

The Messenger Almanac.

Table with columns for Moon phases (Full Moon, Last Quarter, New Moon, First Quarter) and a table of moon phases for the month of October 1881, including rise and set times.

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.

PATENTS

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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 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. 60 & 71 Granville St., Halifax, April 15.

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"CUSTOM TAILORING." H. G. Laurillard, 119 HOLLIS STREET, HALIFAX, N. S. Agency for New York Fashions.

"Photography."

PARTIES living in the country who intend visiting Halifax on business or pleasure, should visit the Studio of the HALIFAX PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY, corner of BARRINGTON & PRINCE STREETS. If time is limited, a sitting can be secured by Postal Card in advance, so that no time will be lost. Photographs taken at this establishment mailed to any address free of charge. Feb. 2.

AGRICULTURE.

A NOVEL STRAWBERRY BED.—A strawberry patch that requires only a few feet of space, and yet will yield a plentiful supply of that luscious fruit, is thus described in one of our exchanges:

Bore fifty holes in a barrel with an inch auger, and sink the bottom of the barrel an inch or two in the ground. Fill the barrel with rich loam to the level of the first row of holes; then insert the strawberry plants, taking care the roots are well secured. The row completed, fill up the barrel to the second row of holes, and set out another row of plants, and so on till the barrel is full. For watering and fertilizing, set into the top of the barrel an old tin can with a perforated bottom, filling the can with proper fertilizers. The barrel of plants can be kept irrigated by water enriched by passage through the can; or good results can be obtained by irrigating with soapy wash water without fertilizers. Fifty well-nourished plants will furnish a family with many messes of berries; and three or four barrels covered with plants would be equal to a good sized strawberry bed. The plants should be set out in the fall, and might be covered for protection during the winter.

This simple contrivance is said to have been tried with complete success. By boring a number of holes around the middle of the barrel—one of them large enough to admit the nose of a watering-pot—and filling the barrel half full of stones, and then to the top with good, rich, fine earth, it is alleged that cucumbers, melons, tomatoes, &c., may be grown in perfection. The barrels must be kept filled with water up to the holes. Cucumbers and tomatoes may hang over the sides, cutting them off when they reach the bottom. Melons may be tied to the wall or fence.

KEEPING THE BEST HEIFERS.—

Those farmers who have saved the heifer calf from the best milkers only, have been wise, and cannot fail to have a choice dairy herd if they are well cared for during the next two years. And let us make the further important point, that selecting a pure bred male from an especially good milking strain, and then selecting the heifer calves from the best milkers, and following up this mode of breeding for even ten years with males from the same strain of blood, the blood of the progeny becomes unified and intensified to a thoroughbred. The dairyman may place a strong reliance upon the milking qualities of the future progeny. He has thus molded a breed to suit his own wants. When dairymen shall proceed on this systematic plan of growing their own dairy herds, we shall hear much less of the unprofitableness of the dairy. Of course, great care must be taken to study the wants of these young animals as to food and shelter. Good food and care are necessary to show the capacity of any strain of blood. The best blood will soon deteriorate under unskillful feeding. The heifer calves from the best milkers should be generously fed from the beginning with such food as will grow the frame and muscles, consequently nitrogenous food is important. Skim milk, oil meal, wheat, bran, oats, barley, and clover are all good. They must always be fed with more nitrogenous food.

CULTIVATION OF ORCHARDS.—

The ground among orchard trees may be advantageously cropped with potatoes rutabagas, or sugar beets. The cultivation and manure required for these roots keep the soil in good condition, and will assist also in defraying the expenses of the orchard. Grain crops on the other hand, ought never to be planted among trees, because they deprive them of air to an injurious degree. When root crops are not cultivated the ground should be kept clean and mellow with a one-horse plow and cultivator, and about every third year, or when their growth indicates the need of it, the trees dressed with well decomposed manure or compost spread on the surface of the ground over the roots, and worked in with a fork. This dressing is best done in the fall. Dwarf trees require more frequent manuring than do standards. When manure or a good compost is not to be had, sow field peas and plow them under when they are in blossom. At the South, if the ground is not cropped, a mulch of straw, hay, or other litter, during the great heat of summer, will prove beneficial.

SCIENCE.

RAW OYSTERS AS DIET.—Dr. William Roberts, in his lecture on the digestive ferments, gives this passage: "The oyster is almost the only animal substance which we eat habitually, and by preference, in the raw or uncooked state; and it is interesting to know that there is a sound physiological reason at the bottom of this preference. The tawny-colored mass which constitutes the dainty portion of the oyster is its liver, and this is little less than a heap of glycogen. Associated with the glycogen, but withheld from actual contact with it during life, is its appropriate digestive ferment—the hepatic diastase. The mere crushing of the dainty between the teeth brings two bodies together, and the glycogen is at once digested without other help by its own diastase. The oyster in the uncooked state, or merely warmed, is, in fact, self-digestive. But the advantage of this provision is wholly lost by cooking, for the heat employed immediately destroys the associated ferment; and a cooked oyster has to be digested, like any other food, by the eater's own digestive powers."

DON'T WHIP A FRIGHTENED HORSE.

It seems to be a characteristic failing of most coachmen to lay the lash upon the horse that exhibits fear at any object in the street or beside the road. Mr. Bergh, President of the N. Y. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, says in the organ of that Society, what every reasoning being ought to know, and that is never to whip your horse for becoming frightened at any object by the road side, for if he sees a stump, a log, or a heap of tan-bark in the road, and while he is eying it carefully, and about to pass it, you strike him with the whip, it is the log, or stump, or the tan-bark that is hurting him in his way of reasoning, and the next time he will be more frightened. Give him time to smell all of these objects, and use the bridle to assist you in bringing him carefully to those objects of fear.—Scientific American.

VARIETIES.

There is nothing like dealing with a discreet marketman after all "My ownest own," said Mr. Nippree to his wife the other day as he returned from an alleged trout fishing excursion of three days. "Did you receive those splendid fish I sent you from Lake Chabot the other day?" Mrs. N. transfixed the base deceiver with a look that made him feel as though an ice water Bridal Veil Fall was running down his spine, and replied:—"I received some fish I believe; but the market man also left word that he had gotten your telegram, but, as he hadn't enough fresh water trout, he sent you some first-rate codfish instead." "D-d-id, eh?" stammered the wretched Benedict. "Yes, he did. And now, sir, perhaps you'll be good enough to explain—" But we draw a veil over the horrid picture.

"Twinkle, twinkle, little star,"

the nursery rhyme so familiar to everybody, has been revised by a committee of eminent scholars, with the following result: Shine with irregular intermitted light, sparkle at intervals, diminutive luminous heavenly body. How I conjecture with surprise, not unmingled with uncertainty what you are. Located apparently, at such a remote distance from, and at a height, so vastly superior to, this earth, the planet we inhabit. Similar in general appearance and refractory powers to the precious primitive octahedron crystal of pure carbon, set in the aerial region surrounding the earth.

THE BANGING MANIA.

- O see the young girl. In beauty rare, Sans kink, sans curl— Banging her hair. And hear the young man At the piano there, Hard as he can— Banging his air! A young mother stands Oppressed with care, With slipper in hands, Banging her hair. Teacher, who takes great interest in her industrial school: "Jane Brown, I'm sorry to hear from your mistress that you are not diligent at your needle-work. Now, do you know who it is that finds work for idle hands to do?" Jane Brown artfully thinking to propitiate; "If you please, 'm, you do, 'm.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.

TRAINS leave Halifax daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:— (Halifax time.) At 8.25 a. m.—Express for St. John, Pictou, Quebec. At 12.15 p. m.—Accommodation for Pictou. At 5.00 p. m.—Accommodation for Truro. At 6.15 p. m.—Express for St. John and Quebec. WILL ARRIVE:— At 9.15 a. m.—Accommodation from Truro. At 10.15 a. m.—Express from Quebec and from St. John. At 2.50 p. m.—Accommodation from Pictou. At 7.45 p. m.—Express from St. John. Nov. 24, 1880.

Windsor and Annapolis Railway.

Summer Arrangement—Commencing Monday, April 4th, 1881.

The following is according to Railway Time. Halifax times is 15 minutes later.

Table for GOING WEST with columns for Miles, Express Daily, Passengers & Freight, and Pass. & Frgt. Daily. Includes routes to Windsor, Wolfville, Kentville, Berwick, Middleton, and Annapolis.

GOING EAST.

Table for GOING EAST with columns for Miles, Pass. and Freight, and Express Daily. Includes routes from St. John, Annapolis, Middleton, Berwick, Kentville, and Wolfville to Halifax.

Steamer "Empress" leaves St. John at 8 a. m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for Digby and Annapolis, and leaves Annapolis, on arrival of Express Train from Halifax, 1.40 p. m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, for Digby and St. John.

HALIFAX and CAPE BRETON RAILWAY.

EXPRESS leaves New Glasgow at 1.00 P. M., after arrival of I. C. R. Train leaving Halifax at 8.10 A. M., arriving at the Strait of Canso at 5.00 P. M. EXPRESS leaves the Strait of Canso at 9.50 A. M., arriving at New Glasgow at 2 P. M., connecting with I. C. R., leaving Pictou at 2 P. M., for Halifax.

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.

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