

The Messenger Almanac.

JUNE. First Quarter, June 7th, 11h. 40m. [afternoon.] Full Moon, " 14th, 7h. 37m. " Last Quarter, " 22nd, 3h. 1m. " New Moon, " 30th, 8h. 16m. [morning.]

Table with columns for Day, SUN. Rise, Sets, MOON. Rise, Sets, High Tide at Halifax. Rows 1 to 30.

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. At Charlottetown, 2 hours 56 minutes LATER. At Westport, 2 hours 54 minutes LATER. At Yarmouth, 2 hours 20 minutes LATER.

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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AGRICULTURE.

Daffydowndilly's Hat.

Miss Daffydowndilly has come on a visit, In her green poisonous and yellow silk hat, She's as slim as the slimmest lady of fashion, Neither panier nor pouf, and the trimming all flat.

But the yellow silk hat, that's the crown of her costume, When you once have seen that, you won't think of her dress; And where in the world she ever has bought it, I'll warrant you never,—no, never can guess.

For I've heard that she made it herself out of sunshine, With pipings and trimmings of yellowest gold, And I really believe it, as watching I wonder, While the wonderful quillings and flutings unfold.

She must have been wearing it all the long winter, In her dark little chamber close hidden away; And had it all ready through snow-storm and freezing, To start on her journey the first sunny day.

And now that the robins are piping their nest songs, And volets dotting the meadows with blue, Miss Daffydowndilly has come to my garden To make a short stay. Is she visiting you? Children's Friend.

COAL ASHES IN THE GARDEN.—It has long been known that coal ashes have the effect of mellowing the soil, particularly clay. A rigid clay may thus be greatly improved in its texture. It has been held that the fertilizing properties of coal ashes are small; repeated analyses show this. Yet, used as they have been here in gardens without other manure, the effect has been such as to lead irresistibly to the conclusion that they develop in some way a considerable amount of fertility. All can not be accounted for by the mechanical improvement, as in cases where this is not lacking the effect is still present, and apparently undiminished, if not sometimes increased—in this case acting seemingly as wood ashes do, requiring other (organic) fertility to aid, if full results would be obtained.

I was surprised, early in the season, on seeing unusually thrifty tomatoes and beans, to learn that the only manure used was coal ashes, scattered in the garden to get them out of the way. This was practiced for several years and no manure other than this had been used. I was shown another garden which was treated exactly in the same way, the only dressing being coal ashes. Here the growth seemed all that could be. I was shown a potato grown here that weighed one pound eleven ounces and a half. It was the Early Vermont a variety not noted. I believe, for its large specimens. But they were all large, averaging from a half pound to a pound; no small ones among them, and many exceeding a pound. They were planted sixteen inches apart in the rows, a small potato dropped in each hill. The owner of this garden lays the success to the coal ashes, and says there can hardly be any mistake about it. This is the opinion of others also. My own experience is confirmatory. But the effect is not immediate. It is more tardy than with wood ashes, whose potash and soda act promptly,—F. G., in Country Gentleman.

RAISING CALVES BY HAND FOR THE DAIRY.—When our calves are weaned, and two weeks old, we place before them in a pail or trough a small quantity of shell corn and oats, with a little bran, which they will soon learn to eat, and which is excellent feed to give them a start. The shelled corn will not give them scours, but corn meal must be avoided, as its tendency is to produce diarrhoea. Young calves should by all means have a thrifty start and in all stages of their growth great care should be taken to neither over-feed nor starve them. A calf should never be fed so highly that it cannot be fed more highly as it advances, and should always be kept growing and thrifty, making bone and muscle, but not putting on fat, if it is intended for the dairy. The great difficulty we have to encounter in raising calves is diarrhoea and scours, which are generally brought on by over-feeding or by changing the feed; sometimes it is very simple and can be checked by withholding a part of their regular allowance of feed for a day or two; and

in fact this should be done, no matter what treatment is used. We have used fresh laid eggs with good effect, giving the calf one three times a day, either mixed in its milk, or broken and put into its mouth; compelling it to swallow it. The eggs, being very nourishing, assist greatly in restoring the calf's lost strength. We have on several occasions succeeded in saving calves by feeding them on raw eggs alone—when they were so far gone as to refuse to eat, and when some could scarcely stand.—Stock Journal.

Thirth-seven car loads of clover seed, which means about 18,000 bushels, costing some \$50,000, are said to have been shipped to England and Germany during March and April by Mr. Henry, of Chatham, Ont.

English gardeners are doing an extensive business in growing strawberries in pots, both for early fruit and ornamental purposes.

SCIENCE.

REMAINS OF GIGANTIC ANTE-DILUVIANS.—Some very important discoveries of gigantic fossils, were unearthed last year in the Rocky Mountains, near Morrison, Bear Creek, Colorado, by the Rev. Arthur Lakes, Professor of Geology at Jarvis Hall, Colorado. The interest of those discoveries lies in the fact that they have been found in strata pronounced by professional geologists to be barren of vertebrate fossils. Some of these remains have been reached by blasting in the hard sandstone, and others have been dug out of a bed of soft clay lying beneath the rock, and these latter are very perfect and of monstrous size. Thus some twenty-five colossal vertebrae average from 11 to 15 inches in diameter, and one mass of vertebrae, consisting of three vertebrae ossified together, measures nearly 3 feet square. Close by its side, is another long bone, 3 feet 10 inches long and 22 inches at the butt end, possibly a scapula; but by far the most enormous bone is a portion of a femur, or thigh bone, measuring five feet in length, 28 by 12 inches in diameter, and the shaft 14 inches wide by 8 inches thick, weighing 600 lbs. Lying on the ground, like the pillar of some ancient temple, nothing can impress the observer more than this bone with the magnitude of the animal to which it belonged—this being only a portion of a bone which, when complete, is presumed to have been 7 1/2 to 8 feet long, and formed part of a leg fully 12 feet in length. These remains have been pronounced by Professor Marsh of Yale College to belong to the cretaceous period, and to be those of a new and gigantic species of Dinosaur—the largest ever discovered, and the largest known land animal; he names it Titanosaurus montanus, and estimates the creature, when alive, to have been fully sixty feet long, and when standing erect on its hind legs, after the custom of Dinosaurs, to feed on the foliage of the mountain forests, to have been eighty-five feet high.

With the Titanosaurus were found other Dinosaurs, one not larger than a cat (Nanosaurus), also the remains of a turtle, an almost perfect crocodile's head, with teeth, and several procelion vertebrae. Of these Professor Marsh says, in his address before the American Association, at Nashville, Tenn.: "The beds of the Rocky Mountains Wealden have just provided us with a genuine 'missing link'—a saurian Diplosaurus, with essentially the skull and teeth of a modern crocodile, and the vertebrae of its predecessor from the Trias. This peculiar reptile clearly represents an important stage in the progressive series, and evidently one soon after the separation of the crocodile branch from the main stem."

STAMMERING FOR A PURPOSE.—The recruiting law of France exempts stammerers from military duty. Of 2,086, 826 conscripts examined between 1850, and 1869, there were 13,215 exemptions on account of this defect. The proportion of persons so affected in France is estimated to be 125 per 100,000. The defect is more common in the south than in the north, the difference being attributed to the greater attention paid in the north to primary education and the training of children to read and speak correctly.

The minister of public instruction recommends the abolition of exemption from military service for stammering, since many parents deem it an advantage to their children to stammer, and take no care to have the defect prevented or cured in early childhood. Possibly the law also encourages the willful cultivation of the habit.

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