

Within the **July window (1855–1865)**, there is **one very clear candidate** that would have been visible from **Middletown, Connecticut**:

Solar Eclipse — July 18, 1860

Solar Eclipse of July 18, 1860

- Date: **18 July 1860**
- Type: **Total solar eclipse** (but only **partial** in Connecticut)
- Visibility: **Partial eclipse visible across most of North America**, including the northeastern United States.
- Path of totality: Northwest U.S. → Canada → Labrador → Atlantic → Spain and North Africa.

For someone in **Middletown, Connecticut**, the Sun would **not have gone completely dark**, but a **noticeable partial eclipse** would have been visible in the daytime sky.

Why this eclipse was famous

The **1860 eclipse** is historically important because:

- It was **one of the first solar eclipses successfully photographed**.
- Astronomers confirmed that **solar prominences belong to the Sun**, not the Moon.
- Scientific expeditions traveled worldwide to observe it.