

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 18, 1874.

ALMANAC FOR MARCH

Full Moon, March 3, 1h. 7m. morning.		Last Quarter, " 11th, 5h. 19m. morning.		New Moon, " 18th, 0h. 45m. morning.		First Quarter, " 24th, 6h. 17m. morning.	
Day	SUN.	MOON.	High Tide	Day	SUN.	MOON.	High Tide
1	SU.	6 41.5 44	4 30 11 34	6 15	6 46		
2	M.	6 40 5 45	5 33 10 38	6 38	7 32		
3	Tu.	6 38 5 46	6 34 10 16	6 59	8 9		
4	W.	6 36 5 48	7 39 9 56	7 18	8 41		
5	Th.	6 34 5 49	8 38 9 37	7 37	9 9		
6	F.	6 32 5 50	9 40 9 18	7 52	9 38		
7	Sa.	6 31 5 52	10 44 8 50	8 10	10 7		
8	SU.	6 29 5 53	11 50 8 23	8 30	10 35		
9	M.	6 27 5 54	12 54 7 56	8 46	11 1		
10	Tu.	6 25 5 56	1 56 7 28	9 05	11 32		
11	W.	6 23 5 57	2 57 6 40	9 24	12 1		
12	Th.	6 22 5 58	3 57 6 10	9 43	12 10		
13	Fr.	6 20 5 59	4 58 5 41	10 0	12 19		
14	Sa.	6 18 6 1	5 58 5 11	10 17	1 9		
15	SU.	6 16 6 2	6 59 4 42	10 34	1 18		
16	M.	6 14 6 3	7 59 4 13	10 51	2 7		
17	Tu.	6 12 6 4	8 59 3 44	11 8	2 16		
18	W.	6 10 6 5	9 59 3 15	11 25	3 5		
19	Th.	6 9 6 7	10 59 2 46	11 42	3 14		
20	F.	6 7 6 8	11 59 2 17	11 59	3 23		
21	Sa.	6 5 6 10	12 59 1 48	12 16	3 32		
22	SU.	6 3 6 11	1 59 1 19	12 33	3 41		
23	M.	6 1 6 12	2 59 1 0	12 50	3 50		
24	Tu.	5 59 6 13	3 59 12 59	1 0	4 0		
25	W.	5 57 6 14	4 59 12 30	1 17	4 9		
26	Th.	5 55 6 15	5 59 12 1	1 34	4 18		
27	F.	5 53 6 16	6 59 11 42	1 51	4 27		
28	Sa.	5 51 6 17	7 59 11 13	2 8	4 36		
29	SU.	5 49 6 18	8 59 10 44	2 25	4 45		
30	M.	5 47 6 19	9 59 10 15	2 42	4 54		
31	Tu.	5 45 6 20	10 59 9 46	2 59	5 3		

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. 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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GEORGE S. YATES.

Halifax, N. S., April 24, 1871.

Agricultural.

The N. S. Journal of Agriculture for March, contains a number of interesting matters which deserve a wider circulation, than they obtain in that well conducted little monthly, and we have thought well to make a summary for our Agricultural readers.

A LIST OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

in the several counties of the province, shews that there are in—

ANNOPOLEIS, 5 societies with 300 members.	
Antigonish, 3	" 144 "
Cape Breton, 3	" 154 "
Colchester, 6	" 415 "
Cumberland, 6	" 342 "
Digby, 3	" 193 "
Guysboro, 3	" 131 "
Hants, 5	" 271 "
Halifax, 3	" 211 "
Imperial, 2	" 107 "
Kings, 4	" 270 "
Lunenburg, 1	" 64 "
Pictou, 5	" 317 "
Queens, 2	" 129 "
Richmond, 1	" 42 "
Shelburne, 3	" 145 "
Victoria, 2	" 138 "
Yarmouth, 2	" 209 "

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Their contributions amount to \$3941; and the amount of the Legislative Grant for 1873, to these societies, was \$5699.

PLOUGHS.

In a letter from Truro J. L. discussed improvements in ploughs. With reference to the ploughing-match at Truro last fall, the writer says: It is gratifying to know that the lessons of that day, unimportant as they may appear, have already borne fruit, and are going to have a very decided bearing on the future husbandry, not only of Colchester, but of Nova Scotia. I look upon the Onslow ploughing match as one of those trials of circumstances that are always influencing the events of the world. By such a circumstance Mr. Jonas Webb's attention was called to the room for improvement in the breed of Southdowns during the present generation. His grandfather was a breeder of Norfolk rams, and it was the amusement of the old gentlemen at his annual sales to set his grandsons to ride on his tups, holding fast by their huge horns. It was during the races on these sharp-backed animals that Jonas determined, as soon as he was a man, to breed sheep with "better saddles of mutton." And who will say that it was not the great variety of home-made wooden ploughs at the ploughing match that suggested to a leading agriculturist the idea of asking the Onslow Society at its annual meeting to import this Spring, for sale to its members, a few of the best iron ploughs made in Great Britain—an idea I would like every society in the Province to entertain, and which, had the Onslow Society ignored, it would in my opinion have taken a retrograde step in the cause it so energetically endeavors to promote.

The same writer quotes from an essay on "the progress of English Agriculture."

"But perhaps nothing illustrates better the change which has come over farming in the last few years than what has taken place with respect to so ancient and familiar an article of husbandry as the plough. Although an implement more than two thousand years old, it is only within the last thirty-two years that it has been reduced to an uniform shape and material. In engravings, to the eye of the casual observer there is now no difference between the ploughs manufactured for the same purpose by every one of the eminent makers; and, in fact, in general construction, they are alike, except where the 'twinwrests of Kent and Sussex' are used, although some have a marked superiority in the details and in durability. They are fashioned entirely of iron and steel of long graceful wave-like form, provided with a pair of wheels of unequal size, and drawn by a chain attached to the body of the plough. Iron screws and levers have replaced wooden wedges. A few seconds are sufficient to attach the share or adjust the coulter. It was quite otherwise in 1840."

He concludes as follows:—

"The improvement is as great as the change from the old musket to the Minie rifle. Skillful manufacturers, each eager to command the market, study with all the aids of mechanical knowledge and a wide experience, to secure excellence of design, durability of make and economy of price, while the farmer in his turn has learnt that science is a better constructor than ignorance, and no longer prefers the clumsy efforts of a village artisan. The marvel is in the rapidity with which these changes have been effected, as if some magician of agriculture had waved his wand over our favored island."

CHEMISTRY AND AGRICULTURE.

The Journal also gives a portion of a paper on "Agriculture allied to Chemistry" by Prof. A. P. Reid, M. D. In it are some excellent suggestions for intelligent thoughtful farmers. The following are the closing paragraphs:—

"There is an old and very erroneous saying that 'any kind of a man, is good enough to make a farmer of,' but even limited experience will convince that there is no human calling that can give as good and continuous return for the capital and intelligence invested as the farm. I could not say to Nova Scotian farmers buy a book and immediately set to work on what is wrongly styled scientific farming, for failure would be the probability. But rather study up the best authorities on agriculture and set apart five, or even one or two, acres upon which to experiment with all varieties of crop and manure, tho' would hold out prospect of success. Thus there would be no fear of incurring any serious loss or disappointment. It takes energy and patience with study both of chemistry and agriculture to make a good experimenter on a plot of one acre, and this method alone when thoroughly and repeatedly worked out can give success, on the more extended area of the farm.

Young men desiring to enter on an agricultural career would need to devote as much time to education if success is to be assured, as would be needed if they intended adopting the professions so called. For it is an extensive and complicated subject and can give scope to the most accomplished intellect in studying its mysteries.

Chemistry does and will do much for agriculture; it explains the changes taking place in and products resulting from vegetation; it gives, in competent hands, the composition of the active constituents of the soil, and suggests the more appropriate additions thereto, or in other words directs EXPERIMENT, the crucial and TRUST-WORTHY TEST.

When the demand becomes sufficiently extensive for commercial success it will produce the necessary plant food in soluble form from apatite rock, phosphates from the so called marl deposits existing in the province, from the bones and animal substances that now go to waste, from ammoniacal gas, liquor sewage, sea weed, and such like, that are mines of wealth to the farmer as well as manufacturer, when the occasion calls forth some of the resources of Chemistry.

Once a week, go over all your house and outhouses, and see what wants attention to keep all in perfect order. You will find something every time, and attend to it promptly.—Country Gentleman.

Scientific.

FOG DISPELLER WANTED.—The City of New York has, on three or four occasions this winter, been enveloped in fogs, occasioning inconvenience to passengers by trains and ferry boats. A suffering correspondent of the New York Herald calls out lustily for the invention of some contrivance for the artificial removal of the difficulty. He says:—

"Cannot men devise some way of dispelling these fogs, at least in a measure? Man's necessity and ingenuity have reduced almost every known force of Nature to subserve his ends, and can it be that men of science cannot lift the winding sheet from the public convenience on such a morning as this? Can you say if heavy concussions have ever been tried as a means of dispelling fogs? As heavy artillery practice is invariably followed by rain, the theory of which is, I believe, that the concussions serve to discharge the electricity which holds the particles of water apart in the atmosphere, would not the same cause produce the same effect on fogs, and give them an honorable discharge on the earth in the shape of rains?"

LARD.—A correspondent of the American Agriculturist, says that lard may be kept perfectly sweet and free from any rancid odour, for any length of time, by putting into each kettle while rendering a handful of red slippery elm bark. Treated thus, it has a sweet and not unpleasant smell in the hottest weather, even when kept in a cellar. This is a very old plan, the knowledge of which if we mistake not, was derived from the Indians, who kept their deer fat in this way. We have never tried it, but have been assured of its utility by others. Only the inside bark is used.

Dr. Horace Dobell writes to an English exchange: "I have observed that a peculiar and rather common deformity of the chest is caused by the habit of sucking the thumb in infancy and early childhood. The weight of the arm on the thorax of the child during sleep produces depression of the ribs in the line occupied by the arm when the thumb is placed in the mouth. As this is a very important effect of 'thumb-sucking,' never hitherto pointed out, I think it desirable to place this note on record for the benefit of other observers."

A NEW MALADY.—An editor says: "We have lately heard of the diagnosis of a new disease discovered by our associate editor, Dr. S., not long since. A lady of remarkable conversational powers approached our medical friend with—'Dr. S., I have a very sore tongue.' 'Let me look at it,' says the doctor. The unruly member was duly protruded. 'It is sunburnt madam sunburnt,' remarked the doctor, who suddenly recollected that his professional services were wanted in another direction.

"How fast they build houses now!" said H.; "they began that building last week, and now they are putting in the lights." "Yes," answered his friend, "and next week they will put in the liver."

In a Nashua court recently, a juror asked to be excused because he was deaf, although there were reasons for supposing that his hearing was not affected. "He is excused," said the judge, "for if he is deaf we don't want him and if he is a liar we don't want him either."

A boy defines salt as "the stuff that makes potatoes taste bad when you don't put on any."

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