

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 25, 1874.

ALMANAC FOR MARCH

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

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

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 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, 30 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 next morning.

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WHOLESALE BUYERS Will find our Terms Liberal, and we assure them that their interests will receive our best attention. GEORGE S. YATES, Halifax, N. S., April 24, 1871.

Agricultural.

SELF-MILKING COWS.—It seems entirely impossible to break some cows of this habit, hence many persons have come to the conclusion, after repeated experiments, that it is best to put the cow into a beef barrel. It is generally true that self-milkers are very large milkers, and if this is the case, it will pay to try and break up the habit.

The following method of treating a self-sucking cow was communicated to this paper some years ago; put a strap around her neck and another around her body about midway. Take a stout stick about the size of a hoe handle, and long enough to reach from one strap to the other. Pass the stick between the fore legs and fasten it to both straps. It will be impossible for her to suck with it out.

SWELLING OF LEGS.—When the legs of a horse swell upon standing in the stable it is an evidence of debility, general or local. It would be well to increase the food in quantity or quality. The following might also be of use—viz: Powdered sulphate of iron, one and one-half ounces; gentian root, two ounces; chlorate of potassa, one ounce; mixed and divided into twelve powders. One of those given in cut feed as little moistened as possible night and morning. Ground oats would be better for food than corn. Friction by rubbing with a coarse woolen upon the parts would also be helpful.—Am. Agriculturalist.

GUTTA PERCHA FILLING FOR HORSES' FEET.—Gutta percha has proved the best thing yet discovered to keep horses from baling with snow, and preventing accidents. The kind that is sold in thin, wide strips is considered the best. It takes about a pound and a half to fill the fore feet of a horse, and it costs \$2 a pound. When a horse's feet are stuffed with gutta percha it gives him a good foothold, and he lifts his feet free from snow. Melt the article in warm water, and then stuff the foot. This can be taken out and put back every day during the winter if necessary.—"Horse notes" in N. Y. Herald.

UTILIZATION OF SAWDUST.—Mr. Gustave Hueze says that, though sawdust decomposes very slowly, yet it may be economically used as a litter in stables, and left for several months in contact with solid and liquid excrement of animals, which it readily absorbs. It may also be composted with quicklime and left in a heap for about a year. Additions may be made to this heap from time to time but, when such additions are made, the whole heap should be well stirred. It will be improved by being frequently saturated with urine or sewer water. Sawdust thus treated may be used on partially exhausted soils with great advantage.

CLIPPING SHEEP TWICE A YEAR.—A correspondent of the Department of Agriculture says:—"The shearing of sheep twice a year diminishes the amount of wool, as I have satisfied myself by experiment. One fleece, annually shorn in the spring will weigh more than both the fall and spring fleeces from the same sheep."

REMARKABLE BUTTER YIELD.—The Live Stock Journal is informed by a lady in North Buffalo, N. Y., that a heifer coming in when 22 months old made 335 pounds of butter in 11 months—or one pound per day. If this is true, this is, all things considered, the most remarkable yield we have ever known reported.

CRUMPLETS.—Make two pounds of flour into a dough with some warm milk and water, adding a little salt, three eggs well beaten, and three table-spoonfuls of yeast; mix well and add sufficient warm milk to reduce to the consistency of thick batter. Place it before the fire to rise, and bake it in rings on the top of the stove.

THE LARCH.—The Country Gentleman commends highly the European Larch as an ornamental tree. It holds its foliage late in the fall, and is a fine contrast to evergreens planted among them.

Scientific.

WHEN COAL WAS FORMED.—Of the lapse of time in the formation of our coal-fields we cannot have the faintest conception; it is only measured by Him with whom a thousand years are as one day. But the magnitude of the time is not surpassed by the boundlessness of the providential care which laid up these terrestrial treasures in store for His children whom He was afterwards to call into being. Let me, therefore, dismiss this profless subject with one illustration. Mr. Maclearn, by a happy train of reasoning, for which I refer the reader to his "Geology of Life," arrives at the conclusion that it would require a thousand years to form a bed of coal one yard thick. Now, in the South Wales coal-field there is a thickness of more than thirty yards, which would have required a period of 30,000 years for its formation. If we, now, assume that the 15,000 feet of sedimentary materials were deposited at the average rate of two feet in a century, corresponding to the rate of subsidence it would have required 3,807,000 years to produce this coal-field.—Hull's Coal-Fields of Great Britain.

THE HEAT OF THE SUN nowhere penetrates the ocean more than six hundred feet. At a depth of from one to two miles the temperature is everywhere about 4° above the freezing point, caused, probably by the ice-water poured into the ocean from the arctic regions, northern and southern. This, being heavier than the surface water, sinks to the bottom and forms currents ever flowing toward the equator to take the place of the water which there heated and rendered lighter rises to the surface and forms the Gulf and other warm streams. As these flow again toward the arctic regions, it will be seen that a perpetual circuit is kept up the arctic waters continually lessening the heat of the tropical waters, and these in their turn, giving out their heat as they flow away from the tropics. England is warmer than Greenland because of the warmth derived from the Gulf Stream.

SALT IN SICKNESS.—Dr. Scudder remarks: "I am satisfied that I have seen patients die from deprivation of common salt during a protracted illness. It is a common impression that the food for the sick should not be seasoned and whatever slop may be given, it is almost innocent of this essential of life. In the milk diet that I recommend in sickness common salt is used freely, the milk being boiled and given hot. And if the patient cannot take the usual quantity in his food, I have it given in his drink. This matter is so important that it cannot be repeated too often, or dwelt upon too long. The most marked example of this want of common salt I have ever noticed has been in surgical disease, especially in open wounds. Without a supply of salt the tongue would become broad, pallid, puffy, with a tenacious pasty coat, the secretions arrested, the circulation feeble, the effusion at the point of injury serous, with an unpleasant watery pus, which at last becomes a mere sanies or ichor. A few days of a free allowance would change all this, and the patient get along well."

BORAX FOR COLDS.—A writer in The Medical Record cites a number of cases in which borax has proved a most effective remedy in certain forms of colds. He states that, in sudden hoarseness or loss of voice in public speakers or singers, from colds, relief for an hour or so, as by magic, may often be obtained by slowly dissolving, and partially swallowing a lump of borax, the size of a garden pea, or about three or four grains, held in the mouth for ten minutes before speaking or singing. This produces a profuse secretion of saliva, or "watering" of the mouth and throat, probably restoring the voice or tone to the dried vocal cords, just as wetting brings back the missing notes to a flute when it is too dry.

BEST TIME TO PAINT HOUSES.—Experiments show that paint on surfaces exposed to the sun will be much more durable if applied in autumn or spring than if put on in hot weather. In cool weather it dries slowly, forms a hard, glossy coat, tough like glass; while if applied in warm weather, the oil strikes into the wood, leaving the paint so dry that it is rapidly beaten off by the rains.

WATERPROOF PAPER.—A transparent waterproof paper resembling parchment has been prepared by Dr. Jacobsen by floating silk paper on an aqueous solution of shellac in borax. If brown paper be treated in this way, it can be employed for sausage cases. The shellac solution may be coloured with aniline, and the paper thus treated used in making artificial flowers.

CURE FOR EARACHE.—A writer in the Household says that she takes a piece of salt pork, say an inch or more long and half an inch square; cut down one end to fit the ear, and insert it, taking care to have the piece too large to slip in. Tie a handkerchief to keep it in place, if the child will allow it.

FIREPROOF PAPER.—An English inventor has patented a fireproof printing paper, composed of vegetable fibre asbestos, borax and alum, and warranted to bear any amount of burning eloquence or light literature.

FLOWING WATER.—Water flowing in a body, such as a river will run sufficiently swift with a fall of one foot per mile. A smaller river will require a fall of two feet per mile. A brook would not keep an open course under four feet per mile, while the water in a small covered drain will require at least a fall of ten feet per mile to set the water in motion.

It is given to some women to see a point clearly and state it comprehensively. For instance, an Iowa woman concludes a sarcastic article on female suffrage, thus pointedly: "You may look at this matter in whatever light you will, but simmer it down, and it is but a quarrel with the Almighty that we are not all men."

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