

The Messenger Almanac.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, and High Tide. Rows list dates from 1st to 31st of May with corresponding times for sunrise, moonset, and high tide.

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, 8 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 next morning.

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Jan. 10.

SCIENCE.

HOW SAFES ARE BLOWN OPEN.—A criminal lately gave to a reporter of the New York Herald the following mode of introducing powder within a safe for the purpose of blowing open the doors.

"What tools did you use in drilling the holes?" asked the reporter.

"Good cracksman don't use tools," answered the burglar. "I'll show you how to blow open any safe in New York without any tools. Just take me to a safe."

There happened to be a safe in Judge Kilbreth's private room, and the writer acquainted the magistrate with the prisoner's proposal. "By all means," said he, "let us learn;" and in a moment the room was filled with spectators.

The prisoner knelt beside the safe, which was locked. "Look," said he, "at this door. It fits so tightly that no instrument can be introduced in the cracks and powder cannot be inserted.

So far so good. The burglar," continued he, "simply sticks putty all along the cracks except in two places, one at the top of the door and one at the bottom, where he leaves about an inch of space uncovered by the putty.

At the lower place he puts a quantity of powder and he sucks out the air from the upper place, either by a suction pump, which is the better way, or by his mouth. The vacuum created in the safe draws in the powder through the small crack below. The entire work does not occupy more than five minutes."

CURE FOR WARTS.—At the trifling expense of 10 cents invested in carbolic acid, as strong in solution as possible, apply with a camel-hair brush, three or four times a day. They will disappear without the slightest pain after a week or so, and leave no trace behind to remember them by.

Mr. Wilson, a farmer near Decatur, Ill., lights and warms his house with gas from a well on his premises, and has done since 1870.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

SEASONING SAUSAGE.—For one hundred pounds of meat take two pounds of salt, six ounces of ground pepper and two ounces of pulverized sage. Mix thoroughly. Add one ounce of ginger. Melted lard poured over the top of sausage is effectual in keeping the air out. A stone jar is nice for packing it in.

APPLE SHORT-CAKE.—Make a soft dough as for biscuit; roll out this and put a layer in a jelly pan; over this spread a layer of stewed apples; sprinkle over sugar and spice; dot with small lumps of butter; then put on a layer of dough, another of the apple sauce, a very thin layer of dough, and bake in a very quick oven. This is a most delicious desert dish, and may be served with or without sauce.

TO MAKE POTATOES MEALY.—Soak them a few hours in cold water, and put them into hot water to boil, without salt; then when they are tender nearly all the way through, turn the water off, and refill the saucepan with cold water. Put in salt and boil till they are quite done; drain off that water also, cover as tightly as possible, and set on back of the range, to steam, lifting the cover for an instant once or twice; then, with one hand holding down the lid, shake the saucepan gently, quickly and steadily for a moment, and serve. If rightly managed they will be like snow balls.

For weak eyes, bathe them night and morning in a tolerably strong solution of salt and water. We have known some remarkable cures effected by this simple remedy. After bathing the eyes daily for about a week, intermit a day or two and then resume the daily bathing, and so on till your eyes get strong again.

OATMEAL AND INDIANMEAL.—These are seldom boiled sufficiently, and consequently are not good or wholesome. A cup and a half of oatmeal in three quarts of boiling water; stir frequently at first; boil two hours and a half; the lid on the first hour and a half; the lid of the rest of the time. A pint of Indian meal prepared the same way when needed.

If brooms are wet in boiling suds once a week, they will become very tough, and will not cut a carpet, last much longer, and always sweep like a new broom.

AGRICULTURE.

BARLEY AND OATS TOGETHER.—I have several times raised a large number of bushels of oats and barley mixed together in equal quantities than it was possible to obtain from either when sown separately on the same land. An old Canada farmer told me that he had frequently sowed a bushel of barley to eight bushels of oats, and was satisfied that he had obtained just as much oats as if there had been no barley mixed with them, and the barley did not hurt the sale of the crop, and helped to make the oats to hold out full weight. I tried the plan several times, and was much pleased with it, and never had a buyer find fault with this mixture. I should think the straw would be excellent fodder for store cattle and sheep, or horses that were not hard worked. I believe that it would be of more value than corn stalk of the same weight, but not as much fodder could be got from an acre.—Country Gentleman.

LIME IN AGRICULTURE.—Pure lime where it is not mingled with clay, and sand, and other organic and inorganic substances, consists of the oxide of the metallic element calcium, and entering into the composition of all plants, must occupy a large place in nature's laboratory. It has an affinity for water and carbonic acid: when applied to the land it absorbs water, forming hydrate of lime; this hydrate then absorbs carbonic acid, so that lime, although applied to the land in the caustic state, really exists, shortly after its application in the form of carbonate, along with a little sulphate and phosphate, as previously mentioned. Lime has for a long time been used as a fertilizer; when land previously unworked is brought into cultivation, or when worn-out pasture land is broken up, lime is generally applied. It affects chiefly the vegetable matter contained in the soil, promoting its decomposition, and thus rendering it available as plant food. We, however, find its action important on some of the mineral constituents—decomposing insoluble silicates, the result being soluble.—Scientific American.

DUCKLINGS MORE PROFITABLE THAN CHICKENS.—The saying is often applied to young ducks that "they eat more than they are worth," may be a very unjust one. Several years ago we were speaking with a woman who raised yearly large numbers of ducks and chickens, regarding the comparative amount of food consumed to bring them to their full growth. She stated that "ducks eat less in proportion to their growth than chickens." Our readers may be surprised at this, but upon giving the matter a little thought they will understand the reason. It is because the ducklings reach maturity sooner than the chickens, and of course, the longer it takes to bring a creature to maturity, the greater the expense, not only of food, but of time and trouble. Experiment has demonstrated the fact that, with the same quantity of food and care, the ducklings, in ninety days from the shell, may be made to weigh nine or ten pounds per pair or over, while chickens, in the same length of time, come to weigh only six or seven pounds per pair. Hence the remark quoted at the commencement of this paper, does not apply when ducklings are properly and intelligently managed.—Poultry World

PLANTING POTATOES.—Shall we plant in rows or in hills? shall we plant small seed or large? shall we cut the potatoes or plant them whole? shall we cut the sets from the top, or bottom, or middle of the potato? shall we cut the potato a few days before planting, and sprinkle lime on them? shall we plant one or two sets in a hill? shall we plant deep or shallow? shall we earth up, or shall we cultivate on the flat? To all these, and a dozen other questions which are frequently asked, I answer: "Do as you have done, or change, if you feel like it; but whatever else you do, or leave undone, make the land dry, rich, mellow, and clean. If you cannot do it this year, make up your mind to do it next year, and begin to prepare for it now. Farmers must look ahead. We must keep our land rich enough to grow a fair crop in an unfavorable season. We shall have high prices, in the future as in the past—and the men who will make money will be those who take the most pains to keep up and increase the fertility of their farms."

For a horse that is uneasy at night in the stable, the Field recommends the companionship of a goat.

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March 22.

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WINTER ARRANGEMENT, Commencing Tuesday, Dec. 12, 1876.

HALIFAX TO ST. JOHN.

Table showing train schedules from Halifax to St. John. Columns include Station, Miles, Express and Freight, Passengers, and Freight.

ST. JOHN TO HALIFAX.

Table showing train schedules from St. John to Halifax. Columns include Station, Miles, Passengers and Freight, and Express and Freight.

N. B.—Express Trains run every Wednesday and Saturday, and when signalled, or when there are Passengers to set down, they will stop at all Stations.

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P. IVES, Messenger.

Kentville, 7th December, 1876.

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