



CITY OF HALIFAX, N.S.

1874—MAY—31 days.

**The Moon's Changes.**

F. M., 1, 11.15 mn. N. Moon, 15, 5.23 ev.  
L. Qr. 9, 2.19 mn. 1st Qr. 23, 10.25 ev.  
F. Moon, 31, 1.58 morn.

		Sun rises	Sun sets	Sun's Declin. North.	Moon R. & S.
1 F	MAY DAY.	h. m.	h. m.	D. Min.	h. m.
2 S	Columbus dis. Jam., 1494.	4 54	7 00	15 02	7 11
3 S	4th Sun. aft. East.	4 51	7 03	15 38	9 24
4 M	Sir Jas. Thornhill, painter, d. 1734.	4 50	7 04	15 56	10 30
5 Tu	Fredk. the Great, of Prus- sia, defeats Austrians at Prague, 1757.	4 49	7 05	16 13	11 31
6 W	Easter Term ends.	4 47	7 07	16 30	Mrn.
7 Th	Schiller, German poet, d. 1805.	4 45	7 08	16 47	0 23
8 F		4 43	7 09	17 03	1 03
9 S		4 42	7 10	17 19	1 42
10 S	Rogation Sunday.	4 41	7 11	17 35	2 09
11 M	William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, d. 1778.	4 40	7 12	17 51	2 34
12 Tu	Henry IV. France, stab- bed by Ravalliac, 1610.	4 39	7 13	18 06	2 57
13 W	Ascension Day. Holy Thur.	4 37	7 15	18 21	3 23
14 Th	Alb. Butler, auth. "Lives of the Saints," d. 1773.	4 36	7 16	18 36	3 49
15 F		4 35	7 17	18 50	Sets.
16 S		4 34	7 18	19 04	8 34
17 S	Su. af. Ascension.	4 33	7 19	19 18	9 50
18 M	Jas. Boswell d. 1795 To him we owe the best piece of biography, the "Life of Johnson."	4 32	7 20	19 31	10 54
19 Tu		4 31	7 21	19 44	11 45
20 W	Str Jno. Hawkins d. 1789.	4 30	7 22	19 57	Mrn.
21 Th	Trinity Term begins.	4 29	7 23	20 09	0 23
22 F	Nap. I. crowned King of Italy, 1805.	4 28	7 24	20 22	0 56
23 S		4 27	7 25	20 33	1 13
24 S	Whit Sun. (Queen's Birthday.)	4 27	7 27	20 45	1 43
25 M		4 26	7 28	20 56	2 03
26 Tu	Fras. Jos. Haydn, musical comp. d. 1809. Author of the "Creation."	4 25	7 29	21 06	2 22
27 W		4 24	7 30	21 16	2 41
28 Th	Holbein, one of the most famous of German painters (1495-1543).	4 23	7 31	21 26	00
29 F		4 22	7 32	21 35	3 22
30 S		4 21	7 33	21 45	3 49
31 S	Trinity Sunday.	4 20	7 34	21 54	4 23

**STRAY NOTES.**

1.—"I've been a rambling all this night,  
And sometime of this day;  
And now returning back again,  
I bring you a garland gay."—*Old May  
Day Carol.*

It is most probable that the observance of May Day originated with the northern nations, as their winters lasted from October till April, and they had a custom of welcoming the splendour of the returning sun with dancing and feasting, from joy that a better season had arrived for fishing and hunting. Queen Elizabeth used to keep May games at Greenwich.

4.—Sir James Thornhill generally painted the ceilings and walls of large halls, staircases, and corridors, and was very liberal in his supply of gods and goddesses. He was paid for his work by the square yard, as if it had been that of a bricklayer or plasterer. Notwithstanding this mode of paying by measurement, Sir James, who was an industrious man, gradually acquired a handsome competency. Artists in our day, who seldom have to work upon ceilings, consider their labours under easier bodily conditions than he. It is said that he was so long lying on his back, whilst painting the great hall at Greenwich hospital, that he could never afterwards sit upright with comfort.

11.—The great Earl of Chatham sacrificed every pleasure of social life, even in youth, to his great pursuit of eloquence. He studied Farrow's sermons so often, as to repeat them from memory, and even read twice from beginning to end of Bailey's dictionary. These, it has been remarked, are little facts which belong to great minds.

12.—Henry IV. of France was once passing through a small town, and the mayor took advantage of the occasion to make him a long and stupid speech. Just as the king was getting wearied of it, an ass brayed out loudly; Henry, with the greatest politeness and gravity of tone, said:—"Pray, gentlemen, speak one at a time, if you please."

23.—On this day, 1805, when the Emperor Napoleon the First was crowned King of Italy, at Milan, he, with his own hands, placed the ancient iron crown of Lombardy on his head, saying, "God has given it to me, let him beware who would touch it;" thus assuming, as Sir Walter Scott observes, the haughty motto