

## BRITISH COLUMBIA SHIPPING.

The monthly circular of Robert Ward & Co., dated Victoria, B. C., 1st November, gives the arrivals and departures of sailing vessels at and from that port, and others on Puget Sound for October last. Quotations for coal: Departure Bay or Nanaimo to San Francisco, \$2.75 per ton; lumber from Burrard Inlet or Puget Sound to Sydney, N. S. W., 50s. to 52s. 6d.; Melbourne, 65s. to 65s. 6d.; Shanghai, same; Port Pirie, same; United Kingdom, 75s.; West Coast South America, 52s. 6d. to 55s.; East Coast ditto, \$15.50.

Lumber charters effected during the month amounted in the aggregate to 10,694 tons, and tonnage is scarce. One steamer, the "Algoma," of 1892 tons, is named for a cargo to Melbourne. Three American schooners charter for Honolulu; a ship and a barque for Melbourne, a barque and a schooner to Sydney, various ships and barques to Chefoo, Shanghai, Kahului and Iguire. There are arrivals of shipping at Burrard Inlet from Hong Kong and Yokohama, and clearances thence for Valparaiso (lumber and salmon), Callao, Melbourne and Adelaide with lumber. The twenty-eight departures of the month carried 46,444 tons of coal from Nanaimo and Departure Bay to San Francisco, Port Townsend, Honolulu, Sitka, Alaska, and San Pedro.

—A special general meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade was held yesterday to consider the railway question.

—Sir Heney Tyler, in his address to the shareholders at the annual meeting of the Grand Trunk Railway, announced that a rolling mill at Point St. Charles would be erected at a cost of \$9,000, by which the company would be able to manufacture their scrap into bar iron, and thereby save enough money in a very few years to pay the cost of the mill.

—The St. John *Telegraph* is very savage indeed at the present Ottawa Government. In a paragraph praising the Furness Line of Atlantic steamers, it dwells upon "the disfavor with which the Ottawa Government have always viewed this port," as a condition discouraging to the trade of St. John, along with the want of a dry dock, the want of an elevator, and the consequent impossibility of grain cargoes. "The government will do nothing for us," wails the editor, "and local obstructives block the way to harbor improvements." But St. John will see better days when she has a fair field, he thinks. And looking forward into the future he exclaims: "Once our enemies are removed from power at Ottawa, nothing but the hand of heaven or our own folly can check the expanding trade, the growth and prosperity of St. John." Heaven would indeed need to help St. John or any other city that depended upon the aid of governments for her commercial advancement. But we somehow do not think the whole city feels as badly as this editor does.

## Commercial.

## MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Nov. 19th, 1890.

**ASHES.**—The shipments by last steamers of the season, about leaving, though very moderate, have been sufficient to cause a further advance, and No. 1 pots are up to \$5.25; there is still some American demand; seconds are quoted at \$4.50 to 4.60. Pearls are scarce and wanted, and \$6.00 would be paid for same by dealers.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—The weather has been more favorable to retail trade in this line. Orders for spring goods are reported to be coming in fairly, and some sorting business in fall wear is still being done. A number of manufacturing houses are preparing to take stock for 1st December.

**CEMENTS, &c.**—Business in cements rather lags just now, but values are still held pretty steadily at \$2.35 to 2.50 for Belgian and English \$2.55 to 2.80. No great demand for fire-bricks, and prices as at last report.

**DRY GOODS.**—Another quiet week for the season of the year is reported. There are really few fall goods selling, the bulk of travellers' orders being for spring goods, some

houses reporting fair sales of prints, flannelettes, &c. Money is a very scarce commodity indeed, the situation in this respect being if anything poorer than that of a week ago, when complaints were only too loud. The feature of the week is the advance in domestic cottons; checked shirtings, flannelettes, and in fact all colored goods have been put up 10% on a general average; white ducks are also included in the advance. Letters from buyers in Europe make mention of no changes there; linens, silks, &c., have been bought at old prices; a good many Canadian buyers sail from Europe for Canada this week.

**FISH.**—The market rules very firm. All available supplies of herrings are forward, and are very much short of previous seasons: there is also considerable enquiry from the U.S., and prices are likely to advance. Green cod also scarce. We quote: Labradors, \$5.50 to 6.00; shore herrings, \$5.25; green cod, No. 1, \$5.25 to 5.50; dry cod, \$5.25; other lines as before.

**FURS.**—A good few small lots of raw furs are being reported, but the market presents no new features since a week ago.

We quote:—Beaver, per lb. \$4.00 to 4.25; bear, per skin, \$10 to 15; bear cub, \$5 to 8; fisher, \$3.50 to 5; fox, red, \$1 to 1.25; fox, cross, \$2.50 to 5; lynx, \$1.50 to 2.50; marten, 75 to 90c.; mink, 75c. to \$1.25; muskrat, fall, 8 to 10c., kits, 3c.; otter, \$8 to 10; raccoon, 25 to 50c.; skunk, 20, 40, 60 and 80c., according to quality and stripes.

**GROCERIES.**—But little change can be noted in prices since this day week. Business between jobbers is of a rather quiet character, and there is also some slackness in country orders, so that the situation is rather flat at the moment. Sugars remain steady at the late slight decline, granulated being 6c. per lb. at the refinery to wholesale buyers, yellows running from 5 to 6c. Scarcity of syrups still exists; the Redpath refinery has made a new departure, putting up the finer grade of golden syrup in very convenient 2 lb. tins for family use. Molasses has stiffened somewhat; quite a few lots were sold last week, and a cargo of 800 or 900 puncheons destined for this market has been stopped below, which reduces the calculated stock just so much. Teas are dull,

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