

Agriculture, &c.

REMOVING STUMPS OF TREES—A very good plan is, after digging around and under the stump, cutting off all the roots that can be got at, to attach a chain around the stump, pass it over a frame like the letter A reversed, only allowing the top pieces to overlap six inches, attach a good pair of oxen to the chain, and the largest stumps may be drawn out.

A MILE.—The following exhibit of the number of yards contained in a mile in different countries will often prove a matter of useful reference to readers. Mile in England or America, 1760 yards. Mile in Russia, 1100 yards. Mile in Italy, 1467 yards. Mile in Scotland and Ireland, 2200 yards. Mile in Poland, 4400 yards. Mile in Spain, 5028 yards. Mile in Germany, 5866 yards. Mile in Sweden and Denmark, 7233 yards. Mile in Hungary, 8800 yards. League in England or America, 5280 yards.

THE OYSTER FAILURE is, in France, about to be remedied in an unexpected way. A new molusc, which the French call a pallourde, has suddenly made its appearance in the Paris markets, and is reported to have achieved a great success among oyster-eaters in that city. It is described as a bivalve smaller than the oyster, and of a more elliptical form, having a delicious flavour—something between a snail and a caterpillar, which the French, with a refined yet eccentric taste in food, rather approve of.

EXTRAORDINARY YIELD.—Mr. William Sherwood, of Sussex, N.B., says that he dug from his garden 311 lbs. of Early Rose potatoes from the planting of one pound. Thirty of the potatoes, when dug, weighed on an average one pound each. These potatoes required a very short season. Mr. Sherwood wants to know if this yield has been equalled in the Dominion.

FIGHT BETWEEN WASPS AND RATS.—A couple of farm servants on a plantation in the southern part of Alabama, who had been asleep in a loft of a large barn, were awakened one morning recently by a great commotion in the hay mow beneath them, and on looking down saw a scene which probably is without a parallel. Swarming in through an open window was a perfect cloud of wasps, who were attacking a young army of rats, whose squealing had aroused the two farm hands. The rats stood upon their hind legs, in a perfect paroxysm of rage and fear, and gnashed their teeth at the wasps, who stung them remorselessly. The bodies of the rats were terribly swollen by the poison of the insects; and in their rage and fury they turned and bit each other. The hay loft was strewn with the dead bodies of the rats, until at last the survivors fled from the scene and left the wasps masters of the situation. (?)

SANITARY AND SALUTARY.—One great source of the cholera in the East has been the malaria occasioned, under the burning sun of Arabia, by the decomposition of the sacrifices offered by the pilgrims to the tomb of Mohamed at Mecca. This year an unusual number of pilgrims thronged the city, numbering 120,000. The Ottoman government, at the suggestion of the International Sanitary Commission, had made excellent hygienic and sanitary regulations on a grand scale, which were effective in preventing the usual outbreak of disease, though there were slaughtered 200,000 sheep, 5,000 oxen, and 2,000 heifers.

Bales of prairie grass are to be sent to England from the United States for the purpose of testing by experiment its value as paper material.

Stock well summered are half wintered. If they go into the stable in good condition, have warm quarters and wholesome food, they will keep growing, and come out in good condition in spring with less consumption of food than it stinted half the time.

MESSENGER ALMANACK.

January, 1870.

New Moon, January 1st, 7h. 51m. afternoon. First Quarter, " 9th, 4h. 48m. afternoon. Full Moon, " 17th, 10h. 31m. morning. Last Quarter, " 24th, 6h. 8m. morning. New Moon, " 31st, 11h. 26m. morning.

Table with columns: Day, Sun., Moon., High Tide. Rows for days of the week from 1st to 31st.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southing gives the time of high water at Parrsboro', Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

High water at Pictou and Cape Tormentine 2 hours and 30 minutes later than at Halifax. At Annapolis, St. John, N. B., and Portland Maine, 3 hours and 44 minutes later, and at St. John's, Newfoundland 1 hour earlier, than at Halifax.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE DAY.—Add 12 hours to the time of the sun's setting, and from the sum subtract the time of rising.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE NIGHT.—Subtract the time of the sun's setting from 12 hours, and to the remainder add the time of rising next morning.

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May 27.

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