

The Messenger Almanac.

DECEMBER, 1881. Full Moon, December 5th, 1h. 9m. A. Last Quarter, " 13th, 3h. 51m. A. New Moon, " 21st, 0h. 53m. M. First Quarter, " 27th, 4h. 27m. A.

Table with columns: Day, SUN. Rises, Sets, MOON. Rises, Sets, High Tide. Rows for days of the month from 1st to 31st.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Position 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.

PATENTS

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LOUIS BAGGER & CO., Solicitors of Patents and Attorneys-at-Law, LeDroit Building, Washington, D. C. May 1.

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 Dismissal 50 cts. per quire. Psalms, in all varieties, from 85 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.



1879—Provincial Exhibition—1879

Fraser & Sons, 82 & 84 Barrington Street, Halifax, N. S. EXHIBITED SQUARE AND UPRIGHT

PIANOS, —And were Awarded— DIPLOMA AND HIGHEST PRIZE.

These Pianos were not got up for exhibition, but were our ordinary manufacture. We invite inspection of our instruments; all first class and warranted to give satisfaction. Piano-Fortes, Cabinet and Church Organs Tuned and repaired. Nov. 5.

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AGRICULTURE.

RENDERING THE SOIL SOLUBLE.—No portion of earthy matter can enter a plant and become appropriated by it that is not in a state of solution. It must be dissolved by water before the roots will take it up and cause it to be incorporated into the sap and carried into the different parts of the plant. Solid food does not constitute any portion of the diet of plants. They live entirely on gases and solid substances that have been dissolved by the agency of water, pure or impure. The object of working the soil, aside from killing the weeds it must contain, should be to improve its mechanical condition so that the roots of plants will have a better opportunity to extend in any direction or to render it more easily dissolved by water. The plough, harrow, cultivator, and roller all act to improve the mechanical condition of soils that are naturally firm and unyielding. The operations of freezing and thawing benefit soils in the same way. Hard clay soils must be beaten to pieces before they are capable of producing good crops of the common cultivated plants. This process is necessary in order to give the roots an opportunity to enter the ground.

FARMS AS AN INVESTMENT.—Capital invested in a farm and managed with skill, is more generally and more surely rewarded than any other investment a man can make. Capital may be sunk in farming, from want of skill, from want of industry, or other moral causes. But it is the rarest event in the history of industrial enterprises for a skillful and industrious farmer to fail in his business. Such men, as a rule, support their families in great comfort, educate their children well, and increase their substance. They manage their capital better than anybody can manage it for them. Capital in their hands is about as safe as it is in government bonds or savings banks and pays a better interest. To this conviction our moneyed men must come, if they have not already reached it. Even now a farmer of good business habits can hire money as cheaply upon land and mortgage as a merchant or manufacturer. He ought to get it cheaper, because there is far less risk in his business, and much less loss of time. For the farmer there need be no idle days in the whole circle of the year. There is always a market for his products at prices that will pay something for his labour.

SHEEP fatten most rapidly at two or three years of age. By feeding rich fodder, one-year-old sheep will increase in weight more rapidly than when older, for the period of growth is not passed. And while they will fatten at this age the flesh is not esteemed as when older, as it is more watery. Lambs taken very young and fed high are fattened and made palatable. But when fattened for profit as well as for palatable flesh, sheep, as well as other animals, should be matured in growth first. It is also true that after animals have become too old, neither profitable fattening nor the most palatable flesh can be secured, even with the best of food. Whether for economy in feeding or choice meat, the best is attainable when the animal is well matured, neither before nor much after that period.

HYACINTHS IN GLASSES.—Fill the glasses with pure water as far as to touch the bulb, which must be renewed as soon as the roots begin to look woolly, which happens sometimes after a fortnight or three weeks. A little wood charcoal is very effectual in preventing the water from becoming foetid. Put the glasses in a cool place until they have made sufficiently long roots, after which they will bear from 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Give them always as much fresh air as possible to keep them dwarf, as much light and sun as possible to get the colours in full perfection, and by pouring every day some rain-water on the tops before they are in bloom (a soft shower would do them much good) makes the bulbs open large, and the flower robust. Place the glasses always on wood, as stone, brick, or iron makes the water too cool for the growth of the roots. They seldom do well in a close room or on the chimney piece near or above the fire, and frost or wind does them much harm.

A boot and a shoe shop hangs out the sign, "Cast iron lasts." We all know it does, but we don't want our boots made of it, for all that.

THE HOUSE.

POOR MAN'S SOUP.—Put one ounce of butter into a saucepan with three large onions shred fine and fry them a pale brown colour; add half a teaspoonful of flour, stir for a few minutes but do not allow the mixture to dark-n; then add one quart of common stock previously flavoured with carrots, turnips, celery, leeks, and parsley boiled in it; stir until the soup boils, season it to taste with pepper and salt. Peel one or two potatoes, cut them into small dice and put them to boil with the soup. Cut some crusts of bread in long pieces, dry them in the oven, and at the time of serving throw them into the soup; then stir into it off the fire the yolks of two eggs beaten up with a little milk and strained.

Good flour is white, with a yellowish tint. Squeezed in the hand, it will retain the shape given by the pressure. A little thrown against a vertical surface will adhere or fall in a mass.

When sponges get greasy and dirty put them in a jar and cover them with milk; let them stand for twelve hours, and wash them well in cold water.

Apple-butter is made by boiling sliced apples, first pared and cored, in sweet cider. The cider is boiled down to about one-half its bulk before the apples are stewed in it. The butter is packed in kegs, jars, or bottles, and will keep a long time. A large quantity is made for use on seagoing vessels. Any kind of flavoring spice may be used, but no sugar is required.

In killing poultry, the French open the beak of the fowl, and with a sharp pointed, narrow-bladed knife, make an incision at the back of the roof of the mouth, which divides the vertebrae and causes instant death, after which the fowl is hung up by the legs to bleed. This is a neat and merciful way of doing it.

A teaspoonful of powdered borax, dissolved in a quart of tepid water, is good for cleansing old black dresses of silk, cashmere, or alpaca.

RECIPE FOR CURING MEAT.—To one gallon of water take 1 1/2 lbs. of salt, 1/2 lb. sugar, 1/2 oz. saltpetre, 1/2 oz. potash. Omit the potash unless you can get the pure article. Druggists usually keep it. In this ratio the pickle can be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when cool pour it over your beef or pork. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and should not be put down for at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface blood, etc., leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some omit boiling the pickle, and find it to answer very well, though the operation of boiling purifies the pickle by throwing off the dirt always to be found in salt and sugar. If this receipt is strictly followed it will require only a single trial to prove its superiority over the common way, or most ways, of putting down meat, and will not soon be abandoned for any other. The meat is unsurpassed for sweetness, delicacy, and freshness of colour.

CHOCOLATE CARAMELS.—It is a simple matter to make these. All that is needed is one cup of sweet milk, one cup of molasses, half a cup of sugar, half a cup of grated chocolate, a piece of butter the size of a walnut; stir constantly and let it boil until it is thick; then turn it out on buttered plates; when it begins to stiffen mark it in squares, so that it will break readily when cold.

A DELICIOUS PUDDING.—To make a delicious pudding follow this rule, do not tell the family of what the pudding is made until it is eaten:—One cup of molasses, one cup of suet chopped fine, one cup of raw grated potato, one cup of raw grated carrot, one cup of fruit, either raisins or English currants, a little salt and a pinch of soda. Steam for three hours; eat with sauce. The grated potato makes the pudding light, and the carrots help to give it a rich brown colour.

A recipe for making lemon pie vaguely adds:—"Then sit on a stove and stir constantly." Just as if any one could sit on a stove without stirring constantly.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

TRAINS leave Halifax daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:— (Halifax time.) At 8.30 a. m.—Express for St. John, Pictou. At 1.15 p. m.—Accommodation for Pictou. At 5.30 p. m.—Accommodation for Truro. At 3.00 p. m.—Express for Quebec. WILL ARRIVE:— At 9.15 a. m.—Accommodation from Truro. At 12.15 a. m.—Express from Quebec and from St. John. At 2.50 p. m.—Accommodation from Pictou. At 8.30 p. m.—Express from St. John. Nov. 24, 1880.

Windsor and Annapolis Railway.

Winter Arrangement—Commencing Monday, Nov. 21st, 1881. The following is according to Railway Time. Halifax time is 15 minutes later.

Table for GOING WEST. Columns: Miles, Express Mon. Wed. and Sat. only, Passengers & Freight Daily, Pass. & Frgt. Daily. Rows: Halifax, Windsor, Wolfville, Kentville, Berwick, Middleton, Annapolis, St. John.

Table for GOING EAST. Columns: Miles, Pass. and Freight Daily, Pass. and Freight Daily, Express Mon. Wed. and Sat. only. Rows: St. John, Annapolis, Middleton, Berwick, Kentville, Wolfville, Windsor, Halifax.

Steamer "Scud" leaves St. John at 8 a. m. every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday for Digby and Annapolis, and returns same day, on arrival of Express Train from Halifax.

HALIFAX AND CAPE BRETON RAILWAY.

EXPRESS leaves New Glasgow at 2.15 connecting with Halifax Morning Express, arriving at the Strait of Canso at 6.35 P. M.

EXPRESS leaves the Strait of Canso at 8.00 A. M., arriving at New Glasgow at 12.25 P. M., connecting trains for Halifax and St. John.

Western Counties Railway.

Train leaves Yarmouth daily at 7.45 a. m., and arrives at Digby at 11.45 a. m. Leaves Digby on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 1.00 p. m. Arrives at Yarmouth at 5.00 p. m. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 3.30 p. m. Arrives at Yarmouth at 7.30 p. m.

SAVE THE NATION!

For it is sadly too true that thousands of children are STARVED TO DEATH every year by improper or insufficient food. Remember, RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS.

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Is all and a great deal more than we have claimed for it. It is simply a HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS and easily assimilated FOOD, grateful to the most delicate and irritable stomach, and especially adapted for the INFANT and GROWING CHILD.

Invalids, Nursing Mothers, and those suffering from INDIGESTION will find on trial that RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS, is all they can desire. It is carefully put up in four sizes.

Constant users will find our No. 4 size (always the most economical size to buy) now much larger than formerly, thus materially lessening the expense. WOOLRICH, Dispensing and Family Chemist, Upper Water St., Depot for Ridge's Food, Pick-me-up Bitters, &c., with a well-assorted stock of Pure Drugs. April 17.

Nova Scotia Book Bindery, G. & T. PHILLIPS.

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will change the beard to a BROWN or BLACK at discretion. Being in one preparation it is easily applied, and produces a permanent color that will not wash off.

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