

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Sept. 26, 1883.

The local grain market is still entirely stagnant, hardly justifying its name. Now that the crop is in, a good deal of attention is being paid to the quantity. Of course every man has a different opinion on the subject, but the majority are strongly of the opinion that the wheat crop in Canada is a short one. The Ontario millers are howling over it, declaring that the average is not more than five bushels an acre and that there is not nearly enough wheat in the country to bread it. They are about to petition the Government to repeal the duty as an earnest of their belief. We quote:—Canada Red Winter \$1.18 to \$1.20; White \$1.15 to \$1.17; Spring \$1.16 to \$1.19; Chicago, No. 2, in bond, \$1.05 to \$1.06; Corn, 61c, in bond; Peas, about 92¢ to 95¢; Oats, 33c to 34c per bushel. Barley is not offered, though the season is now well opened. Rye, about 65c to 68c.

FLOUR—The flour market is somewhat stronger than at this date last week, superiors having advanced 25c, but other grades are much the same, after some rapid fluctuations. The business done is of course small in volume and is likely to continue so as millers complain they cannot get wheat. The quotations are:—Superior Extra, \$5.70 to \$5.75; Extra Superfine, \$5.50 to \$5.60, Spring Extra, \$5.30 to \$5.00; Superfine, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Strong Bakers, Canadian \$5.50 to \$5.75; do., American, \$6.50 to \$6.75; Fine \$4.25 to \$4.35; Middlings, \$3.80 to \$4.00; Pollards, \$3.60 to \$3.75; Ontario bags, (medium), \$2.65 to \$2.70; do. Spring Extra, \$2.50 to \$2.65; do., Superfine, \$2.25 to 2.35; City Bags, delivered, \$3 to \$3.45.

MEALS unchanged. Cornmeal, \$3.50 to \$3.70; Oatmeal, ordinary \$5.25 to \$5.50; granulated, \$5.75 to \$8.00.

DAIRY PRODUCTS—Butter The state of affairs is unchanged, the tumble keeping out of sight while prices have improved a little but not a hopeful market however. Creamery, August makes 20c to 21c; do. September makes, 22c to 22½; Eastern Townships, straight dairies, 16c to 18½; do. fall ends, 20c; Morrisburg and Brockville, nominal, none off ring; Western, poor to good, 12c to 14c; do. finest selections 15c to 17c. Cheese—early makes 9c to 10c autumn makes, 10c to 11c, as to quality.

Eggs fetch 20c to 21c as to quality and freshness.

HOG PRODUCTS are quiet and unchanged. We quote: Western \$15.00 to \$15.50; Hams, 14c to 15c; Bacon, 13½c to 15c; Lard, in pails, 11½c to 11½c; Tallow, refined, 7½c to 8½c.

ASHES are dull at \$4.60 to \$4.70, as to tars.

FARMERS' MARKET.

Liberal supplies of seasonal produce have lately been brought to this market by farmers and market gardeners which has caused prices to recede in some cases until they are pretty low compared with other places. The supply of grain is about equal to the demand and prices are unchanged; potatoes are offered in increasing quantities and prices have a decidedly downward tendency. Tomatoes are in excessive supply and very low prices prevail, while there are no changes to note in the prices of other fruit, except grapes of which there is an overstock at present and sales have occurred at unusually low rates. With a better supply of dressed hogs and poultry, prices are easier, but there is an upward tendency in the prices of dairy produce. Flour and feed are rather scarce here just now, but prices remain unchanged. The hay market is well supplied and prices are pretty low. Oats are from 90c to \$1 per bag; peas, 90c to \$1.10 per bushel; potatoes, 50c to 70c per bag; tub butter, 16c to 22c per lb.; prints, 20c to 30c do.; eggs, 20c to 30c per dozen; apples, \$2.50 to \$4.00 per barrel; lemons, \$5.50 per box; blueberries, 70c per box; grapes 5c to 10c per lb.; tomatoes 20c to 40c per bushel. Hay, \$5.00 to \$8.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, \$3 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Butchers' cattle, sheep and lambs are being brought to market in large numbers and though the demand is good, yet prices have a downward tendency. A few of the best fat cows and steers sell at from \$40 to \$50

each, or 4½c to 4½c per lb., but the general prices of pretty good cattle are from 3½c to 4c per lb., while leanish animals bring from 2½c to 3c do. Shippers are paying from 5c to 5½c per lb. for suitable cattle and a good many fair conditioned steers are being bought at from 4c to 4½c per lb. to feed through the winter. Good sheep sell at from \$5 to \$6.50 each or 4½c to 5c per lb., and good lambs at from \$3 to \$4 each, while common lambs sell at from \$2.25 to \$2.75 each. Live hogs are not very plenty yet and sell at from 6c to 6½c per lb. The supply of good milch cows is rather small and prices have an upward tendency.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

AUTUMN PRIZE COMPETITION.

A FINE CHANCE

—TO—

MAKE MONEY

—AND—

Help a Good Paper Along!

Not dismayed by the comparative failure of our August competition we offer our friends another opportunity to earn a good commission and win handsome prizes by working for this paper. Newspaper publishers must have their harvest times as well as farmers, and as the publishers of this paper have been sowing copies of it broadcast over this continent for twenty months past they now look to having the seed spring up and add many thousands to the subscription list. To this end laborers are required and none can possibly suit better than those who have been kept well-informed of the passing events of the world through its news columns, and benefited and entertained in various ways by its other departments—all at less cost than the readers of any other weekly newspaper. It is with confidence, therefore, that we repeat, with slight modifications, the offers made for our "August Competition," the result of which is doubtless a surprise to the prize-winners, as in a country of hard-working people money is rarely made with such facility.

OUR NEW OFFER!

The price of the *Messenger* is fifty cents a year, and will be given for the remainder of this year for ten cents. Anyone sending us **FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS** for a year may send **TWO DOLLARS** and keep **FIFTY CENTS**, and anyone sending us **FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS** for the remainder of this year may send us **TWENTY-FIVE CENTS** and keep **TWENTY-FIVE**.

SEND AS MANY AS YOU PLEASE, keeping fifty cents for every five yearly and twenty-five cents for every five for the remainder of this year. This advice would seem to be necessary in some cases, as in last competition most of the competitors stopped short at the point when they earned the smallest commission—that for five subscriptions.

In addition to these commissions we will give the person sending us the largest

AMOUNT OF MONEY,

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.

BEAR IN MIND!

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 last of October.

REASONS AND HINTS!

For a paper of the price of this one a very large circulation is necessary to insure the enterprise being a profitable one. There is no doubt it would obtain a paying patronage in the course of time, without any special efforts such as these prize competitions, as its subscription list has hitherto been built up altogether by people taking it upon sight for its many good qualities. A list of over seven thousand, obtained simply by sending copies of the paper at a venture to people, and by the kind aid of readers in asking their friends to subscribe, is an achievement that is not common in journalism and justifies us in the hope of great results from our friends all over the Continent entering a competition for prizes in working for the *Messenger*.

In addition to the material inducements offered them, those who enter the lists of our workers have the assurance that they are doing noble service in displacing ignorance with intelligence and bad reading with good.

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 31st of October.

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

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,

"WITNESS" OFFICE,

MONTREAL, P.Q.

Montreal, Sept. 15th, 1883.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Our subscribers throughout the United States who cannot procure the international Post Office orders at their Post Office, can get instead a Post Office order, payable at Rouse's Point, N. Y., which will prevent much inconvenience both to ourselves and subscribers.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

FOURTH QUARTER.

LESSON I.

Oct. 7, 1883. [1 Sam. 4: 10-18]

ELI'S DEATH.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. IT, 18.

10. And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent; and there was a very great slaughter, for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

11. And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

12. And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to a shion the same day with his clothes rent, and with earth upon his head.

13. And when he came, he Eli sat upon a seat by the wayside watching; for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city and told it, all the city cried out.

14. And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What meaneth the noise of this tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli.

15. Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes were dim, that he could not see.

16. And the man said unto Eli, I am he that came out of the army, and I fled today out of the army. And he said, What is there done, my son?

17. And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God is taken.

18. And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died; for he was an old man and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

GOLDEN TEXT—His sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.—1 SAM. 4: 13.

TOPIC—Parental Neglect Punished.

LESSON PLAN—1. THE DISASTROUS BATTLE, vs. 10, 11. 2. THE ANXIOUS PRIEST, vs. 12-14. 3. THE FATAL TIDINGS, vs. 16-18.

Time.—RC. III. Place.—Shiloh.

INTRODUCTORY.

This lesson records the execution upon Eli and his family of the judgments foretold to Samuel. The Philistines invaded the land, and the Israelites resolved to attack them. Being defeated in the first attack, they sent for the ark of the covenant and brought it to their camp, hoping that its presence would give them victory. The priests, Hophni and Phinehas, went with it. At first the Philistines were dismayed at the presence of the ark (4:9-10), but they rallied.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 10. ISRAEL WAS SMITTEN—utterly defeated. THIRTY THOUSAND FOOTMEN—at that time the Israelite army consisted of footmen only. V. 11. THE ARK OF GOD WAS TAKEN—they had taken it to the battlefield without the Lord's sanction, and his presence went not with it. HOPHNI AND PHINEHAS WERE SLAIN—probably fighting in defence of the ark. V. 12. THE SAME DAY—showing that the battlefield was not far distant. CLOTHES RENT... EARTH UPON HIS HEAD—the usual tokens of sorrow and distress. V. 13 BY THE WAYSIDE—at the city gate (v. 18), that he might catch the first tidings from the battlefield. TREMBLED FOR THE ARK OF GOD—his sons were there; the fate of his people was in the balance; but his great anxiety was for the ark, which, without divine command, had been taken to the front of the army. ALL THE CITY CRIED OUT—in great alarm and grief. V. 17. THE MESSENGER ANSWERED—sent a climax of woes to the aged priest! Israel routed, his sons slain, the ark of God taken! V. 18. WHEN HE MADE MENTION OF THE ARK OF GOD—to Eli, the saddest part of the message. He no doubt regarded the defeat of the army as a great calamity; he must have grieved for the death of his sons; but when he heard that the ark was taken, he said, "The glory is departed from Israel." The shock was more than he could bear.

TEACHINGS:

1. Fathers who neglect their duties to their children may expect ruin for their children and sorrow for themselves.
2. The wayward youth will generally become a wicked and profligate man.
3. The counsel and control of good parents are of priceless value to children.
4. God will punish those who profane his ordinances.
5. He will honor them that honor him.

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