

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., AUGUST 26, 1874.

ALMANAC FOR SEPTEMBER

Last Quarter, Sept. 3rd, 0h. 40m. morning. New Moon, " 10th, 1h. 56m. afternoon. First Quarter, " 18th, 6h. 51m. afternoon. Full Moon, " 25th, 6h. 52m. afternoon.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, High Tide, and Low Tide. Rows list days from 1st to 30th of September.

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

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 24 hours, and to the remainder add the time of rising next morning.

MRS. AINSLEY'S Arthranodyne Liniment.

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EVERETT BROTHERS, 100 Granville St., May 3.

Agricultural.

PARSLEY FOR EDGINGS.—Parsley properly belongs to the vegetable garden, but it makes a beautiful edging for flower beds, the bright finish to flowers that lack foliage. Last year a few seeds of the Champion Moss curled parsley sown in the hedges, gave us some strong plants that were set out in the border, and proved to be not the least of our possessions.

TO RESTORE FROSTED HOUSE PLANTS.

An exchange says:—Don't put them in a warm room, as you would a frost-bitten chicken. Let them remain where they were frozen, close the window shutters or drop the curtains, so as to make the room quite dark; then sprinkle the plants with cold water direct from the cistern, and wait the results.

An equine curiosity arrived recently at San Francisco in the shape of a hairless horse from Australia.

The name of this remarkable animal is Caoutchouc, and was captured in the neighbourhood of Balloon river, Queensland, when about two years old. He is now about six years of age, pure black from the tip of his ears to the hoofs, but without a single hair on any part of his body.

RHEUMATISM.—When green currants and gooseberries and the ripe summer fruits come on, the rhubarb begins to be neglected.

A new and excellent use for them is in making a summer drink after the following fashion:—Pull the stalks and dress them and put to stew after the usual fashion. As soon as they begin to boil, drain off the water closely, and put by the latter to cool.

THE NEW COMET.—Professor Parkhurst says that the new comet may be found, by the aid of a small telescope, 7° south of y Ursa Minoris, the upper pointer of the Little Bear.

STRENGTHENING JELLY.—Boil in two quarts of water, one ounce of rice, one ounce of sago, and one ounce of pearl barley until reduced one-half.

First law of gravity—never laugh at your own joke.

Scientific.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.—On the 9th of December, 1874, the planet Venus will pass between the earth and the sun, and will appear as a round black spot travelling across the sun's face. This phenomenon is what is meant by the transit of Venus, and it is expected that by its careful observation data will be obtained by which, generally speaking, we shall be able to measure the distances of the heavenly bodies, their weight, and their dimensions.

As matters now stand, our knowledge of the celestial world in the above respects is not exact, although a scale of measurement has been approximately constructed. The last observed transit of Venus, which took place in 1769, gave us data on which our ideas of celestial distances are now based. But errors have been discovered in the observations, owing, perhaps, to the primitive instruments used.

Now by means of the transit of Venus, it is expected that we shall be able accurately to measure the distance between the sun and our earth; and with this gage once established, it will be a very easy matter to apply it to the spaces between the orbits of all the other bodies of the solar system.

The most direct and valuable practical result of the determination of the sun's distance is that which enables us to tell the exact attraction of the sun for the moon, and hence to predict the motions of our satellite. Our lunar tables, by the aid of which we can determine longitude, will then be rendered, instead of approximately, absolutely correct.

The United States astronomers take eight stations—three in the northern hemisphere and three in the southern. The former are at Wladewostock, Yokohama, and in Northern China, the latter at New Zealand, Tasmania, and Chatham Island on the east, and MacDonal Island and the Crozets on the west.

The Germans send four parties to Falkland, McDonnell's, and Kerguelen Islands, in the southern hemisphere. France sends five expeditions—two to Northern China, one to Japan, one to Campbell Island, and one to St. Paul's Island. Russia has twenty-five stations in Siberia.

RAILWAY UP THE VOLCANO OF VESUVIUS.—The plans of the line which is to ascend Mount Vesuvius are now complete. The route will be 16.1 miles in length. The grades are 20 and 35 per hundred, and the road terminates at a few feet from the crater.

THE NEW COMET.—Professor Parkhurst says that the new comet may be found, by the aid of a small telescope, 7° south of y Ursa Minoris, the upper pointer of the Little Bear.

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