

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, August 12, 1883.

The grain market this week is a trifle quieter than last, at the same prices, both buyers and sellers appear to be quiet, certain that the market will suit them better in a short time and there is not much to sell anyway. We quote: Canada Red Winter Wheat, at \$1.18 to \$1.20; Canada White at \$1.15 to \$1.16; Canada Spring, \$1.15; Corn, 62c per bushel; Peas, 37c; Oats, 35c to 37c; Rye, 69c to 70c.

FLOUR.—The market through the week gradually strengthened. Sales of Superior taking place at \$5.50. To-day, however, the market weakened somewhat, round lots of Superior were offered at \$5.40 to \$5.45 and found no takers. The demand for other grades is small and easily supplied being purely local. We quote Superior Extra, \$5.30 to \$5.35; Extra Superfine, \$5.15 to \$5.20; Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra \$4.95 to \$5; Superfine, \$4.30 to \$4.40; Strong Bakers, Can., \$5.25 to \$5.30; do. American, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Fine, \$4.00 to \$4.10; Middlings, \$3.80 to \$3.90; Pollards, \$3.40 to \$3.50; Ontario bags, medium, \$2.50 to \$2.60; do. Spring Extra, \$2.40 to \$2.50; do., Superfine, \$2.10 to \$2.20; City Bags, delivered, \$3.05 to \$3.10.

MEALS.—Without change. Cornmeal, \$3.50 to \$3.70; Oatmeal, ordinary \$5.25 to \$5.50; granulated \$5.75 to \$5.80.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter.—Prices are unchanged but the demand is decidedly unsatisfactory in every way. Quotations are unchanged. Creamery, 15c to 20c; Eastern Townships, 15c to 16c; Western 12c to 14c. Add a couple of cents for jobbing selections. Cheese.—The English market is said to be overstocked, and the business it not at all satisfactory. Fine to choicest Fancy is selling at about 8c to 9c. The cable is?

HOG PRODUCE.—A quiet market with almost nominal quotations as follows:—Western, \$16.75 to \$17.25; Hams, un-cured, 14c to 14 1/2c; do. canned, 15c to 16c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, in pails, 12c to 12 1/2c; Tallow, 8c to 9c.

ASHES are very much unchanged at \$5.10 to \$5.20 for Pots.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The farmers' market continues to be well supplied with nearly all kinds of seasonable produce, and prices have a pretty general downward tendency. Potatoes are beginning to rot in some sections and this has led to much larger supplies being brought to market than are required, and prices are very low, although the quality of the potatoes is much above the average of other seasons. The supply of eggs and butter is fair, but too many eggs of suspicious quality are among the offerings. Cabbages, cauliflowers and celery are all more plentiful and declining in price. The recent warm weather has brought out an abundant supply of tomatoes, which are now sold at about 60c per bushel. The season for most kinds of berries is nearly over, but apples, pears, peaches, plums and grapes are all getting more plentiful and cheaper. Oats are from 35c to \$1.00 per bag; peas, 90c to \$1.10 per bushel; new potatoes, 45c to 55c per bag; tub butter, 16c to 20c per lb; prints, 20c to 30c do.; eggs, 17c to 20c per dozen; apples, \$2.50 to \$5.50 per barrel; lemons, \$7.00 per box; black currants, 80c to 90c the pail; blue berries, 80c per box. Hay, \$5.00 to \$5.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs; straw, \$3 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The supplies of beef and mutton critters continue large on this market and prices have a downward tendency all round; even shippers seem careless about purchasing and are waiting for better news from British cattle markets. A few of the best fat cows on this market are sold at from \$50 to \$55 each, or about 5c per lb., but the general run of pretty good stock is from \$30 to \$40 each or 3 1/2 to 4c per lb., while leanish animals sell at about 3c do. The large supplies of sheep and lambs have caused lower prices, and good lambs are being bought in lots at from \$3 to \$3.25 each, while common and inferior lambs sell at from \$2 to \$2.75 each. Butchers are paying from \$3.50 to \$5 for sheep, and shippers are paying from \$6 to \$6.50 for suit-

able animals. Live hogs are very plentiful and prices have declined to about 6 1/2c per lb.

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.

TO OUR YOUNG FRIENDS!

Inducements for your Co-operation in assisting us to increase our Circulation.

August is a splendid month in which to canvass for a newspaper. You can take subscriptions either for a year or for four months; boys and girls are out of school, and many of them like nothing better than to enter on a competition in the public service; the farmers are in good humor and are willing to invest a few cents in a newspaper.

The Weekly Messenger was commenced in January, 1882, and by the end of that year had found its way to the homes of over five thousand regular subscribers. This year, so far, it has made but little progress. Its present circulation is 7,000. It is now about time to stir if we mean to make during this year a stride equal to that of last. The Messenger is not a children's paper, but it is very much prized by young people because it is so interesting, and they always are the best canvassers. The price of the Messenger is FIFTY CENTS a year, or TWENTY CENTS for four months. 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 FIFTY CENTS and keep Fifty! The commission is the same in both cases, because in both cases we gain a new subscriber, and we want the work to pay the workers.

In addition to these commissions we will give the person sending us the largest list of subscribers TEN DOLLARS, to the second FIVE DOLLARS, to the third THREE DOLLARS, to the fourth TWO DOLLARS, and to the fifth ONE DOLLAR.

In the above competition every full yearly subscription will count for four, as there is four times as much money sent us.

Still further, to every one who sends us more than twenty-five names 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, and in this every full yearly subscription will count for three, as it will be treble the time.

REASONS AND HINTS.

The above offer is made so as to secure for the Messenger a good start, as we are convinced that it only needs to become generally known to be taken everywhere. If our young canvassers are enterprising they can secure this end. The paper will only pay with a very wide circulation, and if that is obtained it can be greatly improved. We do not so much look for very large individual lists as for a great many small ones, and so we have arranged the awards so that all will be rewarded irrespective of prizes. Every good worker, however, will have a chance of being published as a prize winner if he only extends his efforts far enough and writes to his friends at a distance. The real prize, however, is the good work accomplished. The country is full of pernicious literature, which is sowing the seeds of wickedness, and it is the duty of all to take their share in the effort to overcome evil with good. When you send in your money tell us how you go to work and how you get along.

Carefully Observe the Following Directions.

Write names and addresses plainly; head each letter you write "For August Competition"; as soon as you get five or more names send them with the money, by its office order or registered letter (the former preferred), addressed to

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,

"WITNESS" OFFICE,

MONTREAL, P.Q.

When you get more names to add to your list send them on, and say how many you have sent before. Mail your last letters by the 31st of August. We trust that very many of our young friends will send in good lists, and so materially increase the circulation of the Weekly Messenger, as to, at any rate, make its headway fully equal to that of last year. We know that this little paper is the best, for its price, published anywhere, and we feel convinced that those who, through the solicitation of our young fellow-workers, gain an introduction to the Messenger will not be willing thereafter to be without it, but will become regular subscribers.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON.

Montreal, July 28th, 1883.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON X.

Sept. 2, 1883. (Reg. 16: 21-31.)

THE DEATH OF SAMSON.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 28-30.

21. But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house. 22. Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

23. Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

24. And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

25. And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house: and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

26. And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

27. Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

28. And Samson called unto the Lord, and said, O Lord God, remember me. I pray thee, and strengthen me. I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.

29. And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

30. And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might, and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.

31. Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the burying place of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people."—Ps. 68: 35.

TOPIC.—Samson's Greatest Victory. LESSON PLAN.—1. SAMSON'S HUMILIATION, VS. 21-23. 2. HIS VICTORY IN DEATH, VS. 26-31. Time.—1 c. 1120. Place.—Gaza.

INTRODUCTORY.

Gideon held the office of judge for about forty years. After his death, Abimelech, his son, took the name of king, but was not recognized by any of the tribes. He was the leader of a petty faction for three years, when he came to a miserable end. After his death, Tola held the judgeship for twenty-three years. He was succeeded by Jair, who held the office for twenty-two years. During this period of nearly half a century the Israelites were faithful to Jehovah, and therefore free from oppression. But soon after there was a general apostasy, and severe judgments followed. The Philistines in the south-west, and the Ammonites in the north-east, beyond Jordan, continued hostilities, and the Israelites were greatly troubled. Their distress brought them to repentance. A leader was raised up, Jephthah, who subdued the Ammonites. After Jephthah there were other judges—Ibzan for seven years, Elon for ten years, Abdon for eight years. Meanwhile, the Philistines established themselves in the southern country, and began that long hostility which was not ended until the reign of King Hezekiah, 2 Kings 18: 8. Soon after they began to oppress Israel Samson was born. His history is given in chaps. 16-17. It is interesting to see how he kept his Nazarite vow he was able singly to harass the Philistines. Finally he fell into their hands.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 21. PUT OUT HIS EYES.—An act of cruelty very frequently done to war prisoners of distinction. GAZA—the capital and stronghold of Philistia, about sixty miles south-west from Jerusalem. FETTERS OF BRASS—not with ropes or leather thongs, like common prisoners. DID GRIND—the avenger of Israel was made the drudge and sport of their enemies. V. 22. HE WENT TO GAZA—leaving the Nazarite vow, part of his Nazarite vow, and a symbol of his consecration to God. Suffering it to be cut was a breach of his vow. Now he grew strong again—not because his hair grew, but because he repented and renewed his consecration. V. 23. DAGON—the god of the Philistines. He was represented with the face and hands of a man and the tail of a fish. One of his most famous temples was at Gaza. V. 24. OUR GOD IS HE THAT GIVETH US THE LIVING AND TRUE GOD! V. 25. MAKE US SPORT—that they might make themselves merry at his expense by mocking and insulting their fallen enemy. V. 26. THE PILLARS—they stood in the centre of the court, and were the main supports of the roof. The balconies were hung upon the side walls, and suspended also from the roof. The falling of the pillars would cause the roof to drop, dragging inward the side walls and crushing the balconies under the rubbish. V. 28. CALLED UNTO THE LORD—sincerely and earnestly he prayed for his strength that he might use it just this once. He regarded himself as the champion of Israel against the common enemy. He referred his purpose of vengeance to the will of Jehovah. If his strength should come according to his prayer, he would be assured of his divine sanction. V. 31. HE BOWED HIMSELF WITH ALL HIS MIGHT—his prayer was answered; the pillars gave way, the house tumbled in, and his occupants were buried in the ruins. Samson died with his foes, but his death is no warrant for suicide. He died as if he had fallen in battle.

TEACHINGS:

- 1. A pure heart is more to be desired than a strong body. 2. Great gifts are often connected with great imperfections. 3. If we do not control our passions, they will make slaves of us. 4. God will punish those who sport with the sufferings of his people. 5. He will give strength and power to those who trust in him. (Golden Text.)

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