

The Messenger Almanac.

MAY. Full Moon, May 6th, 1h. 58m. M. Last Quarter, " 12th, 10h. 22m. A. New Moon, " 21st, 1h. 36m. M. First Quarter, " 28th, 7h. 23m. A.

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

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, 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.

BAPTIST CHURCH REQUISITES.

- Articles and Covenant \$1.00 per 100. Church Record and Register \$2. and \$3 each. Alphabetical List of Members 40 cents each. Letters of Dismission 50 cts. per quire. Psalmists, in all varieties, from 75 cts. Baptist Hymn Book from 50 cts. Baptists Hymn and Tune Book \$1.00 and \$2.25. Scripture Catechism, \$6.00 per 100. CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE, No. 69 & 71 GRANVILLE ST., HALIFAX. April 15.

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AGRICULTURE.

HARROWING WHEAT.—Will wheat or rye be benefited by harrowing in the spring, if it was sowed broad cast and covered either with the harrow or shovel plow? It has never been tried in this section. P. Y. Carrolltown Pa. [Harrowing wheat or any other grain in spring, whether sown broadcast or otherwise, always benefits it by stirring and mellowing the surface and breaking the crust, provided such a harrow is used as will not injure the plants. We have found an increase of five or six, and sometimes ten, bushels per acre, by repeating the process two or three times.]—Country Gentleman.

CABBAGE.—Club-root in cabbage is caused by the presence of a small, white worm, which attaches and feeds upon the root. This worm is supposed to be the larva of the cabbage-flea and with good reason; wherever the flea is, therefore, club-root may be expected next season. To prevent it the flea must be abolished in some way.

Carrots do not require much water until they begin to grow vigorously. The appearance of the surface soil of the bed will show when water is required. The young plants must be thinned out to about an inch apart. A sharp watch should be kept for slugs, as they will in a short time destroy a crop.

The foreign papers state that the experiment near Paris in using city sewage for manuring lands is a success. One-third of the sewage of Paris is used on 2,000 acres of market gardens on the Gennevilliers Plains. The crops have increased wonderfully, and the health of the people is not affected.

PREPARING FOOD FOR HENS.—Food is an important item, and among farmers but little is thought of. Their fowls are allowed free access to the corn crib, and what feed they get they always help themselves to. Now, a much better way is to feed them, and keep them away from your corn-cribs, for corn as a steady diet is very unhealthy. Food for poultry should be fed accordingly. For a cool morning, cooked food of two parts wheat and bran and one part corn meal, seasoned about as you would wish your own food with salt and pepper is a desirable diet. This will be relished for a while. Cooked oats, or rather boiled oats is splendid for a change, and at noon, wheat, oats or buckwheat. For evening, whole corn is good, and add occasionally green food, such as cabbage, turnips, onions and scraps from the table. Take into consideration that they were a part of your subsistence, and there will be no difficulty. The profits of a poultry yard will be in accordance with the care the fowls receive. Plenty of fresh water is also essential to a poultry yard. Milk, either sweet or sour, is good for them, and will pay far better fed to poultry than to hogs. Now, to make the foregoing more impressive, we will recapitulate: Good stock, good, well-ventilated buildings, cleanliness, judicious feeding and plenty of fresh water. The man who carries out these conditions will always succeed.

The Ottawa Free Press says:—"A farmer claims to have found a sure cure for potato bugs, by ten years' experiment in Colorado. His plan is simply to plant one or two flax-seeds in each hill of potatoes. He says that the bugs will shun it every time, and that for ten years he had been thus successful in raising potatoes while others have failed. The proposed remedy is simple, and it costs almost nothing to try it. Our farmers should remember this at potato planting time."

BUCKWHEAT when sown for manure may be put in as soon as the ground is in condition and warm enough to ensure germination. If for seed, it should not be sown until the last week in June or the first week in July. Sow one bushel per acre for seed, and one and a half for manure. The yield will range, in a good crop, from fifteen to twenty bushels to the acre. In threshing with the machine, remove most of the teeth from the concave, and go slow. The straw is not of much account for stock-feeding.

Lose not a moment in planting peas, potatoes, beets, radishes, parsnips and cabbages, for early family use, after the ground gets dry enough. Cold snaps that are to come don't hurt them much.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

BREAD-MAKING.—Mrs. Geo. M. Whitaker, in an essay on bread-making read before the Worcester (Mass.) South Agricultural Society, refers to the law among the Arabs permitting divorce for ignorance in making bread; and certainly the divorce laws of more intelligent people have contained worse provisions. A mother who feeds her husband on sour bread has at least instituted the proper opening proceedings in a divorce case. "Many a time," remarks a Yankee schoolmaster, "have I flogged a child when I was morally certain that it was the mother's sour pan-cake in the stomach, and not the perversity of his disposition, that was at the bottom of his mischievousness."

The first thing to see to is good flour. Cheap flour is always expensive. It makes poor bread, which injures the health and detracts from the pleasure of a meal. In raising bread by yeast, the loaf passes through two stages of fermentation. The yeast excites in the sugar of the flour a fermentation, forming alcohol and carbonic acid. The former escapes by evaporation, and the latter expands the pan of dough. The two stages of the fermentation are the sweet and vinous, the latter being known by its pleasant odor. The right time to check the rising can only be determined by long experience. This is the point where most housewives fail in making bread. If not checked the fermentation goes on in a third state, which is sour and unhealthy. If by mistake the setting has been too long, soda may be added, but it cannot remedy the fault entirely. If the oven is heated less than 212° F. sour bread is inevitable; while an over-heated oven makes the inside clammy, and the outside hard. This point, also, must be settled by every cook after long experience. The books say 380° F. is about the right heat. "Salt rising" is also used in making bread. Salt and milk are put into the flour, and kept at a temperature of 90°. Afterwards enough flour is added to give it the proper consistency. It is the opinion of many that a superior loaf cannot be made by this method.

TO PRESERVE PEGGED BOOTS.—If pegged boots are occasionally dressed with petroleum between the soles and leather, they will not be apt to rip. If the soles of boots and shoes are dressed with petroleum they will resist wet, and wear well. The pegs, it is said, are not affected by dryness after being well saturated with the oil.

TO KEEP LEMONS FOR YEARS.—Grate the yellow part of the rind, and squeeze the juice; add to every four lemons a pound of sugar, and put in glass topped jars. These are equal to fresh ones in winter for pies, and can also be used for lemonade.

DRYING HERBS.—There is a great waste in many houses by neglecting to save and dry that part of celery and parsley which cooks, if not cautioned, will throw away. The leaves coarser stalks and the hardest part of the root of celery or parsley should be washed, drained, and dried in a cool oven. When well dried, grate the roots and rub the leaves and stalks through the hands as fine as possible then rub all through a sieve and put in to bottles, corking closely.

Prepared in this way one can have on hand, at no expense, excellent seasoning for soup, stews, and stuffing, which but for this slight care would be thrown into the waste barrel. No housekeeper, who does not feel it a duty as well as a necessity to keep a careful oversight of every department, can imagine how much goes into this receptacle that is really valuable, and could be used in her family to great advantage. The men who call for these barrels know very well in what houses the mistress's eyes keep watch over every department of her house, and their comments on their comparative gains in different families are often very amusing, when inadvertently made with so much emphasis as to be heard from the kitchen door up to the hall or parlor.—Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher in Christian Union.

"In my airy days," remarked the old man as he shovelled coal into the school-house bin, "they didn't use coal to keep us young 'uns warm, I can tell you." "What did they use?" asked a boy near by. A sad far-away look seemed to pass over the old man's face as he quietly responded. "Birch—my boy—birch."

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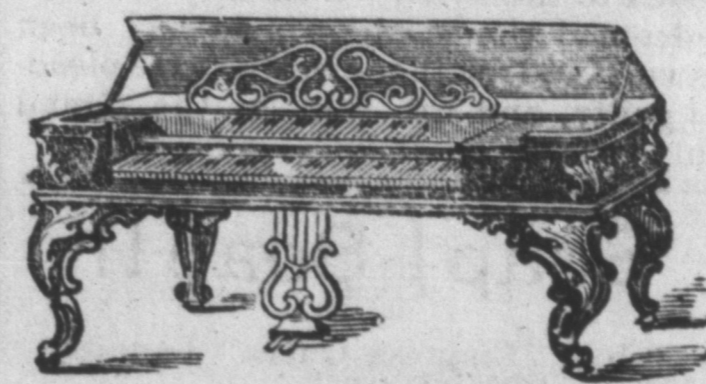
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INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

Winter Arrangement, 1879.

TRAINS leave Halifax: At 8.25 a.m. (Express) for St. John, &c. At 1.30 p.m., (Express) for Riviere du Loup, Montreal, &c. At 5.30 p.m. (Express) for St. John and intermediate stations. WILL ARRIVE: At 8.20 p.m., (Express) from St. John Pictou, &c. At 9.15 a.m., (Express) from St. John. At 1.30 p.m., (Express) from Riviere du Loup, Montreal, &c. Jan. 8, 1879.

SPRING HILL AND PARRSBOROUGH RAILWAY.

Connects with Intercolonial. Leaves Parrsboro at 9.30 a.m. Arrives at Spring Hill at 12.30 p.m. Leaves Spring Hill at 3.20 p.m. Arrives at Parrsboro at 6.00 p.m. Jan. 8, 1879.

WESTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.

1879—Winter Arrangement—1879. TRAINS LEAVE HALIFAX 8.00 a.m.—(Express) Wednesdays and Saturdays. 8.00 a.m.—(Accommodation) Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. 3.00 p.m.—Accommodation daily. Arrive at Windsor—9.35 a.m., 11.15 a.m. 5.40 p.m. LEAVE WINDSOR: 8.35 a.m.—Accommodation daily. 1.45 p.m.—(Accommodation) Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. 6.35 p.m.—(Express) Wednesdays and Saturdays. Arrive at Halifax 11.32 a.m. 4.45 p.m. 8.35 p.m. Feb. 28, 1879.

WINDSOR & ANNAPOLIS Railway.

Winter Arrangement, Commencing 6th Jan., 1879.

Table with columns for Miles, GOING WEST, GOING EAST, and Express Wed. and Saturday. Rows list stations like Windsor, Wolfville, Kentville, Wilnot, Annapolis, St. John, and their respective departure and arrival times.

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