

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 on 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.

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 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.

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.

MEMORANDA FOR THE YEAR 1873.

January.

- 1 Wednesday.
- 5 ii Sunday aft. Christmas.
- 6 Epiphany.
- 12 i Sunday after Epiphany.
- 19 ii Sunday " "
- 26 iii Sunday " "

February.

- 1 Saturday.
- 2 iv Sunday after Epiphany.
- 9 Septuagesima.
- 16 Sexagesima.
- 23 Quinquagesima.
- 26 Ash Wednesday.

March.

- 1 Saturday. St. David.
- 2 i Sunday in Lent.
- 9 ii Sunday " "
- 16 iii Sunday " "
- 17 St. Patrick.
- 23 iv Sunday in Lent.
- 25 Lady Day.
- 30 v Sunday in Lent.

April.

- 1 Tuesday.
- 6 Palm Sunday.
- 11 Good Friday.
- 13 Easter Sunday.
- 20 Low Sunday.
- 27 ii Sunday after Easter.

May.

- 1 Thursday.
- 4 iii Sunday after Easter.
- 11 iv Sunday " "
- 18 Rogation Sunday.
- 22 Ascension Day.
- 24 Queen's Birthday.
- 25 Sunday after Ascension.

June.

- 1 Whit Sunday.
- 8 Trinity Sunday.
- 12 Corpus Christi.
- 15 i Sunday after Trinity.
- 20 Queen's Accession.
- 22 ii Sunday after Trinity.
- 24 Midsummer Day.
- 29 iii Sunday after Trinity.

July.

- 1 Tuesday.
- 6 iv Sunday after Trinity.
- 13 v Sunday " "
- 20 vi Sunday " "
- 25 St. James.
- 27 vii Sunday after Trinity.

August.

- 1 Friday.
- 3 viii Sunday after Trinity.
- 10 ix Sunday " "
- 17 x Sunday " "
- 24 xi Sunday " "
- 31 xii Sunday " "

September.

- 1 Monday.
- 7 xiii Sunday after Trinity.
- 14 xiv Sunday " "
- 21 xv Sunday " "
- 28 xvi Sunday " "
- 29 Michaelmas Day.

October.

- 1 Wednesday.
- 5 xvii Sunday after Trinity.
- 12 xviii Sunday " "
- 18 St. Luke.
- 19 xix Sunday after Trinity.
- 26 xx Sunday " "
- 28 St. Simon and St. Jude.

November.

- 1 Saturday. All Saints.
- 2 xxi Sunday after Trinity.
- 9 xxii Sunday " "
- 16 xxiii Sunday " "
- 23 xxiv Sunday " "
- 30 Advent Sunday.

December.

- 1 Monday.
- 7 ii Sunday in Advent.
- 14 iii Sunday " "
- 21 iv Sunday " "
- 25 Christmas. Thursday.
- 26 St. Stephen.
- 27 St. John.
- 28 Sunday after Christmas.

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.

- Cent. 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.