

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Oct. 31, 1883.

The local grain market is this week entirely unchanged prices being the same and the volume of business by no means large. As the close of navigation is fast approaching there is but little chance of a revival of business. We quote:—Canada Red Winter \$1.22 to \$1.24; Canada White \$1.12 to \$1.18 according to sample; Canada Spring, \$1.15 to \$1.16; Corn, 61c; Peas, 91c to 92c; Oats, 34 1/2; Barley 60c to 70c; Rye 62c to 67c.

Flour.—The market is somewhat quieter than this time last week but with no change in prices. We quote: Superior Extra, \$5.60 to \$5.65; Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.30; Superfine, \$4.80 to \$4.90; Strong Bakers' Canadian \$5.50 to \$5.75; do., American, \$6.00 to \$6.75; Fine \$4.00 to \$4.05; Middlings, \$3.75 to \$4.85; Pollards, \$3.50 to \$3.61; Ontario bags, (medium), bags included \$2.55 to \$2.65; do., Spring Extra, \$2.50 to \$2.55; do., Superfine, \$2.25 to 2.35; City Bags, delivered, \$3 to \$3.05.

MEALS unchanged. Cornmeal, \$3.50 to \$3.70; Oatmeal, ordinary \$2.25 to \$2.50; granulated, \$2.75 to \$2.90.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter.—A quiet market at quiet prices. We quote:—Creamery, summer makes 21c to 23c; Fall makes 24c to 25c; Eastern Townships, summer makes, 17c to 18c; fall makes 20c to 21c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 17c to 20c; Western, 14c to 17c. Cheese, August, 10c to 11c; September and October, fine to fancy 10c to 11 1/2c.

Eggs.—Quoted at 23c to 24c, extra as high as 25c.

HOG PRODUCTS are quiet at the following prices, namely: Western Mess Pork, \$14.50 to \$15.00; Hams, city cured, 14c to 14 1/2c; Bacon, 13 1/2c to 14 1/2c; Lard, Canadian, in pails, 10c to 10 1/2c; do., Western, in pails, 11c to 11 1/2c; Tallow, refined, 8c to 9c; Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs., \$7 to \$7.25.

GAME.—Partridges are quoted at 30c to 40c per brace and Venison at 8c to 9c per lb. by the carcass.

ASHES are unchanged in price. We quote: Pots, \$4.60 to \$4.70 to as tars; Pearls, nominal.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There have been large supplies of beef and mutton critters brought to this market of late, and a considerable portion of them have been of pretty good quality. Prices have a downward tendency, and only a few head of the best cattle have been sold at upward of 4 1/2c per lb., while fair-conditioned animals bring from 3 1/2c to 4c per lb., and common to lean beast, 2 1/2c to 3c. Really good lambs sell in lots at from \$4 to \$4.50 per head and pretty good lots at \$3.25 to \$3.75 each, with common and inferior lots at \$2.50 to \$3 each. Old sheep sell at from \$3 to \$7 each. Fat hogs sell at from 5 1/2c to 5 3/4c per lb.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The wet weather in the early part of the week has caused a considerable diminution in the supply of farm produce brought to this market, yet there has been no material advance in prices as most of the housekeepers and shopkeepers had previously laid in pretty large supplies. Dressed hogs and dead poultry are both very plentiful and prices are declining. Good butter is in demand at firm rates, and fresh laid eggs are getting scarce and pretty high priced. The fruit market is plentifully supplied with common and inferior apples are pretty large consignments of evaporated apples have been received and are being sold at 15c per lb. The supply of hay is equal to the demand and prices are unchanged. Oats are 55c to 60c per bag; peas 90c to \$1.05 per bushel; potatoes 60c to 75c per bag; Swedish turnips 60c to 70c; do.; dressed hogs are \$7.25 to \$8.00 per 100 lbs; turkeys 10c to 12c per lb; geese 8c to 9c; do.; fowls 8c to 12c; ducks 11c to 14c; do. Tub butter 16c to 23c per lb; eggs 23c to 40c per dozen. Apples \$2.50 to \$4.50 per barrel; Hay \$6 to \$8.00 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.

DIRECT ANSWERS.

"Aunt Patsy," said I, "I believe in direct, immediate answers to prayer, and I know you do, but I do not think I ever experienced one; at least I cannot now put my finger on any special event, and say that it came as an answer to prayer—can you?"

"I have no doubt, my dear," answered my sweet, quiet old lady, "that in my long life I have had many prayers answered, which I have not the grace to remember; some that I do remember, I could not talk about, even to you, but if it will strengthen your hold on God's willingness to hear and answer his children, in things small and great, I will tell you of two experiences which lie so far back that I can with less hesitation lift the silence with which we do well to cover those solemn mysteries.

"Years ago, when I was a young mother, with a nursery full of little ones, I was unavoidably alone with them in our country home for some weeks. During a bad spell of weather Reuben was seized with croup, and as baby Will's eye-teeth pressed more and more, his high fever and disordered condition made me very uneasy about him. I was in feeble health myself at the time, and I remember one stormy night when Reuben was drawing harsh, painful breaths in his sleep, and coughing in that sharp metallic way, and baby was tossing in a burning fever, and I myself utterly prostrated with nights of watching and days of anxiety on the bed, too much exhausted even to kneel; but from my great need and helplessness went up a cry for strength to meet whatever God should send, and then I went to sleep, between these two sick children; and Reuben did not cough again that night, and I waked the next morning, when the sun came in at the window to find Will in such a gentle, moist slumber as he had not known for a week. 'He knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust.'

"The other experience takes hold of higher things. For many years after I had been a member of the church, I had a dearly loved friend who did not make any public profession of faith, though her hope was the same as mine, and her daily life gave surer proof of her walk with God. I grieved exceedingly over the difficulties that held her back, and on one communion Sunday, when she left my side and sat among those who did not call themselves God's children, I felt as if I could no longer bear the separation. I resolved to make it a matter of special intercession, not only in my daily prayers, but particularly during the Sunday morning church hour that by the next communion season, which occurred in three months, she might share the blessed privilege with me. I asked my father and mother, and my two brothers and their wives, to join me in this petition at that eleven o'clock hour of prayer on Sunday morning, when almost all the Christian world turn their faces heavenward but I said nothing of all this to the friend herself.

"It shames me to say how much surprise mingled with my joy, when, a few days before the next communion, she said to me, 'M—, I have been to see the Session, and am to be admitted to church membership next Sunday.'

"I had knocked, like the boy in the story, and had not waited for the answer. But our Father is always more ready to give than we are to receive.

"And now, my dear, let me remind you of a sentence of Bishop French, which is better than anything I can have to tell you: 'Prayer is not an overcoming of God's reluctance, but a laying hold of his highest willingness.'—Illustrated Christian Weekly.

WARM FEET are pre-requisite to good health; and warm feet are to be secured by abundant clothing of the legs as well as of the feet themselves. Warm hands are also very desirable, and warm hands are to be secured by clothing the arms. There is a great evil among all classes in this matter of clothing. Both males and females have their garments so constructed as to greatly increase the amount of clothing at the very points where congestion is most likely to occur.—Nutritive Care.

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RULES IN CASE OF FIRE.

Our actions in sudden danger are apt to be mostly illustrations of "how not to do it." It is only calm good sense that gets away whole and sound in such emergencies, while flight turns somersaults and steps on its own head. The experience of others has given us rules for the best procedure when we find ourselves in a "house-a-fire;" and a knowledge of these beforehand will be of great use to us, if we can only keep our wits about us when the time comes.

In case of either a chimney or a room catching fire, the first thing to be thought of is to exclude all draughts, for it is certain that the slightest current of air will increase the force of the fire.

All the doors and windows should be shut at once, and if the chimney be on fire, a wet blanket should be immediately fastened to the top of the mantel-piece, so as to exclude all draughts from the opening of the chimney, and entirely cover the grate, shutting the trap first if possible.

This will, in most cases, make the fire go out of itself. You may throw into the grate a few handfuls of salt. Water should never be thrown down from above, as it spoils the carpet and furniture unnecessarily.

If the window or bed curtains catch fire beat them with the thickest woollen garment you can lay your hands upon. Window curtains can in most cases be torn down with a violent jerk, and this will prevent the flames from extending to the wood-work of the windows. In escaping from a burning house or room, remember that the air near the floor is clearer than any, and go on your hands and knees at once.

A wet cloth tied over the mouth and nose keeps out the smoke, will help the breathing, and prevent suffocation if too much oppressed.

A wet blanket, or even a dry one speedily used, will extinguish many a small conflagration—such, for instance, as an upset lamp, by excluding the air, and will be far more efficacious than water, and will be far purer; its use also prevents damage to furniture.

When an alarm of fire is given, if in bed, wrap yourself in a blanket, which will form the best protection for you from the chance of ignition, and endeavor to remember the different exits from the house—where they are and how to reach them; if you cannot attain to any of them, try to get to a front room as near the ground as possible.—Lecture Hour.

TOBACCO AND BLINDNESS.

At the Annual Commencement of the Hospital College of Medicine, of Louisville, Ky., Prof. Dudley Reynolds delivered an address to the graduating students, in which he took strong ground against the use of tobacco.

It is a well-known fact that tobacco deranges the digestion and poisons the nerve centre of a majority of the male members of the human family. A species of blindness, not complete but partial blindness, sufficiently great in extent to destroy the reading of ordinary type, results from the continued and excessive use of tobacco. Careful investigations have led to the discovery that that form of habit known as smoking produces the so-called amblyopia. This form of amblyopia is precisely identical with that produced from the excessive use of alcohol. Both are incurable. I know a number of persons in Louisville who are now practically blind from the excessive use of tobacco.

A lady in Portland was forced to admit that she had been a secret smoker of tobacco for thirty years. On abandoning the habit, the farther progress of her dimness of vision ceased, though there is little hope of her regaining that power of perception which she had already lost. She may be considered fortunate in the possession of ordinary vision to go about and attend her ordinary household duties. Smoking tobacco has never been known to result beneficially to any person in the world. It always lessens the sense of smell and taste; it always contaminates the breath; it always creates an unsteadiness of the muscles through its irritating effect upon the nerves; and I know from personal experience that it diminishes the capacity for mental labor. . . . If the money destroyed by burning cigars and tobacco in Louisville could be paid into the city treasury, it would support all our charitable institutions, and pay the entire expense of the street cleaning department besides. This would reduce taxation nearly

or quite one-half, and produce a corresponding improvement in public health.—Lutheran Evangelist.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON VI.

Nov. 11, 1883. [1 Sam. 15: 12-28.]

SAUL REJECTED.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 24-28.

12. And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

13. And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord.

14. And Samuel said, What meaneth this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

15. And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

16. Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the Lord hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

17. And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?

18. And the Lord sent thee on a journey, and said, Go, and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

19. Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the Lord, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst eat of the best of the Lord?

20. And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

21. But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in Gilgal.

22. And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

23. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected my word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

24. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words, because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

25. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the Lord.

26. And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee, for thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice.—1 SAM. 15: 22

TOPIC.—The Penalty of Disobedience.

LESSON PLAN.—1. SAUL'S DISOBEDIENCE AND HYPOCRISY, VS. 12, 15, 2. HIS REPROOF AND DEFENCE, VS. 16-21. 3. HIS CONDEMNATION AND REJECTION, VS. 22-26.

Time.—b.c. 1073. Place.—Gilgal.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 12. CARMEI—about ten miles south-east from Hebron. A PLACE OF WORSHIP SAUL HAD SET UP IN HIS OWN HONOR. V. 13. I HAVE PERFORMED—he tries to cover his disobedience by falsehood. V. 14. SAUL SAID—Saul had spared the oxen contrary to Saul. V. 15. THEY—the people. He tried to shift the responsibility from himself to the people. V. 16. ENTO THE VOICE OF THE LORD—Saul with a show of generosity, he tried to screen them from blame by this pretext. V. 16. STAY—leave off these false pretences. THIS NIGHT—the night just past. V. 17. WHEN THOU WAST LITTLE—the Lord had raised him from a humble condition. V. 18. THE SINNERS THE AMALEKITES—these words give the reason why this people were to be destroyed, because they tried to destroy God's people. V. 20. I HAVE OBEYED—a vain attempt at self-justification. He did not deny that he himself had spared Agag, but tried to excuse the act by referring to the thoroughness with which he had executed the doom of destruction upon his people. V. 22. TO OBEY—no amount of earthly offerings can release us from the duty of obeying God. V. 23. REBELLION—a disposition to act independently of the authority of Jehovah. WITCHCRAFT—rather, divination. Idolatry is a rejection of God, and "on a par" with appeal to false gods for guidance and approach to idols in worship. HE ALSO HATH REJECTED THEE—Saul had first rejected the Lord, and this is the doom pronounced upon him. V. 24. SAUL SAID UNTO SAMUEL—Saul could no longer deny or excuse his sin. He therefore confessed it, but in such a way as showed that his heart was unchanged. V. 25. PARDON MY SIN—he seems to have been more anxious because Samuel was offended than because the Lord was angry with him.

TEACHINGS: 1. God requires of us absolute obedience. 2. Good words and intentions will not excuse a bad act. 3. The fear of man is no excuse for disobeying God. 4. Men often throw the blame of their evil deeds on others. 5. Sin blights our position and ruins our prospects.

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