

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, March 28th, 1887.

The grain market this week has only been relieved from absolute stagnation by a slight drop in White Winter. Sales have been exceedingly small, and unless something extraordinary happens abroad, nothing can be expected till the opening of navigation. We quote Canada White Winter \$1.06 to \$1.09; Canada Red \$1.18 to \$1.20; Canada Spring, \$1.16 to \$1.18. Peas, 95c per 66 lbs. Barley, 60c to 70c per bushel. Oats, 39c to 40c. Rye 65c to 70c per bushel.

FLOUR—The market appears to be slowly settling, but so little has been done this week owing partly to the Easter holidays, that the exact condition of the market can hardly be decided upon. Superiors are fully five cents weaker however. Quotations are as follows:—Superior Extra, \$7.00 to \$5.05; Extra Superfine, \$4.90 Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra, \$4.80 to \$4.85; Superfine, \$4.60 to \$4.65; Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.15 to \$5.25; Strong Bakers', American, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Fine, \$4.10 to \$4.20; Middlings, \$3.90 to \$4.00; Pollards, \$3.55 to \$3.65; Ontario bags, medium, \$2.35 to \$2.40; do. Spring Extra, \$2.25 to \$2.35; do. Superfine, \$2.15 to \$2.20; City Bags, delivered, \$3.10 to \$3.15.

MEALS—Unchanged; oatmeal, \$5.25 to \$5.50 for Ontario, and \$5.80 for granulated. Cornmeal \$4.80 per bl.

DAIRY PRODUCE—Butter. The export trade is still dull but there is a fair local demand. Fine grades are extremely scarce. Prices may be said to be unchanged. Quotations:—Creamery, fresh made, fine flavored, extra, 25c to 27c; do., good to fine, 23c to 25c; Eastern Townships, 18c to 22c; Morrisburg, 18c to 22c; Brockville, 17c to 20c; Western, 15c to 18c. Add 2c per lb. to all of the above for the jobbing trade. Cheese is firm, and with a very fair local trade. We quote: Fine to choice fancy, full made, 13½c to 14c; summer makes 7c to 11c as to quality.

Eggs—Have not sold very freely as the prices considered too high. Fresh 22c, lined hard to sell at 16c to 17c.

HOG PRODUCE—Very quiet market. We quote:—Canada, short cut, \$22.00 to \$22.50; Western, \$21.50 to \$22.00; Lard, in pails, 14c to 14½; Hams, city cured, 14c to 14½; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Dressed Hogs, frozen, \$8.75 to \$9 in small lots; do fresh killed, \$9.50 to \$9.75 also in small lots.

ASHES—Are very dull at \$4.90 to \$5.00, sales of several barrels to-day at inside prices.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The cool fine weather which has prevailed for some time has been favorable to the maintenance of good sleighing, and the farmers are improving it for bringing their produce to the city, where there seems to be an unusually active demand for nearly all kinds of seasonal produce, and prices in general continue pretty high, except hay, which is lower than it has been here for several years. Oats are 90c to \$1.05 per bag; peas 90c to \$1.00 per bushel; potatoes 60c to 80c per bag; dressed hogs \$9.25 to \$9.50 per 100 lbs.; beef forequarters, 5½c to 6½c per lb.; do. hindquarters, 7c to 8½c do. Geese, 13c to 15c per lb.; turkeys 15c to 20c do. Eggs, 20c to 30c per dozen; tub butter 20c to 27c per lb.; print butter, 25c to 40c do. Hay \$6 to \$9.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw \$4 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There is not much being done in the cattle market, this week, as the butchers have still a large quantity of their Easter beef on hand. There is also trouble between the butchers and drovers about the proper place for holding the cattle market, and the drovers have struck against bringing their cattle to the Viger market, preferring to sell them at the yards at Point St Charles. Prices are well maintained owing to the active demand by shippers. Good butchers' stock being from 5c to 6c per lb, and poor to common beef critters 4c to 4½ per lb. The supply of calves is pretty large but they are chiefly of poor to ordinary quality. Milk cows continue to bring high prices for this season of the year; good cows bring from \$45 to \$55 each; extra cows \$60 to \$75, and small cows \$30 to \$40 each. The horse trade has been active of late, there being a good demand, as well as demand for shipment to the United States.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC TROOPS refused to quit the territory of Chili, and a battle ensued which resulted in the intruders being defeated and retiring across the frontier. There is a quarrel between the Argentine Republic and Brazil as to which of them shall secure possession of Uruguay. General Calderon, the late Peruvian commander, now a prisoner in Chili, has written a letter of complaint to General Logan, the United States Minister, complaining of the terms of a letter written by that gentleman to Montero, the Peruvian President. He maintains the letter would do more harm than good, having omitted to mention the bad faith of the Chilians in adding to their conditions for peace after these had been accepted by Calderon in October last. A favorable sign for a near close of the war is seen in the fact that some important Peruvian prisoners have been released in Chili, who have returned to their own country to advocate peace. South American countries furnish excellent territory for outsiders to keep away from just now, but it is to be hoped it will be otherwise some day.

AN AMBASSAGE FROM MADAGASCAR is at present in the United States. On Sunday last its envoys attended the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's church in Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Beecher spoke concerning the present critical position of their country, and said that, while the United States could not interfere with the affairs of the Old World, the Christian world should protest against the menacing conduct of France toward Madagascar. The chief of the Ambassage then spoke, referring to the upward striving of his nation in the scale of civilization, and he prayed that the intentions of France might be frustrated and his countrymen left in peaceful possession of their island. Resolutions, moved by Mr. Beecher, were passed by the congregation welcoming the Malagasy brethren to fellowship and sympathizing with their nation in this its dark hour, and protesting in the name of the Government, Liberty and Republicanism against the interference with the internal affairs of Madagascar on the part of a state purporting to be Christian and, especially, Republican.

MR. JOHN BRIGHT, the eminent Quaker statesman of Great Britain, in the course of an address as Rector of Glasgow University, strongly advised a peaceable policy among nations even from the standpoint of self-interest. He claimed that the cost of the Civil War in America would have more than sufficed to free every slave without bloodshed. The trouble is, however, that the question of that war never resolved itself to the fine point of slavery or no slavery before fighting began. The slave holding interest by its aggressiveness—insisting upon the right of hunting escaped negroes in free States and striving to extend the cloud of slavery over new States—provoked an irrepressible conflict in which State rights was involved above the matter of slavery pure and simple. It is doubtful if the thousands in bondage might not have had to hug their chains a century or two before national sentiment could be educated to the point of offering a money ransom for them and compelling their masters to accept it.

STARTLING FIGURES are given by the New York Tribune, a paper but lately opposed to prohibition, in regard to the drink traffic in the United States:—"This horrid trade imposes upon the country annually a direct loss of more than \$800,000,000 and an indirect loss of \$700,000,000 more; all this waste is from the wages of labor and the profits of business." It adds that this loss and waste year by year is "more than half

our national debt, more than the total cost of our national, state and municipal governments in all their departments. All this constitutes only a part of our indictment against the liquor traffic; the moral, religious, educational and political evils coming from the traffic are far greater than those arising from the mere loss of money."

AT A RECENT MEETING in London the Rev. G. M. Murphy stated that the number of deaths in Great Britain through intemperance during the Christmas and New Year holidays was greater than the loss of the British in the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. He might have added, too, that the widows and orphans of the dead drunkards have been left in a much more deplorable condition than those of the dead soldiers. These facts go to confirm the saying of Mr. Gladstone, that the liquor traffic carries with it the combined evils of war, pestilence, and famine. When shall it cease to be a legalized traffic?

MR. LINCOLN, SECRETARY OF WAR, remarks upon the fact that petitions for the pardon of Mason, the guardsman who fired at his charge, Guitau, all say he was illegally sentenced and none ask for executive mercy in his behalf. The Secretary is surprised that people should ask for a man's pardon on grounds that would justify mob law. It is said that Mr. Biglow, Mason's counsel, has not been paid and that he will take proceedings to attach three thousand five hundred dollars of the fund raised for Mason's wife and child in payment of his fees.

THE ENTIRE MILK SUPPLY of New York city was shortened one-fifth on a recent day through the action of the striking farmers. The strike has ended, farmers and dealers coming to an understanding. How much waste and inconvenience, as well as real distress, would have been avoided had they settled their dispute among themselves instead of depriving nearly a million of people of a necessary article of food through their stupid warfare!

OF THE RIGHT REV. DR. BENSON, the recently consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury, the Church of England *Temperance Chronicle* says: "His lordship is a Vice-President of the Church of England Temperance Society, whose work in his diocese has been taken up with great vigor by a large number of the clergy. The bishop has also taken a most active part in pressing forward the claims of the Cornish Sunday closing Act."

MOUNT ETNA, the celebrated volcano in Italy, is again in eruption, and the showers of ashes and streams of lava have frightened away the inhabitants of neighboring villages. An earthquake added to the popular terror and overthrew some houses. The volcanic action gave signs of ceasing at latest accounts.

THE UNIVERSAL ARBITRATION AND PEACE SOCIETY, of London, England, sent a letter to President Arthur, commenting upon his reference to arbitration in his last annual message. President Arthur, in acknowledging the letter, shows sympathy with the objects of the society, and it has published his letter.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S knee is stiff from her slip last week, but her health is good. She attended the Christening of her granddaughter, the infant of the Duke and Duchess of Albany, on Sunday, being wheeled into church.

VIRGINIA HAS BEEN VISITED by a very heavy snow-storm, that has prostrated telegraph lines in some places.

THE EARL OF DUDLEY, England, with an income of five million dollars, is said to be losing his mind.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON 11.

April 18, 1883. [Acts 8: 26-40.]

PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 35-38.

(Revised Version.)

But an angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, 26 saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza: the same is desert. And he arose 27 and went; and behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was over all her treasure, who had come to Jerusalem for to worship; and he was returning, and sitting in 28 his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said unto Philip, Go 29 near, and hear this: and he came up unto him, and said, Reading how thou canst understand these things, thou art a learned man, and art given to the scriptures: wouldst thou be baptized? And he said, How can I, except some one shall guide me? And he besought Philip that he should go up and sit with him. Now the place of the scripture which he 30 was reading was this:

He was led as a sheep to the slaughter
And as a lamb before his shearer is dumb,
So he opened not his mouth:
In his humiliation his judgment was taken 31 away.

His generation who shall declare?
For his life is taken from the earth.

And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I 34 pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other? And 35 Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this scripture, preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on the way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, Behold, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And he commanded the chariot to 36 stand still; and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they came up out of 37 the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip; and the eunuch saw him no more, for he went on his way rejoicing. But 38 Philip was found at Azotus; and passing through he preached the gospel to all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"And he went on his way rejoicing."—ACTS 8: 39.

TOPIC.—Salvation through Faith in Christ.

LESSON PLAN.—I. A MEETING DIVINELY ARRANGED. V. 26-29. II. THE PROPHETIC INTEREST. V. 30-32. 3. A DISCIPLE REJOICING. V. 36-40.

Time.—Probably about A.D. 36, immediately after the last lesson. The scene was in the desert way between Jerusalem and Gaza.

INTRODUCTORY.

Persecution sent Philip into Samaria, and when his work there was done an angel sent him back to Judaea. In the one case he preached to a multitude; in the other, to one man. Each mission was divinely ordered, and both were alike successful. Obedying the heavenly message, Philip found the desert way from Jerusalem to Gaza, and soon learned why he was sent there.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 26. GAZA—about sixty miles south-west from Jerusalem, near the Mediterranean Sea. WHICH IS DESERT—this was added to point out the particular road which Philip was to take; God still sends his ministers to their work, though no angel comes from heaven to tell them which road to take. V. 27. ETHIOPIA—a country south of Egypt. CANDACE—the common name of successive queens, as Cesar of Roman emperors and Pharaoh of Egyptian kings. TO WORSHIP—he was either a foreign Jew, or, as is more probable, a Gentile convert to the Jewish religion. V. 28. SEAT—the prophesy of Isaiah. It is well to take our Bibles with us, and to use them when on a journey. V. 29. THE SPIRIT—the Holy Spirit. What seemed an accidental meeting was divinely arranged. V. 31. How CAN I—compare Rom. 10: 14, 15. This answer shows that the eunuch's mind was prepared by the same Spirit that sent Philip to him. He was eager to learn the truth, see Cornelius and Peter ch. 10; V. 32. THIS SCRIPTURE WHICH HE READ—Isa. 53: 7, 8. The Holy Spirit had led him to just the passage that was suited to his wants. V. 35. PREACHED UNTO HIM JESUS—showed him that it was Jesus whom the prophet here spoke, and told him how this Jesus had died that we might be forgiven. He needed no better text for a gospel sermon. To tell of Jesus is the work of both ministers and teachers. V. 36. SEE, HERE IS WATER—the unexpected sight of water in this region, for the most part desolate of it, makes him think of professing his faith at once. V. 39. REJOICING—he had found the Saviour, and this is always a cause of joy. V. 40. AZOTUS—Ashdod, a city north of Gaza. CAESAREA—a city on the Mediterranean coast, about sixty miles north-west of Jerusalem. It was Philip's home, and we find him there nearly thirty years later. Acts 21: 8.

TEACHINGS:

1. When God sends us into the desert, he has something for us to do there.
2. We are sure to find Jesus if we look for him in his word. John 5: 39.
3. Christ will reveal himself to all who truly seek him.
4. Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation.
5. True religion gives peace and joy to the believer.

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