

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 14, 1874.

ALMANAC FOR JANUARY.

Full Moon, January 2nd, 2h. 49m. afternoon. Last Quarter, " 10th, 3h. 41m. afternoon. New Moon, " 18th, 3h. 46m. morning. First Quarter, " 24th, 8h. 28m. afternoon.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, High Tide, and Low Tide. Rows list days from 1st to 31st with corresponding times.

THE TIDES.—The course of the Moon's Southern gives the time of high water at Pictou, Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

High water at Pictou and Cape Tormentine, 2 hours and 11 minutes later than at Halifax. At Annapolis, St. John, N. B., and Portland Maine, 3 hours and 25 minutes later, and at St. John's, Newfoundland, 20 minutes 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.

Articles and Covenant

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WINDSOR & ANNAPOLIS RAILWAY.

CONDENSED TIME TABLE.

COMMENCING OCTOBER, 1873.

HALIFAX TO ST. JOHN.

Table showing train schedules from Halifax to St. John with columns for Stations, Exp. Pass. Pass., 1st and 2nd Class, and Frgt.

ST. JOHN TO HALIFAX.

Table showing train schedules from St. John to Halifax with columns for Stations, Pass. Pass. Exp. and 1st Class, and Frgt.

N. B.—The Express trains now run daily. Steamer "Scud" or "Empress" leaves St. John on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, at 8 a. m., for Annapolis, and returns same day on arrival of 8 a. m. Express Train from Halifax.

International Steamers leave St. John on Monday and Thursday at 8 a. m., for Eastport, Portland, and Boston.

European and North American Railway Trains leave St. John at 8.30 a. m. and 9 p. m. for Woodstock, Fredericton, St. Stephens, Bangor, Portland, Boston, and all parts of the United States and Canada.

Through Tickets at reduced fares by above routes to all parts of the United States and Canada may be obtained at the Ticket Office 136 Hollis Street, Halifax, at Richmond, and the principal Stations on the Railway.

P. INNES, manager. Kentville, 6th Oct., 1873. Oct. 22.

Agriculture.

THE FUTURE OF FARMING.

Colonel Laurie who is always seeking to promote the agricultural interests of the province, has written a letter to the Journal of Agriculture on "the future of farming" in which he says:

"There is great dissimilarity between the position of the English and that of the Nova Scotia farmer, and I do not hesitate to say that in each of these the Nova Scotian has the advantage of his fellow-agriculturist in England. We have not suffered loss of cattle in any epidemic; we have almost unlimited supply of land so that we need not fear of being cramped for room in our stock raising; economy of manures will render our present acreage more productive; our farmer owns his land, is therefore not restricted by any conditions of a lease, from developing it as he deems best, and further has the satisfaction that his improvements are his own property, and that his money invested in land is deposited in the safest bank in the world.

By the importation of their thorough-bred stock, we obtain at once results in meat-making which the English farmers, in the struggle for existence, having spent lifetimes of energy and watchfulness and close study as well as large sums of money to compass. And now take the points of similarity, between the two, the profit of grain growing in England was checked by the repeal of the Corn Laws, and the opening up of distant grain-growing countries by steam being applied to facilitate communication, consequently the farmer who considered that all the profit of farming lay in producing wheat lost heart and lost influence—other causes, the actual failures of the wheat crop by rust, etc., produced the same effect here. I can well recollect when I began farming here, I was constantly asked if I could grow wheat, and when I said I did not want to, but was willing to let Ontario grow it for me, the inquirers shook their heads and implied that my place was at Mount Hope. In vain I quoted the old saying that drought never brought dearth in England, as meaning that wheat wanted a dry climate. I pointed out that flour was portable, and we could not compete with the inland provinces, and maintained that nature had given us a climate for grass and roots, and that our wisest plan was to go into the fresh provision business where we should have the market to ourselves without competition. No, I was told, if we could not raise wheat, farming would not pay, and with this constantly dinned in them, the young men would not follow their fathers on the farms but took to commerce, trades, or professions. The farmers naturally, as in England, lost influence both numerically as compared with the increased population engaged in other associations, and socially as pursuing a despised profession; but here again, as in England, the very disease has worked its cure, the relatively enormous increase of population employed in pursuits other than farming, who are consumers without being producers and who are earning such liberal remuneration that they can afford to, and will have, the best of food, has caused such a demand for market produce, which has nearly doubled in value, that farming is again becoming a desirable and profitable profession. Those who, through evil report, stuck to their land, are now obtaining the well-earned reward, young men find that a farmer is no longer looked down upon, and are taking to the land; capital is being invested; neglected farms are being improved; fresh land is being cleared up, the tide is turned, and although the race of grumblers and doubters will never be extinct, I most warmly congratulate the Province on the improved hopeful spirit that animates the farmers who are settling down to their proper work as meat producers for the workers in the hives of industry that our mines, our manufactories and our commerce are building up in our midst—the farmer has no longer to seek a market, the consumer seeks out the producer. Looking, therefore, at the points in which the Nova Scotian farmer has the advantage, and those in which he is similarly circumstanced to his English brother, I would confidently say, that a great future lies before our farmers, that they will occupy their old position as the most powerful class in the country."

Liberality consists not so much in giving a great deal, as in giving seasonably.

Scientific.

HEAT FROM THE MOON.

Lord Rosse has shown by experiments that the moon sends earthwards both kinds of heat; she reflects solar heat just as she reflects solar light, and she also gives out the heat by which her own surface has been warmed. It may perhaps occur to the reader to inquire how much heat we actually obtain from the full moon. There is a simple way of viewing the matter. If the full moon were exactly as hot as boiling water, we should receive from her just as much heat (leaving the effect of our atmosphere out of account), as we should receive from a small globe as hot as boiling water, and at such a distance as to look just as large as the moon does. Or a disk of metal would serve equally well. Now, the experiment may be easily tried. A bronze half penny is exactly one inch in diameter, and as the moon's average distance is about 111 times her own diameter, a half penny at a distance of 111 inches, or three yards and three inches, looks just as large as the moon. Now let a half penny be put in boiling water for a while so that it becomes as hot as the water: then that coin taken quickly and set three yards from the observer, will give out, for the few moments that its heat remains appreciably that of boiling water as much heat to the observer as he receives from the full moon, supposed to be as hot as boiling water. Or a globe of thin metal, an inch in diameter and full of water at boiling heat, would serve as a more constant artificial moon in respect of heat supply. It need not be thought remarkable, then, if the heat given out by the full moon is not easily measured, or even recognized. Imagine how little the cold of a winter's day would be relieved by the presence, in a room not otherwise warmed, of a one-inch globe of boiling water, three yards away! And, by the way, we are here reminded of an estimate by Prof. C. P. Smyth, resulting from observations made on the moon's heat during his Teneriffe experiments. He found the heat equal to that emitted by the hand at a distance of three feet.—The Spectator.

THE STELLAR HEAVENS.—It is now admitted that the stars resemble our sun, both in composition and (probably) in their relation to systems of planets respectively dependent on them. Connected with the stellar system are numerous nebulae (nearly eight thousand have already been counted with the aid of the telescope) which look like spots of mists—whence their name. These spots, however, are not very tiny ones, for the smallest exceed in size that of our entire solar system, the remotest member of which—Neptune—is at such a distance from the sun that it would take the swiftest railroad train eight thousand years to pass over it! What are these nebulae supposed to be? Powerful telescopes show that some of them are really clusters of stars. The spectroscope has shown others to be mere gas sprinkled through with liquid or solid particles. Says Prof. Young in the Boston Journal of Chemistry, "They are in various stages of consolidation, some granulating into star-dust, and some collecting themselves around a single centre to form a single sun." It will be understood that such condensation cannot take place without giving out intense heat. The professor adds, "It almost seems as if in studying them we might come to witness for ourselves the building of suns and systems."

BUTTERMILK—SCIENTIFIC TESTIMONY.—An eminent French chemist, Mr. Robing, in a memoir, recently presented to the French Academy, announces his belief that the period of human existence may be greatly prolonged, and enters into an argument to show that his belief is based upon sound reasoning. His argument is, that the mineral matter which constitutes an ingredient in most of our food, after the combustion, is in our system to incrust and stiffen the different parts of the body, tending to render imperfect many of the vital processes. He compares human beings to furnaces which are always kindled, and says: "Life exists only in combustion, but the combustion which occurs in our bodies, like that which takes place in our chimneys, leaves a detritus which is fatal to life. To remove this, he would administer lactic acid with ordinary food. This acid is known to possess the power of removing or destroying the incrustations

which form on the arteries, cartilages, and valves of the heart. As buttermilk abounds in this acid, and is moreover, an agreeable kind of food, its habitual use, it is urged, will free the system from these causes, which inevitably cause death between the seventy-fifth and hundredth year."

CURE FOR TOOTHACHE.—An exchange gives the following simple application for the toothache, on the principle, if no cure, no charge for the advice: If any of your readers suffer from toothache or neuralgic affections arising from teeth in any stage of decay, they may experience relief, instantaneous and permanent, by saturating a small bit of clean cotton or wool with a strong solution of ammonia and apply it immediately to the affected tooth. The pleasant contrast instantaneously produced sometimes causes a fit of laughter, although a moment before extreme suffering and anguish prevailed. I have used the remedy for over a year, and have obtained sufficient proof to warrant publication.

The way to be happy is not to try too much to be so. You can't catch sunbeams if you try; but you may enjoy their light and warmth by letting them shine unsolicited upon you.

The little boy, at his first concert, innocently asked, when the soprano was called back, "What's the matter mother? didn't she do it right?"

A poor man is to be avoided,—he lacks principal, and has no interest in anything.

A large, natural swarm of bees carries with it four or five pounds of honey when leaving the old hive.

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