

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Dec. 5, 1883.

Chicago has been weaker this week closing at 95½ December. Liverpool is unchanged and the English markets are very dull. The local market is stagnant; prices nominally as follows:—Canada Red Winter, \$1.22 to \$1.23; Canada White, \$1.10 to \$1.15; Canada Spring, \$1.18 to \$1.20; Corn, 63½c; in bond; Peas, 90c; Oats, 35c; Barley, 55c to 65c; Rye 62c.

Flour.—The market has this week been exceedingly dull and values are lower slightly. We quote:—Superior Extra, \$5.55; to \$5.60; Extra Superfine, \$5.40 to \$5.50; Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.30; Superfine, \$4.75 to \$4.80, Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.50 to \$5.75; do., American, \$5.75 to \$6.25; Fine, \$3.85 to \$3.95; Middlings, \$3.75 to \$3.85; Pollards, \$3.50 to \$3.60; Ontario bags, (medium), bags included, \$2.55 to \$2.65; do., Spring Extra, \$2.50 to \$2.55; do., Superfine, \$3.25 to \$3.35; City Bags, delivered, \$3 to \$3.05.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.20 to \$3.40; Oatmeal, ordinary, \$5.00 to \$5.25; granulated, \$5.20 to \$5.50.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Butter.—The market is not active but stronger in tone, creamery quoting about 1 cent higher. The following are the quotations: Butter—Creamery, 20c to 27c; Eastern Townships, 19c to 21c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 18c to 21; Western, summer makes, 13c to 15c; do. autumn makes, 17 to 18c. Add to the above prices a couple of cents per lb. for selections for the jobbing trade. Cheese—Early makes, 10c to 11c; September and October 11c to 12c.

Eggs are firm at 26c in barrels.

HOG PRODUCTS are quiet but steady at following prices:—Western Mess Pork, \$15.50 to \$15.75; Hams, cured, 14c to 15c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, Canadian, in pails, 10½c to 10¾; do. Western, in pails, 10½c to 11c; Tallow, refined, 8c to 8½c; Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs., \$6.25 to \$6.50.

POULTRY AND GAME. We quote.—Turkeys 10c to 12c; geese and chickens, 6c to 8c; ducks, 9c to 11c per lb.; partridges, 55c to 60c per brace; venison, 7c per lb. by the carcass and 6c to 10c by the saddle.

ASHES.—There is very little doing in this market and Pots remain at \$4.70 to \$4.80 as to tars.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There have been fewer butchers' cattle brought to market this week, and scarcely any of them are of really good quality. The demand is brisk and prices are higher all round, the advance being more marked in the inferior kinds than in those that are pretty good. The best cattle sell at from 4½c to 5c per lb. and pretty good fat cows and fair conditioned steers at 4c to 4½c do. Ordinary dry cows in fair condition bring from \$26 to \$34 each, or 3c to 3½c per lb., and leaner animals from \$16 to \$25 each, or 2½c to 3c per lb. The mutton cribs offered here of late have been of rather poor quality, evidently the calls of former sales which the butchers do not care for, but good lambs continue rather scarce and prices are advancing; good lots bringing from \$4 to \$4.50 each. Fat hogs are again slightly higher in price, or from 5c to 5½ per lb.

FARMERS' MARKET.

Now that there is good sleighing the farmers are coming to market in larger numbers, yet the attendance is not so large as was generally expected, and this has caused prices to continue firm with a tendency to advance in some cases. Although the inferior kinds of potatoes are plentiful and pretty low priced, the best Early Roses are rather scarce and getting dearer. Swedish turnips are also higher in price. Beef turnips are being offered freely, but the quality is not very desirable and prices of forequarters are from \$4.50 to \$5.50 per 100 lbs. and for hindquarters \$5 to \$7.50 do. Dressed hogs are not so plentiful and are higher priced. The supply of hay is large but the average quality is not very good. Oats are 95c to \$1.05 per bag; potatoes 55c to 90c do; tub butter 16c to 24c per lb.; print butter, 30c to 45c do; old eggs, 24c to 30c per dozen; turkeys, 9c to 14c per lb.; geese, 8c to 9c do; ducks, 12c to 14c do; fowls, 9c to 12c do; dressed hogs, 7c to 7½ do; apples, \$3.00 to \$5

per barrel; hay, \$5.00 to \$8.00 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs; straw, \$4 to \$5.50 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

DECEMBER PRIZE COMPETITION.

Final Chance this Year

—TO—

MAKE MONEY

—AND—

Help a Good Paper Along!

Our autumn competition resulted about doubly more favorable than our August one, and we are encouraged to hope that a similar opportunity given our friends in December, when people generally make provision for a supply of reading matter for the New Year, will yield manifold more satisfactory results than the last one. In this competition we earnestly invite

EVERY SUBSCRIBER

to take part, believing that it is possible for every one to obtain at least one new subscriber, and hundreds can obtain five each and thus save the price of their own copies. No canvassers can be more efficient, if they only try, than those who know from a full trial how valuable a return for the paper is. It should be easy for our young friends, even in the last half of this competition, which will be the Christmas holidays, to earn a goodly sum of money in the liberal commissions we offer, apart from the chances of winning any of the prizes. The premium pictures are within the reach of every one who exerts himself or herself to earn them. By the following list of prize-winners in the last competition it will be seen that there is no room for despair, on the part of anyone at all favorably situated, of winning the leading prizes:—

1st, \$10, Wm. Gates, St. George, N.B., sent \$19.75
2nd, \$5, Bertha Forbes, Wentworth Grant, N.S., sent \$7.50
3rd, \$3, Mary McGee, St. George, N.B., sent \$4.05
4th, \$2, Willie Brotsman, Jasper, Steuben Co., N.Y., sent \$4.
5th, \$1, Jennie McMillan, Spencerville, Ohio, sent \$3.35.

DECEMBER OFFER.

The price of the Messenger is fifty cents a year, and it will be given free for the remainder of this year to new subscribers from the date of receiving their subscriptions. Anyone sending us FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS for a year may send TWO DOLLARS and keep FIFTY CENTS. Anyone sending us FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS for six months on trial, at twenty-five cents each, may send eighty-five and keep forty cents. Anyone sending us five subscriptions for three months on trial, at thirteen cents each, may send thirty-five cents and keep thirty cents.

SEND AS MANY AS YOU CAN.

keeping fifty cents for every five yearly, forty cents for every five half-yearly and thirty cents for every five quarterly subscriptions.

In addition to these commissions we offer the following

PRIZES:

To the person sending us the largest amount of money, not counting commission, **TEN DOLLARS**; to the second, **FIVE DOLLARS**; to the third, **THREE DOLLARS**; to the fourth, **TWO DOLLARS**, and to the fifth, **ONE DOLLAR**.

Still further, to every one who sends us **TWO DOLLARS** we shall send a present of the pair of those much-admired pictures, which have always given so much satisfaction to their recipients, "The Roll Call" and "Quatre Bras," or, if preferred, the celebrated picture by Doré, "Christ Leaving the Praetorium," the original of which was declared by the Rev. Theodore Cuyler to be the greatest painting of modern times.

NOTICE THAT

Those sending the largest amounts secure the prizes even if what is sent in each case be less than the amount of the prize.

Everyone who secures five subscriptions earns a commission.

Everyone who sends two dollars is entitled to the pair of fine pictures mentioned above.

The competition will end on the 7th of January, 1884.

The present respectable circulation of seven or eight thousand, at the end of the second year's existence of the *Weekly Messenger*, is almost entirely due to its being taken by people on sight for its merits. In the same way there is no doubt it would in the course of a few years attain an enormous circulation. But in these days of steam and electricity people cannot afford to wait for such fruit as that of the Columbian alone, that is said to take fifty years to blossom. The publishers of this paper, therefore, believing that a welcome awaits it in thousands of homes all over this continent, desire to place it within those homes as speedily as possible, and have for that purpose provided the present series of prize competitions. That the first two of these have been more profitable to the workers than to the publishers is undoubtedly due to the interest of our friends having not yet had time to be fully developed. Practical friendly interest in the *Weekly Messenger* will, however, we have little doubt, abound more and more according as our readers realize that it is a merely pecuniary enterprise, but one of the most direct and potent agents extant for enlightening, informing and elevating the people.

DIRECTIONS.

Date your letters carefully, plainly writing names of post-office, county and State, or Province.

Head each letter you write, "For Autumn Competition." Do not detain subscriptions, but send in all you have obtained, with the money, less your commission, at the end of each week's canvassing, and in every letter after the first one mention how many names and how much money you sent before.

The last letters sent in the competition must be mailed not later than the 7th of January, 1884.

Send money only by post-office order or registered letter, the former preferred, and address—

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,

"WITNESS" OFFICE,

MONTREAL, P. Q.

Montreal, Nov. 17th, 1883.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON XI.

Dec. 10, 1883. [1 Sam. 21:1-17.]

DAVID SPARING HIS ENEMY.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 15, 17.

1. And it came to pass when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold David is in the wilderness of Engedi.

2. Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.

3. And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet; and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

4. And the men of David said to him, Behold the day of which the Lord said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily.

5. And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

6. And he said unto his men, The Lord forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the Lord's anointed, to stretch forth my hand against him seeing he is the anointed of the Lord.

7. So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered that they should not rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.

8. David also arose afterward and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.

9. And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?

10. Behold this day thine eyes have seen how that the Lord had delivered thee to-day into mine hand in the cave; and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth my hand against my lord; for he is the Lord's anointed.

11. Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee: yet thou huntest my soul to take it.

12. The Lord Judge between me and thee, and the Lord avenge me of thee; but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

13. As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked; but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

14. After whom is the King of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.

15. The Lord therefore be Judge, and Judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of the hand of the wicked.

16. And it came to pass when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice and wept.

17. And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I; for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

—Matt. 5:44.

TOPIC.—Forbearance toward Enemies.

LESSON PLAN.—1. DAVID'S MAGNANIMITY, VS. 17. 2. HIS APPEAL TO SAUL, VS. 13. 3. SAUL'S PENITENCE, VS. 16-17.

Time.—H.C. 1061. Place.—Engedi, east of Hebron, on the west shore of the Dead Sea.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 1. WILDERNESS—A desolate thinly-inhabited region, with limestone cliffs in which are caves. V. 2. WILD GOATS—"climbers," chamois or ibex. V. 3. SHEEP-COTES—caves used as sheep-pens. Saul went into the very cave, in the far depths or dark side-chambers of which he hid himself. V. 4. BEHOLD THE DAY—THE MEN OF DAVID SAID IN THIS INDICATION OF THE LORD'S WILL THAT he should kill Saul, SKIRT—edge, or border. ROBE—outer garment, or cloak. V. 5. SMOTE HIM—condemned him. Saul was yet king, and David's act was an insult to him. V. 6. THE LORD FORBID—David refuses to do wrong to save his own life. V. 7. STAYED HIS SERVANTS—It is just as bad to let others do wrong for us as to do it ourselves. V. 8. MY LORD THE KING—hold in his innocence and respectful in his loyalty. V. 9. MEN'S WORDS—mere hearsay. V. 10. BEHOLD, THIS DAY—his deeds showed that he was not an enemy. V. 12. THE LORD JUDGE—David would not take it upon himself to avenge the wrongs he had suffered. V. 14. A DEAD DOG—worthless to be so hunted by Israel's king. V. 15. THE LORD, ETC.—so Christ "committed himself to him that judged him righteous." 1 Pet. 2:23. PLEAD MY CAUSE—Ps. 95:1; 43:1. V. 16. SAUL, . . . WEPT—his hard heart melted. He had once loved David, and now some-thing of the old affection returned as he contrasted David's conduct with his own.

TEACHINGS:

1. We are to treat our enemies with kindness.
2. We are never to seek safety by doing what is wrong.
3. We are not to be too ready to believe evil of others.
4. We are to respect and obey those who are placed in authority over us.
5. We are so to live that we can commit ourselves to God and find our defence in him.

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