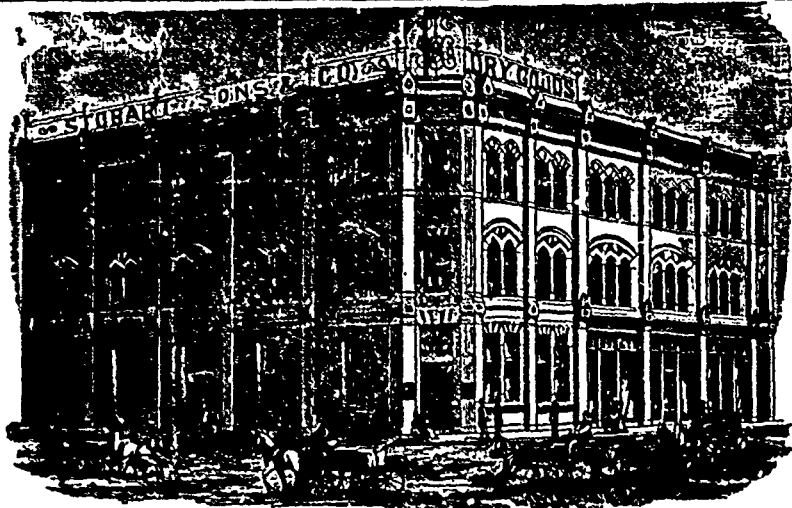


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British Columbia.

The Elgin hotel and several small buildings at Port Moody were destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. Loss probably \$5,000.

Cowderoy Bros., dry goods, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership. W. Cowderoy retires, and J. J. Cowderoy will continue the business.

The Post Office Department has issued a circular stating that mails for China and Japan will be forwarded from Vancouver on July 31 and August 21.

The first shipment of canned salmon of this year's pack, from the Fraser river has been made by Alex. Ewen. The shipment consisted of 500 cases, consigned to Melbourne, Australia.

A. J. Hill, C.E., has lately been engaged in making a survey, with the object of ascertaining if it be feasible to construct a levee and lock, to reclaim about 20,000 acres of first-class land at the Fraser river delta.

A. Godfrey & Co., hardware dealers, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership, W. D. and I. M. Creighton retiring. Alex. and T. B. Godfrey will continue the business, under the old firm name.

J. H. Todd, wholesale dealer, Victoria, recently had constructed a steamer to run in connection with his cannery on the Fraser river. The vessel is 48 feet long, 12 feet beam and 4 feet 4 inches deep. Her engines are single 9x9 and were built by John Doty at Toronto and put in position by Spratt & Gray, of Victoria.

The following are the total revenue collections for the province for the fiscal year ending with June last:

Victoria.....	\$762,991 72
Vancouver	63,016 70
Nanaimo.....	45,007 05
New Westminster	21,855 26

Total\$891,871 63

A banquet was lately held at the Colonial Hotel, Westminster, in connection with the Southwestern railway scheme. The commercial interests of the city were discussed by a number of prominent gentlemen. Mr. L. Pither, of the Colonial, fully maintained the excellent reputation of his house, in preparing a sumptuous repast.

The Northern Pacific is carrying considerable traffic from Victoria. The *Colonist* says:—Thirty-five hundred cases of salmon, valued at about \$24,000, for points in Eastern Canada, and seven bales and six casks of furs, valued at about \$13,000 for New York and London, were shipped on the Alaskan yesterday morning and will go via the Northern Pacific railroad.

The sheriff is in possession of W. Mueller's candy and fruit store, Victoria, under a judgment secured by Mme. Dresdovitch on a note given by Mueller for \$500. The latter, who lately lived at the former's house, claimed in court that he signed the paper under the impression that he was making his will in favor of Mme. Dresdovitch. However, his signature was proven, and as a consequence he was ordered to pay.

An emery wheel burst at the Albion Iron Works, Victoria, lately, breaking into three pieces, which shot upwards and through the side of the stove-shop building. One shot across the road and through a window in the second-story of the Western Hotel. Such was the impetus of the flying missile that it passed through two partitions and fell upon a bed in the third room. The occupant of the bed had risen but a few minutes before. The other two pieces fell into the shop, one burying itself into the ground. There was no one working at the wheel at the time, and fortunately there was no injury sustained by the workmen.

With reference to the claim of the Vancouver *News*, that "Vancouver is the only seaport on the Pacific Coast of the Dominion that has a harbor capable of being entered at all stages of the tide and at every season of the year by the largest ocean going vessels," the *Victoria Times* replies: The harbor of Esquimalt, which is the port of Victoria for deep draught vessels, is one of the largest and most accessible in the world. Vessels of all sizes, in fair weather or in foul, at any stage of the tide, and at all seasons of the year, can pass through the Royal Roads to the capacious and land-locked harbor within. Esquimalt is the station for the Pacific fleet, and undoubtedly has the best harbor on the coast. In saying this, we do not detract from the excellent harbor on Burrard Inlet, which is second only to Esquimalt on the Pacific.

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