

The Messenger Almanac.

October.
New Moon, Oct. 6th, 5h. 44m. afternoon.
First Quarter, " 13th, 11h. 28m.
Full Moon, " 22th, 3h. 17m. morning.
Last Quarter, " 29th, 10h. 7m.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, High Tide. Rows list days from 1M to 31W with corresponding times and tide heights.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southing gives the time of high water at PARSBORO, CORNWALLIS, HORTON, HANTSPOUR, 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 next morning.

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

SWEET PICKLED CRAB APPLES.—Select fair unspotted apples, leaving the stems on, wash them clean, and weigh the fruit, and take half a pound of brown or white sugar to each pound; and a pint of vinegar to every two pounds of sugar. Put two or three cassia buds into each apple. Boil the sugar and vinegar together, until the scum has been taken off. Then put in just enough apple to cover the top of the preserving kettle, and cook them until the skins appear a little soft, but not broken too much. Skim them into a large jar. Proceed in this way until all are parboiled or scalded slightly. Then boil syrup, skim off, and turn it over the apples. If you preserve a peck or even half a bushel of crab apples in this way, you will not find your supply too large, as they make a nice addition to a cold supper or a hot dinner and keep perfectly well during the winter.

PICKLED BEANS.—A very palatable pickle is made from beans, picked from the vines when just large enough for string-beans. Break off the stems, and pull the side strings; wash thoroughly, and boil in salted water until quite tender; then drain off the water in a colander. Prepare the vinegar with spices, and boil them all together. Then put the beans in a jar, and turn the boiling vinegar over them. Cover them tight, and they will be ready for use in a couple of days, and need no farther care. To a quart of vinegar, for pickled fruits, a tablespoonful of black pepper, one of cloves, one of mustard, one of pimento, and one of cinnamon, make a nice flavor; and a few roots of horseradish keep them nice.—Country Gentleman.

MUSKMELON BUTTER.—Select fine, ripe melons, pare and remove the soft seedy portion; cut in small pieces; boil and stir until smooth; add three pounds of sugar to six pounds of the fruit, and and boil until the juice will not run when a spoonful of the butter is dropped on a plate. Great care must be taken not to let it burn.

To keep milk sweet add to each quart about as much pulverized borax as can be taken up on the point of a penknife, or half a saltspoonful.

SCIENCE.

An insect which may be sent by post and kept as a pet, and whose escape will be a benefit rather than an injury to the public, is one of the pressing requirements of the day. Such an insect appears to have been discovered in Sandusky, Iowa, United States, where, it is stated, a gentleman named Whitney has lighted upon an insect which asks for no better food than the Colorado beetle. Mr. Whitney's insect has a proboscis somewhat resembling that of a house fly, but which seems to be hard, like bone. The insect is of the bug genus, and when it meets with a Colorado beetle makes short work of it. Striking the beetle a terrible blow with its proboscis, the bug appears to suck the life out of its victim, and, being happily blessed with a good appetite, has no sooner made an end of one Colorado beetle than it is ready for another. Mr. Whitney, who by last accounts had not had time to watch the bug very much, saw it nevertheless kill two beetles in ten minutes. One Whitney bug would at this rate destroy twelve Colorado beetles an hour, and as the bug feeds greedily from 3 p.m. until dark, besides occasional "snacks" at other periods of the day, it is evidently an invaluable insect, well deserving encouragement, and one to whose comfort and convenience every attention should be paid in transit through the post-office. Indeed, if the character given of it proves accurate, it might almost be allowed to travel post free.

An ingenious Englishman has invented an apparatus so constructed that forty gallons of water can be heated to 100° Fahr. in five minutes, with a very moderate expenditure of heat. The Furniture Gazette, gives both description and diagram. The heat is applied either by means of gas-jets or a petroleum lamp.

To prevent tin rusting: Rub fresh lard over every part of the dish, and then put it in an oven and heat it thoroughly. Thus treated, any tin-ware may be used in water constantly, and remain bright and free from rust indefinitely.

AGRICULTURE.

REVERSING THE SKIMMING PROCESS.—Do the readers of your columns who are interested practically in dairy matters (writes a contributor to Land and Water) take the cream from the milk or the milk from the cream? It seems at first sight that it would come much to the same thing in the end, whichever method was adopted? but I can assure your readers that the latter process is very much the most advantageous plan, both in respect to quickness in the operation, and also in the greater quantity of cream obtained from the milk. I was visiting a large dairy in Yorkshire, and for the first time saw the system in operation of taking the milk from the cream, and I believe that that system is very little known out of that country. To take the milk from the cream requires the dairy utensils to be specially prepared for that purpose, as follows:—In the dairy I refer to the milkpans were oblong in shape (made of zinc, I think) three feet long by two and a half feet broad, and about eight inches deep (I did not measure them at the time), and the bottom of the milkholder was about one inch smaller all round than the top, and each zinc basin, near one corner, there was a hole made, and in that hole was soldered a piece of zinc pipe about two inches long, projecting under the basin, and of such a diameter that a common bottle cork would fit in it. The method of using the above apparatus was as follows:—When wishing to get the cream the dairymaid placed a jar under the pipe, and withdrawing the cork allowed the milk to flow in a rapid stream, and just before the last of the milk was ready to escape she replaced the cork; and the result was that in about one minute or less an unbroken mass of cream was left in the basin—at least it was only broken round the edge. I think the above process well worthy of being adopted in all large dairies, as it seems to be a very great saving of time, and it produces more cream.

CHANGING THE BEARING YEAR OF APPLE TREES, in certain cases, is highly beneficial and profitable. The Rural Home refers to experiments in this direction, made by Prof. Beal. The Northern Spy was the variety experimented upon. Last year, which was the bearing year, some of the trees were severely thinned. This year they have a fair average crop of fruit, while the trees of the same variety which had not been thinned, are standing close to them, without fruit.

WINTER FEED FOR FOWLS.—The matter of feed for fowls in the winter is one of considerable importance. Poultry need a change of diet as much as do people in order to do well. The scraps from the table are one of the best things that can be given them, as it always contains a variety. A very good plan to be carried out is to feed a warm, soft feed in the morning; say boiled potatoes or turnips, into which should be stirred a little meal, the whole to be thoroughly scalded and given warm. A very little pepper may be given occasionally with good results, but do not put in any more than you would like to have in our own food. After giving them a light feed of this mixture, scatter a little corn or other whole grain among the straw that should be on the floor of the house (this straw should be taken out and renewed often to prevent its becoming filthy), which will set them to scratching and thus get up a lively circulation of the blood and keep them warm; whereas, if they have been given all of the soft food that they would eat they would then have curled down in some corner remained stupid and dumpy throughout a greater part of the day.

A French lady who is on her first visit to England was walking in Kew Gardens the other day. She was, on the whole much pleased, but was greatly shocked at the notice, which she read at every turn, that "bird-nesting is strictly forbidden." "How you are severe and cruel in this country," she at last sorrowfully exclaimed, "that even the little birds may not make their nests in your public gardens!"

A good story is told of a Boston lawyer whose proclivities are High Church, and who thinks it needful to sow seed by all waters, and so has his note paper branded with Scripture texts. The other day he had to write for a favor from the Chief Justice, and he unluckily used a sheet headed, "Ye are all bought with a price." He didn't get it.—Chicago Herald.

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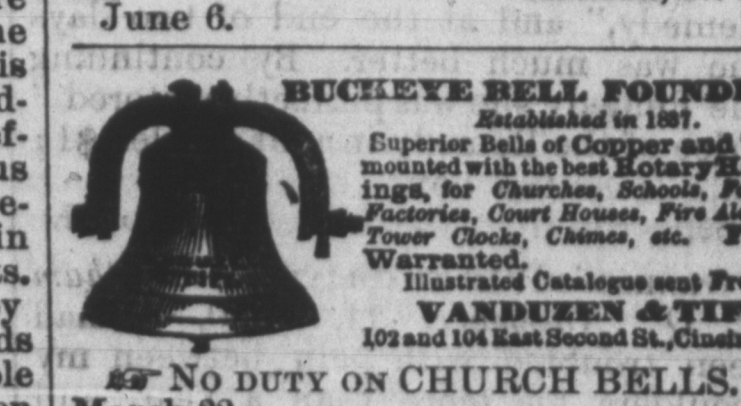
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