

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.	

Day	SUN.	MOON.	High Tide
W.	Rise.	Sets.	Rises.
1 Th.	4 54	7 0	1 54
2 Fr.	4 53	7 1	2 1
3 Sa.	4 51	7 2	2 24
4 Su.	4 50	7 3	2 48
5 M.	4 48	7 4	3 13
6 Tu.	4 47	7 5	3 38
7 W.	4 46	7 6	3 53
8 Th.	4 44	7 7	4 18
9 Fr.	4 43	7 8	4 43
10 Sa.	4 42	7 9	5 8
11 Su.	4 41	7 10	6 13
12 M.	4 39	7 11	6 38
13 Tu.	4 38	7 12	7 13
14 W.	4 37	7 13	7 38
15 Th.	4 36	7 14	8 13
16 Fr.	4 35	7 15	8 38
17 Sa.	4 34	7 16	9 13
18 Su.	4 33	7 17	9 38
19 M.	4 32	7 18	10 13
20 Tu.	4 31	7 19	10 38
21 W.	4 30	7 20	11 13
22 Th.	4 29	7 21	11 38
23 Fr.	4 28	7 22	12 13
24 Sa.	4 27	7 23	12 38
25 Su.	4 27	7 24	1 13
26 M.	4 26	7 25	1 38
27 Tu.	4 25	7 26	2 13
28 W.	4 24	7 27	2 38
29 Th.	4 23	7 28	3 13
30 Fr.	4 23	7 29	3 38
31 Sa.	4 22	7 30	4 13

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southing gives the time of high water at PARRSBOROUGH, 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. A Westport, 2 hours 54 minutes LATER. A 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.

SMOKING SEED CORN.—An intelligent farmer, who is a very close observer, and a very successful corn farmer, says that he always smokes his seed corn. After selecting the seed, he hangs it in his smoke house and smokes it well. Sometimes the corn is quite black. The result of this treatment is that the corn is not liable to rot before it sprouts, and insects do not disturb it. Where he used smoked corn there is no necessity of replanting. He has tested this experiment for a number of years, and has always been successful. Last year he ran out of smoked corn while planting one field, and used a small quantity that was not smoked. On the portion where the unsmoked corn was he was compelled to replant the greater part.—*Exchange.*

KEEPING BEES.—We often hear of people keeping bees for pleasure, and it always signifies that those who do it are not only people of a greater or less degree of cultured taste, but that the apiany is really one of the fine arts. Whether it is appreciated as such or not, it is just of that character. When we take into consideration the habits and artistic design of the busy little bee, it is no longer a wonder that its characteristics have been woven into verse, and that the scientist and artist and poet have loved to study those habits and have been free to admire its ingenuity. Believing, therefore, that we can not cultivate refined taste enough too much, the business of bee-keeping becomes more valuable as we view it in this light. We frequently refer, the reader is aware, to those branches of farm industry which soften and elevate, and for the reason that they do soften and elevate recommend them most heartily. While the apiany can be made peculiarly profitable, it must always be remembered that money is not the only profit in this world, but that whatever makes us better, more industrious, frugal, and nobler, is profitable, if it never returns us a penny. Bee-keeping we believe to be of this character, if it is properly studied.—*Western Rural.*

LEG WEAKNESS IN FOWLS.—Give a feed of cooked meal daily to fowls troubled with the above. Sulphate of iron should also be added to the drinking water, a piece of the size of a pea to a pint of water.

A breeder of poultry says, "Every spring I procure a quantity of cedar boughs and scatter them plentifully in and around the hen house. This is all that is necessary, as the odor of the cedar keeps away lice. This remedy is cheap, simple and effective, and is worth trying."

Scaly legs in fowls are caused by a parasitic mite which burrows under the skin of the shank and feet. They may be destroyed by applying a mixture of lard and kerosene oil.

The number of square feet in an acre is 43,560. In order to have this area the piece of land must be of such a length and breadth that the two multiplied together will produce the above number. Thus an acre of land might be 43,560 feet long by 1 foot broad; 21,780 feet long by 2 feet broad; 14,520 feet long by 3 feet broad, and so on. If the acre of land is to be exactly square, each side must be as nearly as possible 208 feet 5 1/2 inches. The nearest you can come to an exactly square acre with an even number of feet in the side is to make it 220 feet long by 198 broad.

Charcoal is of very little use as a manure, strictly so called. Mechanically it has a very beneficial action on the soil, rendering it light and porous, and thus enabling atmospheric influences to act more readily upon it. On any light coloured soil charcoal is especially valuable if put on in sufficient quantity to perceptibly darken the color of the soil and thus add to its power to absorb heat. Charcoal, however, taken altogether, is not worth transporting a mile for its manurial or mechanical value, even if obtainable for nothing.—*Globe.*

A waterproof material merchant, in his recent published autobiography, makes the philosophical remark, "A weather prophet is the only man who never gets discouraged. If he hits the case once in 50 times he is perfectly satisfied there is a great future in store for him."

Every bird pleases us with its lay—especially the hen.

SCIENCE.

AN IMPROVED MORTAR.—Some time since the use of sawdust in mortar was recommended as superior to hair, for the prevention of cracking and subsequent peeling off of rough casing under the action of storms and frosts. Some one of the name of Siehr says that his own house, exposed to prolonged storms on the seacoast, had pieces of mortar to be renewed each spring; and after trying, without effect, a number of substances to prevent it, he found sawdust perfectly satisfactory. It was first thoroughly dried, and sifted through an ordinary grain sieve, to remove the larger particles. The mortar was made by mixing one part of cement, two of lime, two of saw-dust, and five of sharp sand, the sawdust being first well mixed dry with the cement and sand.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

TO CURE MOTH-PATCHES.—(1) Add about one teaspoonful of pulverized borax to a basin of water when washing the face morning and evening; or a more convenient way would be to keep a quantity already dissolved in a bottle of water, and pour it into the wash-basin as often as needed. Twice a day is quite often enough to use it, and the moth-patches should slowly disappear in about ten days or two weeks.

2 Wash at night with equal parts of glycerine and white of egg; in the morning wash off with fine soap and warm soft water repeated till cured.

3 Take two drachms of iodide of potash, one drachm of powdered rhubarb, and mix them with one ounce of lard, then rub a little on the spot once or twice a day.

THE CHANGES IN THE FROG.—Nowhere in the animal kingdom is there so favourable an opportunity for peeping into nature's workshop as in the metamorphoses of the frog. This animal is a worm when it comes from the egg, and remains such the first four days of its life, having neither eyes nor ears nor nostrils nor respiratory organs. It crawls. It breathes through its skin. After a while a neck is grooved into the flesh. Its soft lips are hardened into a horny beak. The different organs, one after another, bud out; then a pair of branching gills, and last a long and limber tail. The worm has become a fish. Three or four days more elapse, and the gills sink back into the body, while in their place others come, much more complex, arranged in vascular tufts, 112 in each. But they, too, have their day, and are absorbed, together with their frame-work of bone and cartilage, to be succeeded by an entirely different breathing apparatus, the initial of a second correlated group of radical changes. Lungs are developed, the mouth widened, the horny beak converted into rows of teeth; the stomach, the abdomen, the intestines prepared for the reception of animal food in place of vegetable; four limbs, fully equipped with hip and shoulder bones, with nerves and blood vessels push out through the skin, while the tail, being now supplanted by them as a means of locomotion, is carried away piecemeal by the absorbents, and the animal passes the balance of its days as an air breathing and flesh-feeding batrachian.

THE DEAD SEA TO BE UTILIZED.—The water of the Dead Sea has long been known to be rich in mineral substances, the solid parts amounting to from twenty to twenty-seven in the hundred, according to the proximity to the mouth of the Jordan, and the season of the year, and other causes. From 10 to 14 parts are chloride of magnesium; from 2 to 3 parts chloride of calcium; from 6 to 8 parts chloride of sodium; and from 1/2 to 1 1/2 parts chloride of potassium. There are also considerable traces of bromide of potassium and magnesium. It is said that a French contractor has just obtained a concession for the extraction of the chloride of potassium from the water of the Dead Sea. Chlorate of potash is used in manufacture of fulminates, and consumed largely as an ingredient of manure. The supply has hitherto been drawn from Germany, and the salt was sold in London for 160 francs per ton. Competition reduced the rate to 130 francs, but the production ceased to be remunerative below 120 francs. The chlorate of potash procured from the Dead Sea can, it is said, be supplied in London at 90 francs and the quantity obtainable is practically unlimited. The process of producing it will besides furnish other valuable chemical substances, such as the bromide and iodide of potassium.—*Scientific American.*

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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 Parrsborough at 9.30 a.m. Arrives at Spring Hill at 12.20 p.m. Leaves Spring Hill at 3.20 p.m. Arrives at Parrsborough 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 Saturday.
Arrive at Halifax 11.32 a.m. 4.45 p.m., 8.35 p.m.
Feb. 26, 1879.

WINDSOR & ANNAPOLIS RAILWAY.

Winter Arrangement, Commencing 6th Jan., 1879.

GOING WEST.		GOING EAST.	
Miles.	Express Wed. and Saturdays.	Pass. and Freight Mon. Wed. and Fri.	Pass. & Freight Mors. Tues., Thurs., & Fri.
0 Windsor.....	Leave	A. M. 11 30	P. M. 6 45
18 Wolfville.....	do	10 36	5 41
25 Kentville.....	Arrive	10 26	5 31
		11 10	1 40
53 Wilnot.....	Leave	12 27	3 35
84 Annapolis.....	Arrive	2 00	6 40
[St. John, do]		8 00	

GOING EAST.		GOING WEST.	
Miles.	Pass. and Freight Mon. Wed. and Fri.	Express Wed. and Sat.	Pass. & Freight Mors. Tues., Thurs., & Fri.
St. John, Leave	A. M. 8 00	P. M. 8 00	
Annapolis, Leave	7 15	3 25	
31 Wilnot, do	9 15	3 15	
59 Kentville, Arrive	11 15	5 05	
do, Leave	7 00	11 40	5 15
66 Wolfville, do	7 27	12 10	5 35
84 Windsor, Arrive	8 30	1 50	6 30

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