

## COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Dec. 19, 1883.

Chicago wheat is quoted at 98½, being a trifling advance on former prices. Liverpool is quiet at 8. Spring wheat 8s. 6d. Red Winter 9s. 1d. The local grain market is very dull and unchanged. We quote as follows: Canada Red Winter, \$1.22 to \$1.2; Canada White, \$1.10 to \$1.15; Canada Spring, \$1.18 to \$1.20; Corn, 63½c; in bond; Peas, 90c; Oats, 35c; Barley, 55c to 65c; Rye 62c.

**FLOUR.**—The market is very quiet and of the most pronounced holiday character. Values nominal. The following are the quotations: — Superior Extra, \$5.55 to \$5.60; Extra Superfine, \$5.40 to \$5.45; Fancy, nom.; Spring Extra, \$5.15 to \$5.25; Superfine, \$4.75 to \$4.80. Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.40 to \$5.60; do., American, \$5.50 to \$6.00; Fine, \$3.85 to \$3.95; Middlings, \$3.75 to \$3.85; Pollards, \$3.50 to \$3.60; Ontario bags, (medium), bags included, \$2.50 to \$2.60; do., Spring Extra, \$2.45 to \$2.50; do., Superfine, \$3.20 to \$3.25; City Bags, delivered, \$3 to \$3.05.

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

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**—The market for all species of dairy produce is unchanged and quiet. We quote: — Butter — Creamery, 25c to 27c; Eastern Townships, 19c to 21c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 18c to 21c; Western, summer makes, 13c to 15c; do. autumn makes, 17c to 18c. Add to the above prices a couple of cents per lb. for selections for the jobbing trade. Cheese is steady. Finest is selling in jobbing lots to the city trade at 12½c. We quote as wholesale prices. Early makes, 10c to 11c; September and October 11½c to 12c. The public cable remains at 6½c.

Eggs are selling at 26c to 27c in cases. Hog Products are a tolerably firm tone. We quote:—Western Mess Pork, \$16.50 to \$17.25; Hams, city cured 14c to 15c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, Canadian, in pairs, 10½c to 11½c; do. Western, in pairs, 12c to 12½c; Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs., \$6.25 to \$6.50.

**POULTRY AND GAME.** We quote:—Turkeys 10½c to 11½c; geese and chickens, 6c to 8c; ducks, 9c to 11c; partridges, 40c to 55c per brace, as to quality; venison, 6c to 7c per lb., by the carcase, 8c to 9c by the saddle.

ASHES are quiet at \$4.70 to \$4.80 for pots.

## FARMERS' MARKET.

The want of sufficient snow to make sleighing, together with the cold and boisterous weather of late, have prevented farmers from bringing the usual supplies to market, but traders and lucksters keep a good supply of most kinds of produce, which are sold at rather higher prices. Fresh killed poultry are in active demand at pretty high rates, but a good deal of the offerings are more or less discolored by the late soft weather. Eggs are advancing all round, but there are no changes to note in the prices of butter. The hay market is pretty well supplied, yet prices of the best loads are higher. Oats are 90c to \$1.05 per bag; potatoes 60c to 80c do.; tub butter 10c to 24c per lb.; print butter, 30c to 45c do.; old eggs, 24c to 30c per dozen; fresh laid eggs, 45c to 50c do.; turkeys, 9c to 14c per lb.; geese, 7c to 9c do.; ducks, 12c to 14c do.; fowls, 8c to 12c do.; dressed hogs, 7c to 7½ do.; apples, \$3.00 to \$6 per barrel; hay, \$5.00 to \$8.00 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, \$4 to \$5.50 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

## LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The arrivals of live stock have not been so large this year as is usually the case the week before Christmas, yet there are plenty of cattle on the market to meet the wants of butchers, who seem disposed to invest more sparingly in extra cattle this year than on former occasions. Extra heaves sell from 5½c to 6c per lb., and pretty good steers and fat cows at from 4c to 5c per lb. A considerable number of common dry cows and leanish stirs have been offered this week but met with a slow demand and, where sales were made, prices were rather low. A good many sheep and lambs are still being brought to the city for the butchers, who are laying up their winter's supply of mutton. Good sheep sell from 4½c to 5½c per lb. and good lambs at from 5c to 5½c do. Live hogs are in fair demand at about 5½c per lb.

## THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

## DECEMBER PRIZE COMPETITION.

Final Chance this Year

—TO—

## MAKE MONEY

—AND—

## Help a Good Paper Along!

Our autumn competition resulted about doubly more favorable than our August one, and we are encouraged to hope that a similar opportunity given our friends in December, when people generally make provision for a supply of reading matter for the New Year, will yield manifold more satisfactory results than the last one. In this competition we earnestly invite

## EVERY SUBSCRIBER

to take part, believing that it is possible for every one to obtain at least one new subscriber, and hundreds can obtain five each and thus save the price of their own copies. No canvassers can be more efficient, if they only try, than those who know from a full trial how valuable a return for the price the paper is. It should be easy for our young friends, even in the last half of this competition, which will be the Christmas holidays, to earn a goodly sum of money in the liberal commissions we offer, apart from the chances of winning any of the prizes. The premium pictures are within the reach of everyone who exerts himself or herself to earn them. By the following list of prize-winners in the last competition it will be seen that there is no room for despair, on the part of anyone at all favorably situated, of winning the leading prizes:—  
1st, \$10, Wm. Gates, St. George, N.B., sent \$19.75.  
2nd, \$5, Bertha Forbes, Wentworth Grant, N.S., sent \$7.50.  
3rd, \$3, Mary McGee, St. George, N.B., sent \$4.05.  
4th, \$2, Willie Brotsman, Jasper, Steuben Co., N.Y., sent \$4.  
5th, \$1, Jennie McMillan, Spencerville, Ohio, sent \$3.35.

## DECEMBER OFFER.

The price of the *Messenger* is fifty cents a year, and it will be given free for the remainder of this year to new subscribers from the date of receiving their subscriptions. Anyone sending us **FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS** for a year may send **TWO DOLLARS** and keep **FIFTY CENTS**. Anyone sending us **FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS** for six months on trial, at twenty-five cents each, may send eighty-five and keep forty cents. Anyone sending us five subscriptions for three months on trial, at thirteen cents each, may send thirty-five cents and keep thirty cents.

## SEND AS MANY AS YOU CAN.

keeping fifty cents for every five yearly, forty cents for every five half-yearly and thirty cents for every five quarterly subscriptions.

In addition to these commissions we offer the following

## PRIZES:

To the person sending us the largest amount of money, not counting commission, **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 Cayler to be the greatest painting of modern times.

## NOTICE THAT

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 7th of January, 1884.

The present respectable circulation of seven or eight thousand, at the end of the second year's existence of the *Weekly Messenger*, is almost entirely due to its being taken by people on sight for its merits. In the same way there is no doubt it would in the course of a few years attain an enormous circulation. But in these days of steam and electricity people cannot afford to wait for such fruit as that of the Columbian aloe, that is said to take fifty years to blossom. The publishers of this paper, therefore, believing that a welcome awaits it in thousands of homes all over this continent, desire to place it within those homes as speedily as possible, and have for that purpose provided the present series of prize competitions. That the first two of these have been more profitable to the workers than to the publishers is undoubtedly due to the interest of our friends having not yet had time to be fully developed. Practical friendly interest in the *Weekly Messenger* will, however, we have little doubt, abound more and more according as our readers realize that it is not a merely pecuniary enterprise, but one of the most direct and potent agents extant for enlightening, informing and elevating the people.

## 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 7th of January, 1884.

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

## JOHN DOUGALL &amp; SON

"WITNESS" OFFICE,

MONTREAL, P. Q.

Montreal, Nov. 17th, 1883.

## TO OUR WORKERS.

The premiums of pictures which we gave last year to the workers for the *Northern Messenger* having afforded universal satisfaction to their recipients, we shall repeat such premiums this season.

**RICE CAKES.**—These are very delicious, and will be popular with most people. One cup of cold boiled rice, one pint of flour, one tea-spoonful of salt, two eggs beaten light, milk to make a rather thick batter; beat well, and bake on the griddle as flannel cakes; or stir in a table-spoonful of melted butter or lard, make the batter a little thinner with milk, and bake in a hot oven in patty-pans.

## SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

## LESSON XIII.

## REVIEW.

Dec. 30, 1883.

[1 Sam. 4:1-11:13.]

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—"But God is the Judge; he putteth down one, and setteth up another."—18:7, 7.

## REVIEW OUTLINE.

The First Book of Samuel—from which the lessons of this quarter are taken—contains the history of the Israelites from the death of Samuel to the death of Saul. At the beginning of this period Eli was both high priest and judge. He resided at the tabernacle in Shiloh, and in his old age was assisted in the discharge of his duties by his two sons. During his administration Samuel was born. Consecrated to the Lord by his pious mother from his birth, he was early given into the care of Eli, and began to assist in the services of the sanctuary. When he was only twelve years old, he was called to the prophetic office and received his first message from the Lord, foretelling the judgments which were soon to be sent upon Eli and his sons. In fulfillment of these predictions, the Philistines invaded the land. The Israelites, defeated in the first attack, sent for the ark of the covenant, hoping that its presence in their camp will bring them victory. At first the Philistines are dismayed, but they soon rally, and repulse the Israelites with great slaughter. The ark is taken, and Hophni and Phinehas the sons of Eli, are slain. On hearing the tidings, Eli falls from his chair and breaks his neck, in the ninety-eighth year of his age. The Philistines carry the captured ark to Ashdod and place it in the temple of Baal and Dagon. The idol is broken in pieces before it, and judgments fall upon the people, until, after seven months, they are glad to return to the Israelites, who take it to Kirjath-gearim, where it remained until the time of David, who removed it to Jerusalem.

After twenty years, the Israelites, by Samuel's persuasion, are brought to repentance; the Lord delivers them from the invasion of the Philistines, and a season of peace and prosperity follows. Samuel in his old age makes his sons his assistants in the government. On account of their mismanagement, the Israelites require a king. God in his wrath gives them their request. Saul, the son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, is privately anointed by Samuel, and afterward publicly chosen by lot at Mizpah.

Soon after, Jabesh-gilead is besieged by Nabal, king of the Ammonites. Saul defeats the besiegers with great slaughter and delivers the city, and all Israel, coming together at Gilgal, again proclaim him king. Samuel delivers his farewell to the people and retires from all active part in the government.

Saul now attempts the complete delivery of his people. He is successful in his campaigns against the Philistines, and rises to great power. At a later period the Lord sends him against the Amalekites with a command to destroy them utterly. He disobeys this command in consequence thereof God declares his purpose of removing him from the throne. The rest of his life is one long tragedy. Samuel, by the command of God, privately anoints David to be king in his stead. Saul, abandoned by the Spirit, sinks into melancholy. David is sent for to soothe and cheer him by playing upon the harp. Henceforth their lives are blended together.

The Philistines again invade the Israelites, and Saul raises an army to meet the invaders. Goliath, a giant, insults the whole army and challenges any man to meet him in single combat. David accepts the challenge, and kills the champion of the Philistines. At first he is honored by Saul, but soon the king's jealousy is aroused; and a long series of persecutions follows. Jonathan, the king's son, becomes tenderly attached to David, and often tries in vain to remove his father's hatred.

All this time David pursues a wise and loyal course. Twice having Saul in his power he forbears to hurt him. The power of the monarchy decreases as the madness of the monarch increases. The Philistines re-enter the territory of Israel, and threaten a sweeping destruction. Saul marches against them with a strong force but with the despair of one who knows that his doom is sealed. The armies join in battle; the Israelites are utterly routed; the three sons of Saul are slain; and the king himself ends his life by falling on his sword. The Philistines strip and behead him, and expose his body, with the bodies of his sons, on the walls of Bethshan. Valiant men of Jabesh-gilead rescue them by night, and burn and bury them at Jabesh. After some years David removes the remains and places them in the sepulchre of their fathers in Zelah of Benjamin.

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