

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 4, 1874.

ALMANAC FOR MARCH

Full Moon, March 3, 1h. 7m. morning.
Last Quarter, " 11h. 5h. 19m. morning.
New Moon, " 18h. 0h. 48m. morning.
First Quarter, " 24 h. 6h. 17m. morning.

Table with columns: Day, SUN., MOON., High T. (Rises, Sets, Halts). Rows for days of the month.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southings 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 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.

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Scientific.

GLUE AS A HEALING REMEDY.

A correspondent of the Scientific American says: For the last twelve or fourteen years I have been employed in a shop where there are over three hundred men at work; and, as is the case in all shops of this kind, hardly a day passes but one or more of us cut or bruise our limbs. At first there were but few that found their way to my department to have their wounds bound up; but after a while it became generally known that a rag glued on a flesh wound was not only a speedy curative, but a formidable protection against further injury.

MAXIMS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF INVENTORS.

- 1. Know definitely what you want to accomplish, stick to it, and let other matters go, for the time.
2. Post yourself thoroughly as to the laws governing the action of each part of your machine.
3. Always bear in mind that whatever is gained in time is lost in power, and vice versa.
4. Think over every machine, of a nature similar to yours, which you have seen; and when your idea is clear in your head, compare it with those of inventors who have preceded you in the same line.
5. Be sure that the cost of your device will not prevent its use.
6. Avoid all complicated arrangements; make every machine of as few parts as possible.
7. Imagination, judgement, and memory are the faculties to employ. Imagination will bring forth new forms and actions, judgement will compare them with other devices and determine their relative value, and memory will store up the results for further use.

There is a bathing-place in Germany, the head physician of which will contract to increase or decrease a person's weight a certain amount in a given time. We hear of a man and wife the latter fleshy, the former lean and afflicted with some disease. A contract was made to take off twenty-five pounds from the wife in six weeks. It was done in four. The man was in the same time to be cured and increased twenty-five pounds in weight. This was also done and the couple departed rejoicing that a proper equilibrium was established. We hope the publication of this item will not cause an immediate stampede of all the fleshy and lean to Germany.

TO CLEAN AND RESTORE THE GLOSS TO BLACK SILK.—Take five cents worth of hairshorn and five cents worth of gum and mix together; then rub with a piece of crape or sponge the side that it has been worn on, and iron it with a moderately heated-iron on the same side.—Make up again on the opposite side which will be equal to new.

WHITE COAL.—A new kind of fuel has recently been discovered on the Australian continent, which has received the name of white coal. It consists of felled vegetable fibers like peat which contain, interspersed between them, fine grains of sand. It is easily combustible and burns with a light flame. The white coal covers large tracts, requiring no mining, and is already used in large quantities as fuel.

A DELICIOUS DISH.—Take a large fresh cabbage and cut out the heart. Fill the place with stuffing made of cooked chicken or veal, chopped very fine and highly seasoned, rolled into balls, with yolk of egg. Then tie the cabbage firmly together and boil in a covered kettle for two hours. It makes a very delicious dish, and it is often useful for using small pieces of cold meat.

One of Gough's stories was a neat hit at those dilatory people who are always behind time. Some one said to a person of this class, "I see that you belong to the three-handed people." "Three handed—that's rather uncommon, isn't it?" "Oh no, common enough—two hands like other people—and a little behind-hand."

A fellow, who is nearly as big a bore as the Hoosac tunnel, was telling in our office the other day of a song that always carried him away. Quadrat, looking around gently inquired if any one present could sing that song.

A lie always stands on crutches.

Agricultural.

ATTEND TO COWS' UDDERS.

As my cows are "drying off" at this season of the year, I find their udders require frequent attention. I have failed to notice in the agricultural journals any complaint of such trouble, but in my own dairy, and particularly with such cows as are in the highest condition clotted milk is very apt to collect in one or perhaps all the quarters of the bag, after milking has been discontinued, and sometimes even much later after I have supposed the flow of milk to be entirely arrested and the bag quite dry. As this secretion goes on, unless the clotted matter is withdrawn, the teat and udder become more and more distended, inflammation ensues and putrefaction of the contents sets in. I make no question but that neglect of this matter is the cause of permanent mischief to the udder, and particularly of that contracted condition of the muscles which regulate the passage of the milk from the bag into the teat, a condition discovered not unfrequently and with surprise as well as regret when cows come into milk in the spring and which ever after renders the milking of such cows very irksome.—Vermont Farmer.

CHICKEN FEATHERS.—Chicken feathers are among those waste products of the farm of which no regular means of utilization has heretofore been suggested.

Cut the plume portions of the feathers from the stem, by means of ordinary hand scissors. The former are placed in quantities in a coarse bag, which, when full, is closed and subjected to a thorough kneading with the hands. At the end of five minutes the feathers, it is stated become disaggregated and felted together, forming a down, perfectly homogeneous and of great lightness. It is even lighter than natural eider down, because the latter contains the ribs of the feathers, which give extra weight. The material thus prepared is worth, and readily sells in Paris, for, about two dollars a pound. Through the winter children might collect all the feathers about a farm, and cut the ribs out. By the spring time a large quantity of down would be prepared which could be disposed of to upholsterers, or employed for domestic uses. Goose feathers may be treated in a similar manner, and thus two thirds of the product of the bird utilized.

FRESH BUTTER IN WINTER.—As a general thing butter is scarce during the winter season, and fresh butter bears a high price. By taking proper measures, which include having the cows to come in from October to January a warm comfortable stable, a frost proof dairy, clover hay cut in blossom and well saved, a supply of carrots, perfect cleanliness in the stable, and a plentiful supply of water free from ice and snow, with daily drinks of bran or oatmeal-slop slightly warmed, and cooked food, the dairy may be made as prolific and far more profitable than in the summer. The butter will be yellow, hard and will keep fresh longer, and from its scarcity at that season would bring a very high price.

THE ROSE.—Professor Agassiz, in a lecture upon the trees of America stated a remarkable fact in regard to the family of the rose—which includes among its varieties not only many of the most beautiful flowers which are known, but also the richest fruits such as the apple, pear, peach, plum, apricot cherry, strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, &c.—namely that no fossils of plants belonging to this family have ever been discovered by geologists! This he regarded as conclusive evidence that the introduction of this family of plants upon the earth was coeval with or subsequent to, the creation of man to whose comfort and happiness they seem especially designed by Providence to contribute.

SINGULAR HOG.—The Virginian (Montana) Enterprise has the following:—McGinnis, of McGinnis Station, at the mouth of six mile Canyon, has a hog which is a curiosity in more ways than one. The hog though quite young stands about three and a half feet high and is as slender as a race-horse. It not only has astonishingly long and slender legs but rejoices in a snout about half as long as his body. It is peculiarly marked, being black as a coal from its fore legs to the end of its nose, while the remainder of its body is snow white. It is a great pet, and

is never so happy as when in the house with the children and dog it has learned to do many things a hog is seldom seen to do, as to jump fences and the like. The owner says there is not a fence on his ranche that the hog cannot jump. The hog takes great interest in strangers and likes to get acquainted with them and have them play with and notice him.

HOUSE PLANTS IN WINTER.—House plants ought to be gently stimulated once or twice a week. Rain water, so refreshing to summer flowers always contains ammonia which also abounds in liquid manures. Take an ounce of pulverized ammonia, dissolved in one gallon of water it will make spring water even more stimulating to young plants than rain water. Keep the soil in the flower pots loose.—Field and Factory.

I have found that the white sweetwheat turnip is good for big chickens—cooked and then mashed, and mixed with about an equal amount of corn meal. Mix it so that it will be as near dry as you can. The same when you mix a potato mash—mix it too thick to pour. Potatoes cooked and mixed with corn meal I think cannot be beaten to feed to laying hens.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

FAT PIGS IN ENGLAND.—At the recent Smithfield Cattle Show a lot of black pigs, breed not stated, classed as "less than 18 months," weighed about 800 pounds each. They are described as being so fat that it was necessary to place blocks of wood under their snouts to keep them from choking.

It is estimated that a pair of healthy sparrows having a family to bring up will consume over three thousand caterpillars a week.

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