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## WESLEYAN' ALMANAC.

OCTOBER 1878. First Quarter, 3 day, 2h, 46m, Morning. Full Moon, 11 day, 4h, 40m, Morning. Last Quarter, 19 day, 2h, 55m, Morning. New Moon, 25 day, 6h, 44m, Afternoon.

2	Day of Week.	SUN		MUON.			24
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Truro.

High water at Pictou and Jape Tormentine, 2 nrs 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 EATER, than at Halifax. At Charottetown, 2 hours 54 minutes LATER. At Westport, 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 substract the time of rising.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE NIGHT.—Substract the time of the sun's setting from 12 hours, and to the remainder add the time of rising next morning

## THE YOUNG FOLKS.

JOHN MILTON AND JOHN BUNYAN.

BY LUCY CECIL WHITE (MRS JOHN LILLIE).

(Concluded.)

Milton was at once recognized as a republican and Puritan, and he was made Foreign Secretary to the Council. Much of his time was now spent at Whitehall, where Dryden, the poet, then a young man, Waller, and many gifted men used to come together, and we are told they sometimes indulged in a little organ music, the only amuse room hung in old green drapery; his ment the protector encouraged. Life organ and bass-viol were near him; his was rather narrow and severe in those days; the houses were stately enough, but the revels of the 16th century were

Not long ago I walked through one of Cromwell's houses and saw its oak wainscotted walls and ceilings, its carved stair cases, and its innumerable small rooms, opening one into another, all indicating that in the Seventeenth century comfort in household matters was not neglected. The ceilings were richly carved, in spite of Puri an severity, and the walls were hung with rich old tapestries. Therfamous Holland House was built at this time. In its gardens Cromwell used to walk and confer with his councillors; and at a house near London, a large, beautiful brick mansion, his daughter lived; and a room is still shown there where Cromwell held secret conclaves.

Milton, we may presume, often at devoted to his cause.

and it is said there was a secret pas-(Cromwell's daughter) resided.

Meanwhile Milton had removed to a pleasant house in York street (now No. 19.) where he spent some years. It was here that he lost his infant son by death, and, two years later, his wife. He was left with three little girls, the eldest of whom was ten. His incessant literary work increased the trouble with his eyes, until, in 1654, total blindness fell upon him. Soon after this he married and brought a cheerful influence into his sad little household, but the new are John Bunyan, author of The Pilbeginning for the poet.

Whitehall, aided by Marvell; but when racter. Cromwell died and the new King, Charles II., ascended the throne, in Basilike was publicly burned by the staunch Royalist, and suffered imprisoninto prison. Through the influence of Sir William Davenant, whom he had from the King, but from this time Milton's life was no longer prosperous. He lost most of his fortune, his house was burned in the great fire of London, and in his declining years he had to bear

sold. It is said that when three booksellers near St. Dunstans, had Paradise Lost for sale it lay for months unnoticed, and but for the accident of a nobleman of learning recommending it to his the case. Bunyan, in writing of himfriends, it would have been unread by self, exaggerates his misdeeds, and yet all that generation; but this may not have been the case, for comparitively few people, at that time, ever purchased books. In the forty-two years between the publication of Shakespeare's works and Paradise Lost, only one thousand copies of Shakespeare were sold; so that Milton was not, as many critics declare, specially slighted. The poem was at first objected to because it was written in blank verse and rhyme was preferred. Much discussion followed its publication; however, before a century had passed away, it was established as one world had ever known.

Milton had finished Paradise Lost in a little cottage at Chalfort; but later he established himself in a small home near Bunhill fields. He had married a third time by the advice of friends who felt that his household needed a mother's care. But the marriage was not a happy one, though the poet seems to have lived contented enough with his

We know from records just how Milton spent his time during his last days. Early in the morning a chapter of the Bible was read to him, in Hebrew, after which he remained an hour in meditation. He then studied, with the help of his daughters or friends, until mid-day. After an hour's exercise, he played upon the organ or bass-viol, studied again until six, and in the evening friends came to him informally. His daughter Deborah said that his conversation was charming, and in spite of many stories of his harshness and severity, of his children's gloomy withdrawal from him, we think he must have possessed many qualities which strongly endeared him to his friends; for, in that careless age, many sought the blind poet's society. His visitors found him seated in his arm chair, in a pleasant papers, books and writing materials were close at hand; he dressed always in black, and, it is said, retained much of the beauty which had made him celebrated in his college days at Cambridge, fifty years before. He was pale and delicate in features still, his eyes bright and handsome, showing no signs of their blindness. His mind was perfectly clear to the very last, and we may think of him as calm and serene, when, without pain or suffering, on Sunday, the 8th of November, 1874, his life

Milton's third marriage had not made his home happy for his daughters. Deborah, who was her father's favorite, was finally obliged to leave home; she went with a friend to Ireland and was afterwards married to a Mr. Clarke, and had a family of ten children. Mary Milton never married; and Anne, who had a beautiful face, but was slightly deformtended these, for he was highly honor- ed, died soon afterwards. There are ed by the Pretector, and was certainly none of the poet's descendants now known to be living. Many year ago, in In 1650 Milton's eyesight began to the neighborhood of those very Bowfail, and an assistant named Andrew Bells that ring near Bread St., there Marvell was engaged for him. Later lived an old lady who claimed to b the same Marvell became well known as Mrs. Clark's great-grand-daughter. A a poet. His home was a pretty cottage | small circle often gathered about her at Highgate, which exists to this day, | quit fire-side and talked, I don't doubt. of the days when the scrivener's sign sage connecting it with Cromwell swung over Milton's doorway near by, House, where Trenton and his wife and the beautiful boy used to walk past on his way to school. But this obscure descendant has also passed away, and, as I told you, there is little left unchanged in Milton's neighborhood but the merry clanging sounds from the quaint old steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow.

Milton's famous works are the following, arranged according to their merits : Paradise Lost, Samson Agonistes, Allegro, Il Penseroso, Paradise Regained.

Among the specially known writers of the era ending with Milton's death, wife soon died, and other troubles were grim's Progress, and Jeremy Taylor, a noted preacher and scholar, the author Up to this time Milton had continued of Holy Living and Holy Dying, and to perform his duties as Secretary, at | many other works of a religious cha-

Jeremy Taylor was one of the religious writers who adhered to the Church 1660, the poet's life was in the greatest of England. He was born in 1613, the danger; his printed reply to the Eikon son of a barber at Cambridge; he was a common hangman, and he was thrown ment on this account in Cromwell's time, but on the restoration of Charles 11. he was treated with every distinconce befriended, a pardon was obtained tion. He was noted in his own day

chiefly for his eloquence as a preacher. John Buny n was the son of a poor tinker, and was born at Elton, in Bedfordshire, in the 1625. He has himself given an account of his life, and we with blindness, poverty, and domestic can fancy him, a rude uneducated boy, playing about the village, reckless and He now turned all his attention to profane, as he said, yet haunted by the literature. In 1658 he had begun to words of the preachers. When he was but ten years of age he began to be tor-

a copy of the agreement between Milton and his publisher made in that year.
Twenty pounds (about one hundred dollars) was all that he or his family ever received for the copyright; and in eleven years from the date of its publication three thousand copies had been sold. It is said that when three book. various sects until his thirtieth year.
Many writers have spoken of his life before this time as if had been a wicked one; but that could hardly have been there seems to have been no vice but that of profanity among them; this he gave up suddenly, and with terrible re-

He married early in life, as he tells us, a good woman, who was the child of godly parents. When they were married, Bunyan says, they had not so much as a fork or a spoon between them, but the wife possessed two religious books, or tracts, and these Bunyan read eagerly. After serving as a soldier and leading a life full of religious doubts and torments, Bunyan was finally baptised of the greatest works of genius the and became a member of a Beptist congregation-this was in 1655, while Cromwell was still governing England, and one year after Milton's blindness fell on him. Bunyan now became a preacher, and went about the country assembling congregations, exhorting and preaching Calvinistic doctrines with much fervor, until Charles II. came to the throne, when such preaching was declared unlawful, and Bunyan, persisting in it, was seized and cast into Bedford jail, where he remained more than twelve years. While there he supported his family by making lace, and occupied his leisure hours in writing. It was during this time he composed his famous allegory, The Pilgrim's Progress. Meanwhile James II. came to the throne and a proclamation of "liberty of conscience" finally released Bunyan from jail and permitted him to go about preaching as before. A meeting-house was built for him at Bedford, where he continued to preach, occasionally visiting London and preaching to the "Non-Conformists" as his people were called.

## THE MINISTERIAL PARROT.

In 1688 a terrible fever raged in Lon-

don, and Bunyan was one of its first

victims. He died in his sixty-first

MR. EDITOR,-The following story wonderful parrot was compiled from authentic documents by Mrs. N. B. Hall, of Providence, and published in the Providence Journal last June. I am personally acquainted with the writer, and can en-M. TRAFTON. dorse her story.

The " Reminiscences of the Third Baptist Church," with the more recent notice of its new departure, has led to many urgent requests for an account of Father Dod's parrot, that used to speak in the meetings. We do not propose to send to the Journal a memoir of a full record of this wonderful bird, but merely a selection of his most characteristic sayings and doings.

August 22nd, 1789, Poll was found on a wharf near where the post office now stands. Mr. Dods going from his home on Westminster street, near Turk's Head, to get a breath of fresh air from the water, heard the pitiful cry of "Polly's hungry! Polly's hungry!" Pursuing the sound, he soon succeeded, on removing some lumber, in removing a beautiful dovecolored male parrot, with a brilliant tail of bright scarlet plumage. The day had already been an eventful one to Mr. Dods. who had experienced a great joy in the new relation of father. Polly's introduction to the family was, therefore, kept with that of the birth of an infant daughter, and his subsequent life of thirty-one years was intimately connected with the increase and change incident to the fam-

Poll was supposed to be a fugitive (to use the words of the record) "from a Guinea vessel which had set sail that day from bold water;" his language confirmed that supposition, cailing "all hands "making free use of sea phrases, and singing snatches of sailor song. The profanity of the bird so astonished and alarmed the young mother that great pains were taken to correct his bad habits before the little daughter could understand such rough expressions.

Poll was teachable, and soon adapted his conversation to his new surroundings. As one after another was added to the family circle, he gave a welcome to each, and watched over all with great vigilance. The names of the father and mother were spoken as plainly by Poll as by the children. If the eldest daughter (his contemporary) had charge of the cradle, and left it for a moment, Poll was sure to say when the mother returned, "Mother, Sallie didn't rock the cradle." He was often complained of for being a great tell tale. The children of the neighborhood also received a share of his attention. His memory was perfect and sometimes quite distressing.

A little truant boy living near by gave his mother much trouble that she was frequently at the door calling loudly for him by name. At last the little fellow sickened and died. The mother overcome by her grief, was very' ill for a long time. On her recovery it was impossible for her to go near the door when Poll was swinging in his out door cage without her feelings being barrowed by his calling almost in her own tone of voice, "Geor-die!

Geor-die !" At this time Poll was not receiving the training and nurture of a professedly Christian home. Strict attention had,

ship of the First Baptist Church. Conversion in those days meant a great deal, and was followed by marked results. The atmosphere of the home became so wholly religious that even the house-dog Tiger went regularly to church with his master, and when at one time the good man was very seriously ill, and the family were kept at home by care and anxiety. Tiger could be seen, at the first sound of the old Baptist bell, making his way to church and to the family pew, where he quietly remained until the service was over.

It was not strange that so intelligent a bird as Poll should be impressed by these strong religious influences, and after a few years become so accustomed to the evenyears become so accustomed to the even-ing services and fraternal greetings as to really give evidence of being a good Christian parrot, speaking in the confer-ence and prayer-meetings whenever an opportunity offered. He was often ban-ished to some room remote from the meeting, but when forgotten, or for pre-vious good conduct allowed to remain, would startle all present by his testimony. On one occasion a very animated sermon was scarcely brought to a close when Poll was pleased to say very graciously.

"That's a pretty good discourse!"
A striking incident in Poll's experience about this time brought out the fact that early influences often determine the character of those who will continue to act with more or less force. Poor Poll was overcome by a sudden temptation, and it occurred in a moment of great hilarity. The older members of the household having gone abroad to spend the day, the two youngest daughters were house-keepers. The day was lovely, and the girls, contrary to orders, ventured to take Poll from his accustomed place in the sunny corner of the sitting-room (or keeping-room, as it was then called), placing him in his outdoor nook, in the sweet-brier brush under the windows. It being Poll's first spring airing, he was wild with delight, jumping about in great glee, until the nail, probably weakened by the winter storms, gave way, and the cage fell to the ground with way, and the cage fell to the ground with great force. The children, loving the bird very dearly, and conscious of their disobedience, quickly ran to the rescue, calling to Poll to tell them if he was killed. on raising the cage, the frightened bird shook himself vehemently, and, jumping upon the perch, exclaimed in the gruffest tones: "Poll thought he was going to the devil!" Years had gone by since Poll had used a word of the kind, and the children, whose tears had turned to merry laughter, always affirmed that they had evidence of his penitence in the fact that evidence of his penitence in the fact that he was never known to repeat the offence.

Polly's religion did not save him from his inveterate habit of tale-bearing. As the daughters grew up to womanhood there could be no courting done in that chimney-corner, for Poll would tell. When the second daughter was about to be married, considerable anxiety was expressed in reference to keeping the approaching marriage from a gossiping neighbor, until the bans were published on the following Sabbath. Poll heard al the talk between the young couple during that twilight hour. Before the Sabbath came, this neighbor called to see the fam-As soon as she entered the sitting room Poll began to make a great commotion in his cage, swinging and dancing at a fearful rate, until he attracted her notice, when in a singing tone, he repeated over and over again, "Geore and Rose going to be married, to be married, to be

But Poll, as he advanced in years, grew more thoughtful. After the removal of the family to the home on Transit Street, he was more than ever before associated with its religious life. All Father Dods daughters were singers-what a blessing to the household! The eldest daughter frequently led the singing at these social meetings. A Methodist sister sometimes shared this bonor with her. An English minister, who was often a quest in the house, took the first opportunity, at the close of the meetings, to say to the daughter, "Sally, Sally, don't let the Methodist body beat you." Poll was an unobserved listener. At the next weekly meeting, as soon as the hymn was read, and the good sister was about to commence to sing in her spirited way, Poll electrified the large worshipping company by repeating in his loudest, clearest tones the admonition he had so recently heard, "Sally, Sally, don't let the Methodist body beat you!" We omit the scene at the close of the meeting. Poor Poll was in disgrace. Poll was opposed to long meetings, and more than once called on different brethren to close the meeting. On a particular occasion, he seemed soon to tire of the regular exercises, and called out, "Brother Bushee, close the meeting by prayer." The brother thus abruptly called upon was sitting with closed eyes waiting for an opportunity to exhort. Sadly embarrassed, and wondering at the sudden termination of the meeting, he arose and offered an appropriate

closing prayer. Poll was removed from the room by a member of the family, much to the chagrin of the young people, who believed he should be allowed full liberty to exercise his gifts. Poll must have had some idea of this principle, for at another time he gave life and spirit to a dull meeting by saying in quick, energetic tones, "Brethren, there is liberty!"

His power of speech was clear and past Newfoundland and directed ocen-strong, and as he advanced in years sen-centious. It was not a strange thing for Stream which finds its way into the St. strong, and as he advanced in years sententious. It was not a strange thing for age, as well as youth, to receive words of Liwrence to exert its genial effect nimcaution and reproof. One bright summer afternoon Mrs. Dods was engaged in making copper-plate curtains for the windows: use to navigation at any season several of the good Sisters of the First may be imagined, the expense of such an may be imagined, the expense of such an expense of the first may be imagined, the expense of such an expense of the first may be imagined. Church were assisting in the work. There enterprise as this would be sim'y enorwas pleasant converse, with long and earnest discussion, as to the best method of draping the curtains. There was a good

less self-willed and high-spirited; returning love for love; needing only gentle reproof for wrong-doing.

In 1805 there was a powerful religious awakening in Providence. Mr. Deds his wife, and placet daughter were at that time brought under the influence of district time brought and received into the fellow-line truth, and received into the fellow-line truth. The providence of district the influence of district the influence of district the providence of the provide for him to bear. Improving a panse in the conversation, he spoke out in his sharpest manner: "Mother Dod", curtains, curtains, all curtains and no religion to day!" Shall we tax the credulity of the readers of the "Journal" by adding that these good women, startled by this rebuke, laid side their work and at once joined in singing, "Come, Thou fount of every blessing," thus commencing an informal religious service. We know whereof we

In age and increasing feebleness Poll did not lose his remarkable memory. A beloved sister in the Church (" Sister Ross") who was a frequent visitor at the house, and very fond of Poll died very suddenly. More than two years had elapsed when a lady called on Mrs. Dods, who in size and dress, resembled the deceased friend. Poll was very much excited, and. putting his head through the wires of his cage, looked at her very earnestly. To the astonishment of all present he soon enquired, " Is that Sister Ross?" On being answered in the negative, he showed his disappointment by refusing to speak or leave his swing while the visitor remained. We now come to the time when Poll was old and grey-headed. Receiving the tenderest care he lingered many months after he was stricken with wasting decay. With the first breath of the win-ter of 1820 Poll passed away quietly and peacefull. It was a stormy winter day when the children of the neighborhood gathered around the little box that contained all that was left of his bird-life and bore it lovingly to the foot of the garden giving it a decent burial.—Zion's Herald.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

THE OFFICE OF PERSPIRATION.

A writer on hygene for the "Prairie Farmer" makes the following allusions: The amount of perspiration that exudes from the surface of the skin is greatly variedly by circumstances. As for example, it is large when the body is sarrounded by hot, dry air, even to the extent of five pounds in 24 hours, while in a cold and moist one the amount in the same time may be but one pound. The results of drink. The sensation of thirst does not arise from dryness of the mouth and throat alone, but in part from dryness or need of moisture felt by all the issues. They all employ the throat and mouth to make known their wants. Another fact is not to be forgotten, that the kidneys have duties so similar to those of the skin that they aid each other. On a cold moist day the skin is disabled and cannot execute its usual amount of secretion. Moisture obecks evaporation from the surface. and cold lessens the calibre of its pores In this disability of the skin, the kidneys lend a helping hand in relieving the system of its impurities. And so, if the air be hot and dry the skin is well able to do extra duty and grant the kidneys a recess from their usual toil.

Another fact is worth a passing notice. namely, that the dryness of the skin retains the heat generated within the system and so creates a fever. Relieve the skin, help it to do duty by warm baths or in some other way, and the fever disappears. No moisture comes upon the surface and so no evaporation and cooling could occur. On this fact is based the habit of washing the surface two or more times a day, because this produces evaporation, cools the skin, opens the pores

and lets off the heat retained. In health, the perspiration is graduated by the temperature of the air and amount of exercise. On reducing our temperature in hot seasons of the year, not only our health and comfort, but our life depends. The ordinary heat of the human oody is 98 o Fahr. If the air surround, ing us is higher, we suffer more or less-Heat disease begins to manifest its power. and the great remedy is the free application of cold water to reduce the temperature of the body and induce free perspira-tion. Thus it seems perspiration contributes largely to our health and comfort But to reap its greatest good, we should daily wash the surface, and so prevent the absorption of what is waste and poison. Excessive bathing as practised by some boys may be harmful. All that health and comfort can require is simply washing away the excretion deposited on

The English engineering papers are seriously considering the practicability of a scheme of a very novel character designed to ameliorate the climate of Canada. This involves nothing less than the closing of the Straits of Belleisle, which separates Newfoundland from Labrador Through these straits and into the Gulf of St. Lawrence a vast body of arctic water makes it way, bringing with it immense quanties of ice, the chilling effects of which are felt inland. It is proposed to divert the arctic current by blocking the straits, so that it shall be diverted paired. The average width of the traits is about twelve miles, but they are little use to navigation at any seasa. As mous.

A new explosive said to be per cent, deal of measuring and puzzling in trying more powerful than nitro-g cerine has more powerful than nitro-g cerine has been discovered. It is calle "explosive

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