

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, May 16th, 1883.

The only great change in the grain market this week was an unusual movement in peas, a great many thousand bushels having sold at 97c. Wheat is still very quiet but receipts are growing large, 73,000 bushels to-day and the season's business may be said to be fairly commenced. We quote Canada Red Winter \$1.18 to \$1.19; Canada White \$1.13 to \$1.14; Canada Spring \$1.15 to \$1.16 as to quality. Peas are active at 97c to 98c. Rye 73c to 74c. Oats, 40c for May delivery. Barley 55c to 60c.

FLOUR.—The quiet market still continues, but it has increased in firmness perceptibly. Bags in particular, are looking up, being about 5c higher all round, due to the opening of navigation, and the demand for shipment. Quotations as follows: Superior Extra, \$5.02 to \$5.05; Extra Superior, \$4.90; Family nominal; Spring Extra, \$4.80 to \$4.90; Superior, \$4.60 to \$4.70; Strong Bakers, Canadian, \$5.15 to \$5.25, do, American, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Fine, \$4.10 to \$4.20; Middlings, \$3.80 to \$3.95; Pollards, 3.50 to \$3.60; Ontario bags, medium, \$2.40 to \$2.50; do, Spring Extra, \$2.35 to \$2.45; do, Superior, \$2.20 to \$2.30; City Bags, delivered, \$3.10.

MEALS.—Unchanged, Oatmeal, \$5.20 to \$5.50 for ordinary, and \$5.50 to \$6.00 for granulated. Cornmeal \$3.90 to \$4.10 per barrel.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter. The market continues quiet with fair local demand, values being 2c lower than last week. We quote new, 22c to 24c; common, and inferior grades, nominal. Cheese slightly easier. We quote. Colored 12c to 12½c; white, 11c to 12c.

ASHES.—Receipts appear to be growing, being larger than this time last year. Sales have been made at \$5.25 to \$5.35, but things look easier.

HOG PRODUCE.—Steady, and at slightly higher prices. We quote:—Canada, short cut, \$23.50 to \$24.00; Western, \$23.00 to 23.25; Hams city cured, 14c to 15c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard in barrels, 14½c to 15c.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The market has not been well patronized of late and traders have the business largely to themselves. Prices are generally firm at former rates with a tendency to advance in some kinds, especially is this the case with grain. Very few dressed hogs are being brought to market by farmers and the same holds true of dead poultry, but there seems to be very little demand for them. Eggs and butter are more plentiful with a tendency to lower rates. Good apples are pretty high priced, but inferior stock is hard to sell at any price. The fish market is well supplied with fresh fish which sells at pretty high rates. Oats are \$1.00 to \$1.10 per bag; peas \$1.00 to \$1.10 per bag; potatoes 60c to 80c per bag; onions \$2.50 to \$4.50 per barrel; turnips, beets and carrots 50c per bushel; tub butter 18c to 25c per lb; prints 25c to 35c do.; eggs, 17c to 22c per dozen; Apples \$3 to \$6 per barrel; hay \$9.50 to \$12 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw \$1 to \$2 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs. Pike 10c per lb.; sturgeon 8c do.; doree and bass 15c do.; cod and haddock 6c do.; fresh herrings 40c per dozen.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There was a very active demand for beef cattle here during the latter part of last week and prices advanced about a quarter of a cent per lb. live weight. This week there is a slight reaction and although the best cattle are unchanged in price yet there is a slight decline in all other kinds. Choice butchers' stock sells at 6c to 6½c per lb, and fair to good steers at 5½c to 5c do; rough steers, oxen and large fat cows bring from 5 to 5½c do., and leanish stock, including milkmen's strippers, 4½c to 5c do. Veal calves have been a drag on the market of late and several lots were sold here last week at \$1 per head, but the general prices are from \$2 to \$3.50 for common calves and from \$5 to \$8 each for good ones. Sheep continue scarce and sell at from \$6 to \$10 each for unshorn sheep, or about 6½c per lb. live weight; sheep that have been shorn bring from 1c to 1½c per lb. less. Lambs are plentiful and sell at from \$2.50 to \$4.50 each. Fat hogs have an upward tendency in prices, which are from 7½c to 8c per lb.

HOW A KNOWLEDGE OF CHEMISTRY SAVED A MISSION.

When Radama I, the King of Madagascar, died, in 1828, his widow seized his throne and murdered the rightful heir, and her husband's relatives reversed Radama's enlightened policy and sought to restore the old state of things. In order to accomplish this it was necessary to get rid of the missionaries. The directors of the London Missionary Society, under whom the mission was begun, had sent out not only spiritual teachers but also artisans to instruct the Malagasy in weaving, tanning, carpentry, and smith work; and the obvious benefits derived from their instructions naturally won for the commission more toleration than it would otherwise have received.

In 1829 a meeting took place at the house of one of the missionaries, which was destined to exercise much influence upon the future history of Madagascar. When they met, a messenger arrived from the Queen thanking them in her name for the instruction they had given her people, and inquiring if she had any more to teach them. The good men thought they were only at the beginning of their great work of instruction, and they sent back a message enumerating many subjects which they were preparing to teach. Among these they happened to put down Greek and Hebrew, for they had already begun to instruct some of their advanced pupils in the original tongues of Scripture. When the message was carried to the Queen, she replied that she did not want her people taught languages which no one spoke. Could the missionaries not teach them some useful thing? Could they not teach her people to make soap? The missionaries were perplexed at the request, but Mr. Griffith, one of the older missionaries, turned to a young Scotchman of the name of Cameron, who had come out two years before to take the place of a carpenter, who had died of fever, and said, "Mr. Cameron, can you help us here? Do you know how to make soap?" Young Cameron answered, "Give me a week, and I will try."

This young Cameron when he had attended an evening class started by an old minister in the Perthshire Highlands, in Scotland, to help on a number of lads who were behind with their education. He came in some five or six miles from the country, and was intelligent and studious. The clergyman finding that he was reading books on chemistry asked him his object. He replied that he wished to get as much knowledge as he could—as it might be of use some day. When his apprenticeship as a carpenter was out, he went to Edinburgh to get work. Not succeeding he went from place to place, till happening to take up a copy of the "Evangelical Magazine" he found an advertisement for a missionary mechanic to go out to Madagascar. The thought came, "That is how I should like to spend my life." He offered himself to the London Missionary Society and was accepted.

Mr. Cameron arrived in the island about two years before the meeting. His chemical reading came back to him. He found abundance of materials for the manufacture and by the end of the week he had made two bars of soap, which were accepted at the palace. But the Malagasy Government found that he could do more things than make soap. They discovered that he could make gunpowder, and they sought to induce him to undertake the task. He answered that he did not think such work would be in harmony with his duties as a servant of the Prince of Peace, but that whatever he could do for the Queen and people of Madagascar, consistently with the object of his mission, he was ready to do. In a short time young Cameron had five or six hundred men under him, employed in different works in the service of the Government, and for the time, the departure of the missionaries was delayed. They saw, however, that there was a strong desire, if not a settled purpose on the part of the Queen to get rid of them, and they set to work with renewed earnestness and with special zeal for the translation of the Scriptures. The first Malagasy Christians were baptized in 1831; some of the missionaries were ordered to leave the country in 1832; in 1835 Christian worship and instruction were forbidden, and all the missionaries left excepting two, Mr. Baker and Mr. Johns, who remained to the following year to complete the translation of the Scriptures. When they left, in 1836, they had the satisfac-

tion of having completed their great task, and of having printed, bound, and put into the hands of the converts some seventy copies of the Bible.

It seems highly probable that the service Mr. Cameron and the other artisans were able to render largely contributed to the continuance of the mission from 1829 to 1836. But for such incidental service it is not improbable that the mission would have been driven out in 1829; and, if so, the Bible would not have been translated, and the history of the gospel in Madagascar, one of the most wonderful things in modern times, would not have been. We have thus a remarkable providence in the way in which the Bible was given to the Malagasy, as well as the remarkable illustration of the power of God's Word in its influence in Madagascar. —Illustrated Christian Weekly.

A "BACCA" FED BABY.

A visitor among some of the English poor during one of the lockouts, when mills were stopped and labor suspended, gave the following account of how one baby lived and grew fat through the hard times.

The wife of a laborer while looking on at a game of "hop-scotch" in which her husband was engaged with other idlers, was describing their way of living. While she was speaking there came toddling in at the door a splendid specimen of Suffolk infant, ten and a half pence, aged about four years and with limbs like a lady giantess.

"There, sir!" remarked the old lady, "she don't look much the worse for the lockout, do she?"

I replied that she did not, but rather as though a large amount of the fat of the land fell to her share.

"What do you feed her on?" I asked.

"'Bacca, sir," replied the old lady with a grin.

"'Tolacco!"

"Well, that's what they say about here. You see, sir, it's this way. She's my gran' young son, and her poor mother has seven of 'em, and the father is locked out like the rest; and so a month ago my old man—him as you see making such a donkey of himself a minute ago—he says, says he, 'Old woman, ten and a half pence a week, half an ounce of three-penny a day; a cruel hard-smoker he's a-lers been—' I can't enjoy my pipe,' says the old man, 'and see our Joe's young uns wanting a meal; so I'll make over my 'bacca-money to help 'em, and put my pipe out till things mend a bit.' And this is the young un that get's the benefit of it in milk night and morning."

A good many other babies, and their mothers too, might be well fed and well clad if they had the "bacca-money" and the whiskey-money which husbands and fathers squander.—Selected.

CHURCH MOORINGS.

An old sea-captain was riding in the cars, and a young man sat down by his side. He said:

"Young man, where are you going?"

"I am going to Philadelphia to live."

"Have you letters of introduction?"

"Yes," said the young man, and he pulled some of them out.

"Well," said the old sea-captain, "have you a church certificate?"

"Oh yes," replied the young man; "I did not suppose you desired to look at that."

"Yes," said the sea-captain, "I want to see that. As soon as you reach Philadelphia present that to some Christian church. I am an old sailor, and I have been up and down in the world; and it is my rule, as soon as I get into port, to fasten my ship close to the wharf, although it may cost a little wharfage, rather than have my ship out in the stream, floating hither and thither with the tide."—Presbyterian.

A HELP.—A slate hung in the kitchen with a pencil attached to a string is very convenient. If the cook or housewife finds a lack of anything, she can write it on the slate, and thus save her the trouble of trying to remember the different articles which may be wanting through the day.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY declares that the mouse is a harmless creature. Ladies can cut this out and paste it on their mirrors.

AUSTRIA IS MAKING large increases in her standing army, which does not say much for the security of peace obtained by the triple alliance between herself, Germany and Italy.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON IX.

May 27, 1883. [Acts 13:1-12]

PAUL AND BARNABAS IN CYPRUS.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 2-4.

(Revised Version.)

Now there were at Antioch, in the church 1 that was there, prophets and teachers, Barnabas, and Symeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Mamen the foster-brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. And as they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate us Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, went down to Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus. And when they were at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they had also John as their attendant. And when they had come through the whole island unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-Jesus, which was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of understanding. The same called unto him Barnabas and Saul, and desired that they would teach him the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn aside the proconsul from the faith. But Saul, who is also called Paul, filled with the Holy Ghost, fastened his eyes on him, and said, Full of all guile and all villainy, thou son of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing for a season. And immediately he fell out of his chariot, and came creeping, and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them."—ACTS 13:2.

TOPIC.—Christian Missions the Work of God. LESSON PLAN.—1. THE FIRST FOREIGN MISSIONARIES. 2. 3. THE SOUCREER'S OPPROBRIUM. VS. 4-8. 3. THE SOUCREER'S PUNISHMENT. VS. 9-12.

TIME.—A. D. 45. Places.—Antioch in Syria, and Salamis in Cyprus, and the island of Cyprus.

INTRODUCTORY.

We now come to the history of the great movement to carry the gospel to the Gentiles. Heretofore to-day is a grand missionary lesson, showing us what is our duty in regard to that work.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 1. PROPHETS—teachers having special inspiration. TEACHERS—those who prophesy; under the influence of the Holy Ghost. NIGER—black, to distinguish him from others of the same name. CYRENE—a province of Northern Africa. WHICH HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP—Revised Version, "foster-brother." What difference in the character of the two men? HEROD—Herod Antipas, who beheaded John the Baptist, at that time an exile in Gaul. SAUL—last mentioned because he is first mentioned engaged in religious services. THE HOLY GHOST SAID—to the church through one of the prophets named. THE HOLY GHOST SAID, BID IS GOD. SEPARATE ME—set apart into me for special service. V. 3. LAID THEIR HANDS ON THEM—as a sign of their consecration. V. 4. SELEUCIA—the subject of Barnabas. V. 5. SALAMIS—on the eastern end of the island. JOHN—John Mark, nearly related to Barnabas (Col. 4:10), and author of the second gospel. MINISTER—assistant. V. 6. PAPHOS—a city on the western end of the island, the residence of the proconsul. SOUCREER—orthodox-better, magician. FALSE PROPHET—also pretending to be inspired of God. V. 7. DEPRIVED—the proconsul, acting for the consul is governor of the Roman province. PRUDENT—thoughtful, sensible. V. 8. ELYMAS—An Arabic name meaning "the wise one." V. 8. WHO IS ALSO CALLED PAVL—from this time onward as if to mark the divine approval of his special mission to the Gentiles here begins. V. 10. CHILD OF THE DEVIL—like him a liar, and so a child of the father of liars, John 8:44. PREVENT—make the slightest seem crooked, the truth lie. V. 11. THE HAND—THE POWER OF THE LORD—not of man. UPON THEM—for punishment. FOR A SEASON—not permanently; mercy in the midst of judgment. MIST... DARKNESS—first partial, then perfect blindness. V. 12. WHEN HE SAW THESE THINGS HE RECOVERED become helps to faith. BELIEVED—whether savingly or not, we cannot say. He was struck with wonder at the miracles wrought by such a man; and it may be that he received Christ as his personal Saviour.

TEACHINGS:

- 1. God has laid upon us the work of sending the gospel to the heathen.
- 2. No man in our own country can excuse the neglect of this duty.
- 3. Men of the choicest gifts and graces should be chosen for this work.
- 4. We should help it by our sympathy, our prayers and our money.
- 5. Mission work may meet with opposition, but the gospel will finally triumph overall.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER is printed and published at Nos. 33, 35 and 37 St. James street West, Montreal, by JOHN DONAGH, printer, composer, of John Donagh, of New York, and John Respath Donagh and J. D. Donagh, of Montreal.