

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

TERMS:—FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

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NEW SERIES.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1887.

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ALMANAC FOR MARCH, 1887.

MOON'S CHANGES.

First Quarter 2nd day, 9h. 55.3m., p. m.,
W. S. W.
Full Moon 9th day, 4h., 21.4m., p. m., N. E.
(below horizon.)
Last Quarter 16th day, 9h., 29.6m., a. m., W.
New Moon 24th day, 11h. 57.2m., a. m., S.

| DAY OF WEEK | Sun rises | Sun sets | Moon rises | High water | Day's len th |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Tuesday | 6 43 5 | 41 9 52 | 2 9 10 | 58 | 11 4 |
| 2 Wednesday | 42 | 43 10 29 | 2 54 | 11 1 | 11 4 |
| 3 Thursday | 40 | 44 11 13 | 3 44 | 4 | 11 4 |
| 4 Friday | 38 | 44 11 25 | 4 34 | 8 | 11 4 |
| 5 Saturday | 36 | 47 1 2 | 5 24 | 11 | 11 4 |
| 6 Sunday | 34 | 48 2 9 | 6 14 | 18 | 11 4 |
| 7 Monday | 32 | 50 3 26 | 7 4 | 18 | 11 4 |
| 8 Tuesday | 30 | 51 4 41 | 8 22 | 21 | 11 4 |
| 9 Wednesday | 29 | 52 6 0 | 10 28 | 24 | 11 4 |
| 10 Thursday | 27 | 54 7 18 | 11 9 | 27 | 11 4 |
| 11 Friday | 25 | 56 8 35 | 11 50 | 31 | 11 4 |
| 12 Saturday | 23 | 57 9 50 | 12 31 | 35 | 11 4 |
| 13 Sunday | 21 | 59 11 1 | 1 13 | 38 | 11 4 |
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| 15 Tuesday | 17 1 | 10 2 51 | 44 | 44 | 11 4 |
| 16 Wednesday | 15 2 | 1 11 3 56 | 47 | 47 | 11 4 |
| 17 Thursday | 13 3 | 2 7 5 13 | 50 | 50 | 11 4 |
| 18 Friday | 11 3 | 2 54 6 33 | 54 | 54 | 11 4 |
| 19 Saturday | 9 9 | 3 38 7 40 | 57 | 57 | 11 4 |
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| 21 Monday | 9 5 | 4 48 9 13 | 3 | 3 | 11 4 |
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| 24 Thursday | 5 58 | 12 6 8 10 54 | 14 | 14 | 11 4 |
| 25 Friday | 56 | 13 6 32 11 24 | 17 | 17 | 11 4 |
| 26 Saturday | 54 | 14 6 58 11 57 | 20 | 20 | 11 4 |
| 27 Sunday | 52 | 15 7 22 morn | 23 | 23 | 11 4 |
| 28 Monday | 50 | 16 7 54 0 27 | 26 | 26 | 11 4 |
| 29 Tuesday | 49 | 18 8 28 1 3 | 29 | 29 | 11 4 |
| 30 Wednesday | 48 | 21 9 6 1 48 | 33 | 33 | 11 4 |
| 31 Thursday | 5 46 6 22 | 9 54 2 26 | 12 36 | 36 | 11 4 |



BOSTON.

SPRING ARRANGEMENT.

THE PALACE STEAMERS

OF THE
INTERNATIONAL S.S. CO.

Leave St. John for Boston, via Eastport and Portland, every Tuesday, and Thursday at 8.50 a. m. Fare from Charlottetown to Boston, \$6.50, 2nd class; \$1.50, 1st class.

For tickets and other information apply to
A. SHARP, P. E. I. S.S. Co.,
P. E. I. S.S. Co.,
or to your nearest Ticket Agent.

Feb. 12, 1887—eod wky



Dec. 8, 1886.

CARD.

THE EXAMINER PUBLISHING COMPANY, having lately added to their stock of type and material for Job Printing, are better than ever prepared to execute orders for Bill Heads, Letter Heads, Handbills of all kinds, Visiting or Business Cards, &c., promptly and cheaply, in the best style of the art.

None but first-class workmen are employed in their office; and, as they import their printing papers direct from the manufacturers, they are able to fill all orders on the most favorable terms. The continued patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.

W. L. COTTON,
Manager.

Ch'town, Nov. 16, 1886.

CARD.

MRS. E. RUTH wishes to announce to the ladies of Charlottetown that she is prepared to do MANTLE AND DRESSMAKING in the newest fashions, having had many years' practical experience in the United States, patrons can feel assured of getting every satisfaction.

Residence, Richmond Street, near Hillsborough Square,
Nov. 22—6ms eod & wky

L. ARTHUR & CO.,

GENERAL
Commission Merchants,
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Eggs and Produce a Specialty.
July 16—dly wky

BRITISH WAREHOUSE

83
QUEEN STREET.

EXTENSIVE CASH SALE!

I have decided to close out the whole of my stock of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, commencing December 15th, 1886, and continuing until the whole is disposed of, at LARGE DISCOUNTS FOR CASH.

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COKE PLATES.

3,000 BOXES,
BEST BRANDS GUARANTEED,
TOGETHER WITH ALL OTHER

Lobster Packers' Supplies and Tools

AT SPECIAL LOW PRICES.

P. WALSH,

HALIFAX, N. S.

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Chairs, Tables, Bedsteads, &c.,

PICTURE FRAMES,

and Picture Frame Moulding—late Styles and Finest Quality—Cheap.

Looking Glasses and Mirrors, very low. All kinds of Window Furniture, such as Choua Green Blinds and Shades, Cornices, Poles, Rings, Holders, Bands, Chains, Hooks, Blind Rollers, &c.

JOHN NEWSON'S,

QUEEN SQUARE, OPPOSITE NEW POST OFFICE.
Ch'town, March 9, 1887.

CHARLOTTETOWN BOOT AND SHOE FACTORY.

SPRING, - - 1887 - - SPRING.

WE must thank our friends and the public generally for their ever increasing patronage since we have commenced business.

Our Boot & Shoe Factory, in starting, had many difficulties to overcome, and we are glad that to-day those difficulties have been surmounted, and we are now well able to compete with the best Boot and Shoe Factories abroad.

Some of the advantages purchasers have in buying from us, saving of freight, ordering goods when you want them (not six months before), getting them without delay—which saves carrying a large stock which deteriorates on the shelves.

Our leathers are bought directly from the tanneries, thereby saving commissions which many factories have to pay.

We are more determined than ever to give the
BEST OF SATISFACTION
and to merit the whole of the Island's patronage.

We hope to see many new industries arise, thereby increasing the prosperity of this "Gem of the Sea."

DORSEY, GOFF & CO.

Ch'town, March 15, 1887.—eod & wky

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

TO APPEAR THIS YEAR—DIRE EVENTS PREDICTED BY ASTROLOGERS—TEACHINGS OF SCIENCE AS TO TEMPORARY STARS, ETC.

There has appeared from time to time within the past few years, notices of the expected reappearance this year of the "Star of Bethlehem" in the constellation Cassiopeia, with dark surmises as to the ominous results to the world and to humanity which its coming is to foreshadow. As an instance of the kind of speculation in which some minds delight, the following may be quoted:

"In 1587, the 'Star of Bethlehem' will be once more seen in 'Cassiopeia's chair,' and it will be accompanied by a total eclipse of the sun and moon. This star only makes its appearance every 315 years. It will appear in brilliancy even Jupiter when in opposition to the sun, and, therefore, nearer to the earth and brightest. The marvellous brilliancy of the 'Star of Bethlehem' in 1887 will surpass any of the previous visitations. It will be seen even at noonday, shinning with a quick, flashing light the entire year, after which it will gradually decrease in brightness, and finally disappear, not to return to our heavens till the year 2202, or 315 years from 1887. This star first attracted the attention of modern astronomers in the year 1572. It was then called a new star. It was no new star, however, for this was the star that shone so brightly 4 B. C., and that was the star that illumined the heavens at the nativity of Christ. It has reappeared every 315 years since, and every educated astrologer is certain that it will appear in August, 1887. The appearance of the star, accompanied as it will be by solar and lunar eclipses, together with the baleful influence that follows the positions that Mars and Saturn will occupy, will cause an universal war and portentous floods and fearful shipwrecks. North America will be involved in civil strife, and a reign of terror will prevail in the Atlantic states, unless a Napoleon arises to quell it. There will be a war of classes—the rich will array themselves against the poor, and vice versa everywhere."

Whoever will cast his eye upward about 6 o'clock on a clear evening will perceive the constellation Cassiopeia, lying in the milky way, nearly overhead, a little to the north of the zenith. It is in this constellation, according to the prophet above quoted that the messenger of dread is to appear. There are five bright stars in it, forming, with one or two fainter ones, the figure of an inverted chair. The chair it is not difficult to discover, and no doubt those who are gifted with a powerful imagination can succeed in

SEEING THE LADY,
who is supposed to be seated in it. Cassiopeia, according to fable, was the wife of Cepheus, the King of Ethiopia. Having boasted herself fairer than Juno or the sea-nymphs, these ladies appealed to Neptune to revenge the insult they had received. Neptune thereupon sent a dreadful monster against Cassiopeia, and compelled her to chain her fair daughter, Andromeda, to a rock on the beach, and leave her to be devoured by the monster. The legs and feet of this unfortunate young lady can be seen protruding in the left of the diagram. As in all true romances, a champion was at hand. The gallant Perseus, who was returning after his conquest of the Gorgons, saw and became captivated with Andromeda, and, having obtained the promise of her hand from her father, Cepheus, overcame the monster by the magic of Medusa's head, which he carried in his hand.

"Chained to a rock she stood; young Perseus stayed
His rapid flight to woo the beautiful maid."

After ancient philo-sophy arose, flourished and declined, after the long sleep of the middle ages, came modern philosophy, rising Phoenix-like from the ashes of its predecessor. During the long period which marked the life of the one and the growth of the other, the thoughts of contemplative minds have been fixed upon the stary heaven, seeking to read in its broad page the fate of nations and of men, an inquiry which, in our own day, has been changed to a speculation as to the destiny of the globe which we inhabit, as well as the system of which we form a part. Rational research has succeeded metaphysical speculation and the "drunken prophecies, fables and dreams," which art on the one hand and credulity on the other called into play to account for celestial phenomena. The purification which Christianity has effected in morals, intelligent observation has effected in philosophy, and thus the twin graces of virtue and intelligence may stand as the highest adornments of modern humanity. Among those entitled to first rank in substituting the testimony of facts for vague and ignorant imaginings, stands Tycho Brahe, who was born at Knudstrup, Denmark, in 1546. Tycho first became interested in astronomy through the occurrence of an eclipse of the sun, which was total over a part of Europe, and which happened Aug. 21, 1560. His surprise at finding that such an event could be predicted led him to inquire into the methods and calculations employed for that purpose, and he devoted himself ever after to study and observation. Frederic, King of Denmark, who became his patron and friend, granted him the island of Hveen, in the Baltic sea, and assisted him in constructing an observatory furnished with

INSTRUMENTS SUPERIOR TO ANY
which had hitherto been employed. Here for 20 years he devoted himself industriously to research, accumulating a mass of valuable astronomical observations, which later, in the hands of Kepler, led to the discovery of the laws of planetary motion. Though unassisted by the telescope, which had not yet been invented, Tycho Brahe adorned the science of his times with a series of brilliant discoveries. On the night of the 11th of November, 1572, Tycho's attention was drawn to a brilliant and unknown star in the constellation Cassiopeia. The following is his own statement in regard to it:

"When I quitted Germany to return to the Danish coasts I stopped in the ancient cloister admirably situated, of Hurrewits, belonging

to my Uncle Stenon Bille, and I became accustomed there to remain in my chemical laboratory till the fall of night. One evening as I was surveying as usual, the celestial vault, the aspect of which is so familiar to me, I saw with indescribable astonishment near the zenith, in Cassiopeia, a radiant star of extraordinary size. Struck with surprise, I could scarcely believe my eyes. To convince myself that there was no illusion, and to gather the testimony of other persons, I had the workmen come out who were occupied in my laboratory, and I asked them, as well as all the passers by, if they saw like me the star which had just suddenly appeared. I learned later that in Germany some wagons and others of the common people had apprised the astronomers of a great apparition in the sky, which has furnished occasion to renew the raileries against learned men in the case of comets, whose coming had not been foreseen."

This is the great astronomer's account of the apparition. Tycho Brahe considered the advent of this star of importance enough to write a book specially on the subject. The star received the name of the Pilgrim, but it has also been called the Star of Bethlehem. This star outshone all stars in the sky, including Jupiter, which was then at its brightest. It continued to shine during the rest of the month with

A LUSTRE SO GREAT

as to be visible to some persons in the daytime. When first seen, the star shone with a brilliant white light, which in time assumed a yellowish hue; afterward it displayed a ruddy appearance like Mars or Aldebaran, and at last became leaden-colored, like Saturn. After November its lustre began to diminish, and it grew fainter and fainter, becoming invisible in March, 1574.

It is not to be supposed that so extraordinary a phenomenon would be let pass unnoticed by those who found their profit in interpreting the appearance of the sky to the ignorant and credulous. Astrologers doubtless drove a good trade on the strength of this celestial advertisement of their calling. Some of them declared that this appearance was identical with that at the birth of Christ, and confidently predicted that the last judgment was near, which must have been a very comforting assurance to the wicked. Nevertheless, the world has continued to wag on in spite of their predictions, down even to the present year of grace. Predictions, however, are easy, and we are not to suppose that those who are gifted to make them, especially as they are not apt to be gifted otherwise, should be deterred from their favorite pursuit by an occasional failure now and then. Accordingly, in the year 1588, the following was launched at unfortunate humanity:

"After 1590 years, dating from the conception of the Virgin, this 88th year will be strange and full of dread. It will bring with it sad destinies. If, in this terrible year, the perished world does not fall into dust, if the earth and seas are not annihilated, all the empires of the world will be overthrown, and affliction will oppress the human race. Happily, however, the year 1588 passed away without any of the unpleasant episodes which the lively imagination of the prophet had ascribed to it. Its failure then did not prevent the prediction from being revived for the following century, and again in 1788, when it was claimed that the prediction was found in the tomb of Regiomontanus. As the following year ushered in the memorable epoch of the French revolution, those who please may think that the foolish inventor of the prediction foresaw the coming of the tremendous upheaval which that great event occasioned.

The star of 1572 was not singular in history. Other stars have appeared suddenly in the sky, shone with more or less brilliancy, and faded again into the obscurity whence they sprung. To these have been given the name of new or

TEMPORARY STARS.

Notable instances occurred in 945 and 1264, occupying a position between Cepheus and Cassiopeia, similar to that of the star of 1572. The question then arises whether these events refer to different appearances of the same star which once in about 300 years makes a new approach to the earth. There are a number of stars in the heavens which are known to exhibit changes of brilliancy, going through a more or less regular cycle of changes in recurring periods. Such are called variable stars. If the star of 1572 is one of these, only having a longer period than the others which are known, the interval which has elapsed since its last appearance is sufficient to have enabled it to have completed its far circuit and to be again in that portion of its orbit where it makes its nearest approach to our system. Its reappearance, therefore, may be looked for at any time in that portion of the heavens which is indicated in the diagram.

It will be observed, by referring to the figure, that the constellation Cassiopeia, in which the star may be expected to appear, and the well-known constellation of the Dipper, occupy positions on opposite sides of the North star, and about equally removed from it. It will further be observed that a line drawn through the two stars in the body of the Dipper will pass very near the North star, and for this reason these stars have received the name of "the Pointers," because, by running the eye along the heavens in the direction of the line which passes through them, you can readily find the North star.

As has been mentioned, some stars appear unexpectedly, shine for a time with more or less brilliancy, and then totally disappear. These are temporary stars. Others make their appearance from apparent obscurity, and remain permanently in their new position. These are new stars. Others, again, which have had a recognized place in the firmament, fade out of sight, leaving no trace of their existence. These are lost stars.

Scarcely more than 30 years after the appearance of the star of 1572, a similar phenomenon occurred in the constellation Serpentarius. It was first seen by Kepler on the 17th of October, 1604, and surpassed in brilliancy the stars of the first magnitude, as well as Mars, Jupiter and Saturn,

which were all near it. On the 9th of November the star shone in the twilight, which rendered Jupiter invisible. It continued to fade during the following year, and became totally invisible in March, 1606.

Temporary stars are looked upon by astronomers as

VERY RARE PHENOMENA.

This rarity, however, is probably due to our inability to take note of what is taking place in the universe, rather than to an actual rarity of the phenomena themselves. Two instances have occurred in our own day, one in 1866 and one in 1876. On the 11th and 12th of May, 1866 a new star of the second magnitude was observed in Corona Borealis or the Northern Crown, the name given to a pretty semi-circle of bright stars from the resemblance of the figure they form to that of a wreath or crown. The discovery was made independently by at least five observers in Europe and America, among whom was Mr. S. C. Chandler, Jr., of this city, now of Harvard College observatory. This star, on the 12th of May, was of the second magnitude, and by the 21st it had diminished so as to be invisible to the naked eye. It fluctuated a little, brightening to a magnitude of 7³, and then fell to that of 9¹, at which it remains. It was found on examination that this star was previously recorded in the great catalogue of Argilander as of the ninth magnitude. These changes may not seem much to the ordinary reader, but he would think differently if they were to occur in our sun.

An interesting consideration in reference to this event is the absolute time of its occurrence. Light travels at the rate of nearly 200,000 miles a second. Yet, moving with this great velocity, it requires a time to reach us from the nearest stars, which must be measured by years, and from distant stars by thousands, perhaps millions of years. It has been estimated that the light of this star is upward of 600 years in its flight before it reaches the earth. The occurrence, then, which was visible in May, 1866, actually took place 200 years before the discovery of America. About 10 years after the last event, on the evening of the 24th of November, 1876, Schmidt, of Athens, discovered a star of the third magnitude in the constellation of the Swan. It very quickly began to diminish, and by the beginning of the following year was no longer visible to the naked eye. It afterward decreased to the 12th magnitude. The spectrum of this star seemed to indicate a chemical constitution similar to that of our sun. What is especially interesting in the case of this star, is that Leird Lindsay found, in September, 1877, evidence of its having become nebulous; that is to say, it had become degraded from its rank as a star and became a fog of flaming gas.

It is an interesting matter to inquire what should make these changes in these distant bodies that they should exhibit these changing and

CAPRICIOUS APPEARANCES.

When we reflect that our sun is a body like the stars which we see shining at night, only known to be quite small when compared with some of them, we cannot but feel that we have some interest to know the character and causes of these vicissitudes of star behaviour, lest some fine day our long-familiar friend should astonish us unpleasantly by antics of the same sort, at one time reducing his beams so as to be inopinion in a twilight, which, in our conceit and selfishness, we had completely considered as the proper due of the inhabitants of the outer planets of our system, and again pouring down on our devoted heads a blaze of light and heat which should send us gasping to the remotest corners of the deepest terrestrial cavern we should be so fortunate as to reach. If these changes of brilliancy in the stars are due to their approaching our system and receding from it, then must they move with a velocity which is frightful to contemplate. Still, as all celestial velocities which we know are frightful beyond the others, a degree of frightfulness beyond the others, one star, at least, in the firmament is believed to be moving with a velocity of not less than 200 miles a second, or more than ten times the speed of the earth in its orbit. This ought to be enough to satisfy the most progressive of progressionists; but this is as nothing compared to the velocity necessary to produce the changes of brilliancy which have been described, if due to a change of position of the star itself. Swift as is the velocity of light, nearly 200,000 miles a second—it has been computed that this would have to be multiplied many times to produce the velocity necessary to cause a star to vary as some of those have varied whose history has been narrated. This being the case, we can conceive, or rather we cannot conceive, of the star of 1572 pursuing toward us its tremendous career. We can hardly look forward, however, to its coming with any pleasant anticipation, but rather with the uneasy sense of possible consequences which always accompanies a danger of the extent of which is not known. Urged by this need but power which propels it, this body need but continue its approach to justify any apprehension which the imagination of the most timid might suggest. Happily, however, the resources of astronomy, in accounting for the changing brilliancy of stars, do not limit us to this only supposition. It has been suggested that the

CAUSE OF VARIABILITY

in stars is the periodical interposition of dark bodies, obscuring the whole or a part of their surface. In the present state of astronomical science it is impossible to state whether or not this can take place. It has also been suggested, knowing that our sun is subject to spot periods, or at pretty regular intervals exhibits an increase in the number of spots which make of it, to that extent, a star of variable brilliancy, that the stars which we see to vary are subject to like spot periods, only in a degree much greater than what our star displays. The most probable supposition in the case of temporary stars is that, for one cause or another, they are the stars of vast con-