

The Messenger Almanac.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, High Tide, and Low Tide. Rows include dates from 1st to 28th of February.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southings gives the time of high water at Parisboro, Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

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.

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And all diseases that lead to it; such as COUGHS, NEGLECTED COLDS, BRONCHITIS, PAIN IN THE CHEST, AND ALL DISEASES OF THE LUNGS.

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April 22.

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SCIENCE.

THE STRONGEST WAR VESSEL IN THE WORLD.—The most powerful iron-clad vessel at present in existence is the Duillo, which was recently constructed by the Italian government.

The immense guns are loaded by hydraulic apparatus. Upon opening a valve, the ram head capped by a sponge advances rapidly into the bore of the gun, the latter being suitably depressed and the sponge rising at an angle from beneath the deck.

It has been calculated that the work developed by the immense projectile is equal to about 39,000 foot tons; so that, if all four of the Duillo's guns were fired at once, her effective power would be equal to that exerted in raising 156,000 tons one foot high per minute.

THE MYSTERY OF DREAMS.—A man fell asleep as the clock tolled the first stroke of twelve. He awakened ere the echo of the twelfth stroke had died away, having in the interval dreamed that he had committed a crime, was detected after five years, tried and condemned; his shock at finding the halter round his neck aroused him to consciousness, when he discovered that all these events had happened in an infinitesimal fragment of time.

THE DECREASE OF THE PETROLEUM SUPPLY.—There has been a marked diminution in the oil product of Pennsylvania of late. It is reported that, for some months past, the supply has not exceeded 28,000 barrels per day, while not more than two years ago the daily average was 40,000 barrels.

He that runs fast will not run long.

DISTANCE OF A STAR FROM THE EARTH.—For many ages this question puzzled astronomers. How far off are the stars? It was known that their distance was great.

Of the countless thousands of stars which stud the universe, the distance of perhaps about twenty has been determined. Others which have been tried, have defied the powers of the most skillful astronomer. It is impossible to explain here the manner in which it is conducted; we must endeavor rather to realize the result which has rewarded these successful labors.

It requires a little consideration to estimate what the words twenty billions of miles really mean. A billion contains one million millions, and we shall endeavor to convey an idea of this amount by a few simple illustrations.

Another illustration to convey an idea of this vast distance may be given. If we were to take a sum equal to five times our national debt, and were to expend this in postage stamps, we would get one billion of them; and if we were to draw a line around London, including every house in the suburbs, and then take an area equal in size to this, cleared and arranged for the purpose; if we then commenced to stick them, side by side, over the entire area of London, we should not be able to get them all in.

Such, then, is the distance of the nearest fixed star. We can not grasp it in our imagination, nor are we more successful if we try to make a map. Suppose we proceed by first laying down the sun, and then placing the earth one inch distant from it.

Knowing, however, the distance of the nearest star, what can we say of the distance of the farthest of those that are visible? Here precise knowledge fails. We can, indeed, grope after the truth, and make guesses of a greater probability. We believe that it is, at all events, some hundreds of times as great as the astounding magnitude of which we have endeavored to convey an impression; but the human mind becomes bewildered in attempting to realize the immensity.

VARIETIES.

SITTING FOR A PICTURE.—A photographer gives the following directions to his customers:—"When a lady would compose her mouth to a bland and serene character, she should say 'Bosom,' and keep the expression into which the mouth subsides until the desired effect in the camera is evident.

At the marriage of an Alabama widow, one of the servants was asked if his master would take a bridal tour. "Dunno, sah; when old miss's alive he took a paddle to her; dunno if he take a bride to de new one or not."

Agents for the Christian Messenger.

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Sept. 16.

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Oct. 28.

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