

THE VICTORIA PRICES CURRENT AND SHIPPING LIST.

Vol. 3. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1865. No 126.

The unusually protracted winter has seriously affected our commercial affairs in neutralising all the calculations of our merchants; our warehouses are full of most descriptions of goods, whilst buyers hesitate, owing to the uncertainty of river transit to the interior of the sister Colony; under these circumstances, as a natural consequence, sellers are in some cases anxious to realise, and prices that in a more advanced period of the season would be refused are at present readily submitted to. There are, however, those amongst our importers and dealers who feel more confidence in the advancing season, and who decline to transact business without a fair profit. We predict for them a profitable result for their firmness.

This city has never had so many difficulties opposed to its commercial progress as at present. In the first place, the preliminary measures to the creation of a tariff in our own Island are beginning to have their influence. Secondly, the absurd impositions in the sister Colony will undoubtedly restrict commercial operations to immediate demand in that quarter. Thirdly, the stringent application of the customs regulations in the United States involving heavy duties, or still heavier penalties on any attempt at evasion, compresses our trade within very narrow limits. Fourthly, the still unsettled state of affairs in Mexico prevents any shipment in that direction, except on unquestionable orders. With all these obstacles to contend against, our people, with few exceptions, look forward to brighter times. British Columbian legislators will sooner or later (may it not be too late) see the error of their ways. Our own tariff will, we are happy to observe, be maturely considered before it becomes law. The United States will, we trust, be soon in a position to look calmly at the unswerving laws of commerce, and see the folly of casting away the beef for the shadow. California, Oregon and Washington Territory will always be our customers from their close vicinity, and the facilities of transit are daily on the increase. Mexico is gradually accustoming herself to the new order of things, and will soon offer a wide field to commercial explorers; our market being the best on the Pacific for European manufactures will of course be the first appealed to for supplies. Our erring sister will embrace the opportunity of supplying her wants where she can procure all she requires much cheaper than by direct importation.

The latest news from the various mining districts is full of promise for the coming season, and we heartily wish our hardy miners may meet with the well merited reward for their toil during the past two years. The extent of country lately opened up will afford an opening for thousands of new comers, who will arrive at success in a much shorter period than in older communities.

Sugar—At McCrea's Auction Sale, on the 16th instant, good prices were realized for all descriptions, the whole quantity offered being disposed of. The stock in first hands was completely exhausted, when the arrival of the 'Domitilla' furnished a timely supply; the whole of this cargo changed hands and prices are firm at quotations as follows.—Sandwich Island No. 1, 10½ cts., No. 2, 9 cts. **Coffee** is held at 21 cts.; for *Pulu* there is no sale.

Wines and Spirits.—An Auction Sale was held a few days ago—of the Wines only sample lots were sold—Brandy of various brands brought very fair prices, the amount realized was \$6000 to \$7000.

Grain and Flour.—At a late sale of Grain by Auction the prices obtained were very low. Stocks are heavy. The 'Brewster' has just arrived from Valparaiso; she made the passage in 71 days and brings the following produce: Barley, 243 tons 1241 lbs.; Beans, 136 tons 273 lbs. At the time of our going to press we learn that nothing is definitely fixed with regard to her cargo, but in the present state of the market here we think it not improbable that arrangements will be made to send the cargo to California instead of discharging at this port, as we have already enough of both these articles to meet any demand that we are likely to have for some time to come: had the 'Brewster' brought Flour it would have met with ready sale as prices are still inclined to rise. Advices from Chile report trade very brisk generally, and from the Captain we learn that every vessel that could be obtained at the time he was in Valparaiso was chartered at once for Australia.

By late advices we learn that the 'Philomela' had been laid on the berth at London to load for this port.

We publish a supplement with this issue containing the resolutions lately passed by the Chamber of Commerce in this city. The resolutions sufficiently denote the high class to which our merchants belong, and will no doubt command that attention which the importance of the subjects under discussion require at the hands of all those interested in commercial progress.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London—60 days, \$5 00, £1 sterling.
do 30 days, \$5 05, do
do 3 days, \$5 10, do
San Francisco—1 per cent. premium.
Canada and New Brunswick—4 per cent. premium.
Nova Scotia—2½ per cent. premium.
New York—4 per cent. premium.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

OFFICERS FOR 1865-66.

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SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

ENTERED.

March 9.—Sloop Thornton, Warren, New Westminster
Sch J. K. Thornhyke, Thornton, San Juan,
Str Fideliter, London, Nanaimo,
Str G. S. Wright, Lewis, Portland.
Sch Gen. W. ndham, June, Port Angelos,
Sch Alpha, George, Nanaimo,
Str Fideliter, London, do.
March 11.—A. Cro-by, Ketchum, Astoria.
March 13.—Str Fideliter London New Westminster
Bk Massachusetts McIntyre San Francisco
Sch Leah W Robertson Port Angelos
Sch Onward H McKay Nanaimo
Sch Domatilla J P Webb Honolulu
Slp Thornton Warren Salt Spring Island
Sch North Star W McCulloch Nanaimo
Str Emily Harris McIntosh Nanaimo
March 17.—Str Enterprise Mount New Westminster
Sch Leah Hillyer Port Angelos

CLEARED.

Feb. 25.—Str Fideliter, London, Nanaimo
Sch Alpha, George, Nanaimo
Slp Boy Dak Cowichan.
In Thornton Warren New Westminster
Sch Flying Mist Thompson Port Angelos
Bt Harriet Disk San Juan
March 11.—Sch Sweepstakes, Kellner, Stekin,
Sch Matilda, Everstein, New Westminster,
Sloop Thornton, Warren, Salt Spring Island,
Sloop Native, Jones, Soke.
March 13.—Sch Eliza Carleton Stanich

Slp Alarm Hollis Salt Spring Island
Str F deliter London Nanaimo
Slp Thornton Warren New Westminster
Slp Northern Light Montfort Port Angelos
March 17.—Sch Alpha George Nanaimo
Sch Gen Harney Oberg Port Angelos
Str Enterprise Mount New Westminster
Sch Winged Racer Peterson Saanich.

LOADING AND ON THE WAY.

From London—Ann Adamson, loading.
do Philomela, do
From Liverpool—Cyclone loading.
do Ta Lee,

ALBERNI SHIPPING NEWS.

Corrected for the Prices Current by Anderson & Co.
SAILED.

Egeria, for Shanghai.

LOADING.

John Stephenson, for Adelaide.

J. J. COCHRANE, C. E.,

Land Agent, Surveyor, and Auctioneer
of Real Estate only.

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Victoria, Vancouver Island. del