaizers	51
Arles	Against the Donatists	314
Nice	Œcumenical Council	325
Constantinople	Arian	337
Rome	Athanasian	342
Sardis	Against Arlus	347
Constantinople	Second Œcumenical	381
Ephesus	Third do	431
Chalcedon	Fourth do	451
Constantinople	Fifth do	553
Constantinople	Sixth do	681
Nice	Seventh do	787
Constantinople	Eighth do	870
Rome	First Lateran	1123
Rome	Second do	1139
Rome	Third do	1179
Rome	Fourth do	1215
Lyons	Emperor Frederick deposed	1243
Lyons	Temporary reunion of Greek and Latin Churches	1274
Vienne	Fifteenth Œcumenical	1213
Pisa	Popes Elected & deposed	1409
Constance	Huss condemned to be Burnt	1414
Basle	Eighteenth Œcumenical	1431
Rome	Fifth Lateran	1512 to 1517
Trent	Nineteenth Œcumenical	1545 to 1563
Rome	Last Œcumenical	1870

DATES OF SOME FASTS & FESTIVALS.

Cent. I.	Sundays, Easter, Pentecost.
" II.	Lent, Christmas.
" III.	Ember Days.
" IV.	Saints' Days, Annunciation.
" V.	Rogation, Circumcision, Advent.
" VI.	Felicitas, Marcellinus, Pancras.
" VII.	Nativity B. V. M., All Saints.
" VIII.	The Presentation, Transfiguration, Boniface.
" IX.	Easter Monday and Tuesday, and Whit-Monday and Tuesday.
" X.	All Souls, Evens or Vigils.
" XI.	All Popes that had been Martyred.
" XII.	Thomas of Canterb., 11,000 Virgins.
" XIII.	Epiphany Circumcision, Conception, Conversion of St. Paul.
" XIV.	Thomas Aq., Bridget, Corpus Christi.
" XVI.	VII. Sorrows of Our Lady, Bruno.
" XIX.	Immaculate Conception of the B. V. M.