COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, March, 5, 1884.

The Chicago market is weaker by about 1 cent than it was last week, and is quoted at 91¾ March, 92¼ April, 97¼ May and 99¾ June. Corn is somewhat lower at 54¼ March, 52¼ April, 56⅝ May and 57¼ June. Liverpool is quiet, Spring wheat being quoted at 7s 10d to 8s and Red Winter 8s 4d to 8s 6d. The local market is lower and values are nominal. We quote as follows:—Canada Red Winter, $1.20 to $1.22; Canada White, $1.18 to $1.20; Canada Spring, $1.18 to $1.20; Corn, 75½c in bond; Peas, 90; Barley, 55c to 65c; Rye 62c.

FLOUR.—The market is unchanged with very scanty sales. We quote: — Superior Extra, $5.55 to $5.60; Extra Superfine, $5.35 to $5.40; Fancy, nom.; Spring Extra, $4.90 to $5.00; Superfine, $4.25 to $4.35 Strong Bakers', Can., $5.25 to $5.50; do., American, $5.45 to $5.85; Fine, $3.60 to $3.70; Middlings, $3.40 to $3.50; Pollards, $3.25 to $3.30; Ontario bags, (medium), bags included, $2.50 to $2.60; do., Spring Extra, $2.10 to $2.20; do., Superfine, $2.10 to $3.20; City Bags, delivered, $2.95 to $3.

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

DAIRY PRODUCE. — The market continues dull but firm. Butter:— We quote: — Eastern Townships, 19½c to 21½c, Morrisburg and Brockville, 18c to 21c; Western, summer makes, 16c to 18c. Add to the above prices a couple of cents per lb. for selections for the jobbing trade. Cheese—Earlier makes, 11c to 13c as to quality; fall makes, 13c to 13½c.

EGGS that are fresh are bringing from 25c.

HOG PRODUCTS.—The rise has at last come to an end and the market is dull. We quote as follows:—Western Mess Pork, $21.00 to $21.50; Canada Short Cut, $21.25 to $21.75; Hams, city cured, 13c. to 15c; Bacon, 13½c to 15c; Lard, in pails, Western, 12½c to 13c; do., Canadian, 12c to 12½c; Tallow refined 7c to 9½c as to quality. Dressed Hogs per 100 lbs., $8.75 to $9.25.

ASHES show very little life at $4.25 to $4.50 for Pots; $6.25 for Pearls.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The supply of butchers' cattle was unusually small this week and prices have advanced nearly half a cent per lb., live weight. Good butchers' steers sold at from 5¼c to 6c per lb., large fat cows and fair conditioned steers at about 5½c do., while the leaner beeves and milkmen's strippers sold at from 4c to 5c according to quality. Good calves are still scarce and very high priced. There is an improved demand for mutton critters which sell at from 5¼c to 5½c per lb. live weight. Live hogs are scarce and sell at from 6½c to 6¾c per lb; dressed hogs sell at about 9c do.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The stormy weather and drifted roads have again prevented the farmers from bringing their produce to the markets, so that dealers have had the trade nearly all to themselves and are charging somewhat higher prices for most kinds of produce. Eggs continue to arrive from the west in considerable quantities and prices continue to decline. Dressed hogs and beef quarters are still scarce and prices firm, but poultry are rather lower in price. Previous to the storm of last Friday, the hay market was glutted for a number of days and a large quantity was sold at exceedingly low prices, and though the supply is not large now yet prices are moderate. Oats are 95c to $1.05 per bag; peas, $1.00 to $1.10 per bushel; potatoes, 70c to 80c per bag; Swedish turnips, 45c to 50c do; dressed hogs are $9.00 to $9.50 per 100 lbs; turkeys, 14c to 15c per lb; geese, 9c to 12c do; fowls, 10c to 15c do; ducks, 12c to 15c do. Tub butter, 18c to 24c per lb; eggs, 26c to 40c per dozen. Apples, $3.00 to $6.00 per barrel; Hay, $4.00 to $7.00 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.

NEW YORK, March 4, 1884.

GRAIN.—The following are the closing prices for future delivery to-day:—Wheat, No. 2 Red, $1.08¾c. March; $1.10 April; $1.12¼ May. Corn, 62½c March; 63¼ April; 64¾ May. Oats, 40¼ March; 41¾ April; 44¼c May. Peas, Canada field 90c to 95c; green peas; $1.38 to $1.40. Rye, Western, 74c. Barley No 2 State 65c.

FLOUR.—Quotations are: Spring Wheat Superfine, $2.60 to $3.10; Low Extra, $3.35 to $3.45; Clears $4.50 to $5.00; Straight, (full stock), $5.15 to $6.00; Patent, $5.37½ to $6.90. Winter Wheat, Superfine, $2.75 to $3.35; Low Extra, $3.35 to $3.75; Clears (R and A.), $4.20 to $5.65; Straight (R and A.), $4.75 to $6.00; Patent, $5.25 to $6.50; Straight (White Wheat) $4.50 to $5.75; Low Extra (City Mill), $4.25 to $4.35; West India, sacks, $4.25 to $5.15; barrels, West India, $5.40 to $5.45; Patent, $5.50 to $6.10; South America, $5.40 to $5.75; Patent, $5.35 to $6.25. Southern Flour—Extra $3.50 to $4.60; Family, $4.75 to $7.00; Rye Flour,—Fine to superfine $2.65 to $3.75. Buckwheat Flour $2.75 to $3.00.

MEALS.—Oatmeal, Western fine, $5.00 to $5.25; Coarse, $5.25 to $5.60 per brl. Cornmeal, Brandywine, $3.40 to $3.50; Western Yellow, $3.00 to $3.20; Bag meal, Coarse City $1.18 to $1.20; Fine white, $1.40; Fine yellow, $1.50 per 100 lbs. Corn flour, $2.85 to $4.00; Hominy, $3.30 to $3.90 per barrel.

FEED.—100 lbs. or sharps, at $22.50 to $25; 100 lbs. or No. 1 middlings, at $22.00 to $24.00; 80 lbs. or No. 2 middlings, at $21 to $22.00; 60 lbs or No. 1 feed $21 to 22; 50 lbs or medium feed, $21.00; 40 lbs or No. 2 feed, $21.00. Rye feed at $21, dock.

SEEDS.—Clover seed, prime, nominal at 10 to 10¼c, choice, 10¼c to 10½c; fancy, 10¾c to 10⅞c timothy, retail parcels $1.55 to $1.65; round lots nominal; domestic flaxseed, $1.55 to $1.65; Calcutta linseed, $1.95 to $2.00.

BUTTER.—A fair demand and good prospects for fine grades. Holders look for a steadily advancing market. The following are the quotations: — Creamery, ordinary to fancy, 20c to 36c. State dairies, fair to fine, 22c to 28c; State firkins, fair to best, 16c to 30c; State Welsh tubs, fair to choice, 18c to 28c; Western imitation creamery, 18c to 25c; Western dairy, ordinary to best, 12c to 20c; Western factory, ordinary to best made, 9c to 20c. Rolls, 12c to 20c.

CHEESE.—A steady market. We quote:— —State factory skims to select, 7c to 14½c; Pennsylvania skims, good to prime, 3c to 9c; Ohio flats ordinary, 5c to 12¾c.

BEEF. — We quote: — Extra mess, $12.00 to $13.00; Extra India mess $24.00 to $26.00; Packet, $13.50 to $14.00 in brls.

BEEF HAMS.—Sellers were firm at $28.00 to $28.50 spot lots, but only small lots sold.

PORK.—We quote:—$17.75 to $18.00 for old brands mess; $17.00 to $17.25 for extra prime, $19.50 to $20.50 for clear back and $19.00 to $20.00 for family.

BACON.—A market much quieter but strong at 9¼c.

CUTMEATS.—Pickled bellies, 12c lb. average, 8¾c to 8¾c; pickled shoulders, 8¾; pickled hams, 12¾c to 13c; smoked shoulders, 9¼c; smoked hams, 13¾c to 14c.

LARD.—Prices are slightly weaker. City lard bringing $9.30c. Western $9.85c.

STEARINE.—Lard stearine is at 9¼c to 10c for choice city. Oleomargarine, weak at 9c.

TALLOW.—Demand more active at 7-7 7-16c to 7¼c for prime city.

IS THERE ALCOHOL IN CIDER?

BY JULIA COLMAN.

Commonly there is alcohol in cider. We know there is no alcohol in apples, because they never make us tipsy when we eat them. "But we make the cider out of the apples," says the objector. True, and so we make vinegar out of the cider in the apples, and we know that there is alcohol in fermented cider because it makes tipsy those who drink it.

We can also prove that there is alcohol in cider by separating it by the process called distillation. If we try that we shall need a still, or we can rig up an apparatus with a teakettle, a rubber tube and a large bottle standing in cold water. Put the fermented cider in the teakettle, and place it over the fire. Then fasten one end of the rubber tube over the spout of the kettle and the other over the nose of the bottle standing in the cold water. Simmer the cider quietly and see that the steam passes into the bottle and is condensed.

When a spoonful or two of liquid is found in the bottle, remove the tube, pour the liquid on a plate and touch it with a light and it will burn with a faint blue flame. This is what is called first proof alcohol, and it is still about half water. If you want it stronger distil it again and again and you can prove that this is alcohol beyond a doubt.

It is very important that this fact should be generally known. People who have paid little or no attention to chemistry are easily led to say that there must be alcohol in apples or else we could not make alcohol out of apples. But if you boil apples in the still, or if you boil the perfectly fresh juice of the apples you can distil no alcohol from them. Let some of this same apple juice stand a few days and ferment. Then try it again and you can distil alcohol from it.

By chemical action we can produce a great variety of things quite unlike those from which they are made, and in the arts we are doing that continually.

So in answer to the question whether there is alcohol in cider, we reply, there may be alcohol in cider after we have made it by the process of fermentation. The proportion depends upon the degree of fermentation. At first there is but little. A common proportion in drinking cider is from 5 to 7, and it may go as high as 9 or 10 per cent, making nearly as much alcohol in a quart of cider as there is in a half pint tumbler of whisky. The best way of making sure that you take no alcohol in your cider, is to take no cider. Apples were made to eat, not to drink.—*Union Signal.*

THE STRONGEST DRINK.

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon says to the boys:—Water is the strongest drink. It drives mills; it's the drink of lions and horses, and Samson never drank anything else. Let young men be teetotalers, if only for economy's sake. The beer money will soon build a house. If what goes into the mash-tub went into the kneading-trough, families would be better fed and better taught. If what is spent in waste were only saved against a rainy day, work-houses would never be built. The man who spends his money with the publican, and thinks landlord's bows and "How do you do my good fellow?" means true respect, is a perfect simpleton. We don't light fires for the herring's comfort, but to roast him. Men do not keep pot-houses for laborers' good; if they do they certainly miss their aim. Why, then, should people drink "for the good of the house?" If I spend money for the good of any house, let it be my own, and not the landlord's. It is a bad well into which you must put water; and the beer-house is a bad friend, because it takes your all and leaves you nothing but headaches. He who calls those his friends who let him sit and drink by the hour together is ignorant very ignorant. Why, Red Lions, and Tigers, and Eagles and Vultures, are all creatures of prey, and why do so many put themselves within the power of their jaws and talons? Such as drink and live riotously, and wonder why their faces are so blotchy and their pocket so bare, would leave off wondering if they had two grains of wisdom. They might as well ask an elm tree for pears as look to loose habits for health and wealth. Those who go to the public-house for happiness climb a tree to find fish.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From *Westminster Question Book.*)

LESSON XI.

March 16, 1884.] [I Thess. 4:13-5:8.

THE COMING OF THE LORD.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 14-17.

13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

CH. 5:1. But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep, sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."—1 Thess. 4:14.

HOME READINGS.

M. 1 Thess. 4:13-5:8.....The Coming of the Lord.
T. Matt. 24:29-42..... .....The Effect Gathered.
W. Matt. 25:14-30. ....Final Awards.
Th. 1 Thess. 1:1-10 ..... .Glorified in His Saints.
F. Matt. 25:1-13..... ....' Watch Therefore."
S. John 14:1-14 ..... .Many Mansions.
S. 1 John 3:1-8..... ....' We Shall be Like Him."

LESSON PLAN.

1 The Comfort of His Coming. 2. The Suddenness of His Coming. 3 Preparation for His Coming.

Time.—A.D. 53. Place.—Written from Corinth.

INTRODUCTORY.

The first Epistle to the Thessalonians is the oldest of the New-Testament writings. It was written during Paul's residence in Corinth, shortly after Silas and Timothy rejoined him in that city. It was intended to instruct them in faith, to comfort them in their persecutions, and to correct some errors into which they had fallen. They thought that Christ's second coming was close at hand. They were restless in expectation of that day, and were disturbed lest their brethren in Christ who had died should not share in its triumph. In our lesson the apostle corrects these errors, and then emphasizes the fact that we cannot know the time as a motive to constant watchfulness.

LESSON NOTES.

I.—V. 13. WHICH ARE ASLEEP—the pious dead. (Compare 1 Cor. 15:22.) THAT YE SORROW NOT—the sorrow which the apostle forbids is not grief over the separation caused by death, but sorrow over the state of the departed—a sorrow felt by the Thessalonians from the fear that those who had died before the second coming of christ, would have no part in its blessedness. OTHERS—unbelieving Jews and heathen. NO HOPE—of the resurrection. V. 14 IF WE BELIEVE—as surely as Christ died and rose again, so surely will he bring (not only raise, but bring with Christ) them which are fallen asleep in Jesus. V. 15 BY THE WORD OF THE LORD—by direct revelation. WE—Christians who are then living. PREVENT—go before. Those living at the time shall not share the glories of the advent before those who have died. V. 16. THE LORD—Jesus Christ. FROM HEAVEN—where he now is. Rom. 8:34; Acts 7:56; Heb. 10:12. A SHOUT—of command, as of a leader bidding his troop assemble. THE ARCHANGEL—summoning God's hosts. THE TRUMP OF GOD—used in his service; different from other sounds—something supernatural, recognized as such. (See 1 Cor. 15:52; compare also Rev. 19:14.) FIRST—before the living are changed. V. 17. THEN—right after the resurrection of the pious dead. WE WHICH ARE ALIVE—those living when Christ comes. SHALL BE CAUGHT UP—on the instant of the change spoken of in 1 Cor. 15:52. TOGETHER WITH THEM—the raised dead and the changed living in one company.

II.—Ch. 5:1. YE HAVE NO NEED—they had already received all necessary information. AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT—unexpectedly, without warning. V. 3 THEY—the wicked. THEN—at the very moment when they least expect it. They will see no danger, and will be unprepared for his coming.

III.—V. 4. NOT IN DARKNESS—but like men who are awake when the thief comes. They could see his approach and prepare for it. V. 5. CHILDREN OF THE DAY—they are in reference to the coming of the Lord, as men would in reference to the coming of the thief if there were no night and no need of slumber. V. 6. OTHERS—the rest of the world. Vs. 7, 8. Night is the time when sleepers sleep and drinking men are drunk. We process to be day-people; our work ought to be day-work; our conduct such as will bear the light of the day. PUTTING ON—we must not only be awake and sober, but also armed, ready for the day of the Lord.

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

1 That our Christian friends who have died sleep in Jesus.

2. That at his coming Christ will raise them from the dead.

3. That all his people shall be for ever with the Lord.

4. That the coming of the Lord will be sudden and terrible to the unprepared.

5. That we should be always ready and watchful, so that his coming may not take us unawares.

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