

was only eight. We notice that in the annual report for 1884, the death cost was claimed to have been only \$6 per \$1,000, and in 1885 it was claimed to have been \$8. Nothing is said about it for 1886; it was evidently somewhat over \$10 per \$1,000; thus shewing the usual tendency to grow heavier as the members grow older, and the healthy ones drop out.

In the A. O. U. W. the death rate has been heavy also the past year, both in Canada and in the supreme jurisdiction, also in Ohio. Relief call No. 7 is now being collected from all over the United States and Canada, to make up a balance of \$18,914.19 by which the supreme and Ohio departments over-ran their prescribed limit of 30 assessments. Ontario's assessments in 1885 were 13, and in 1886 they were 14. Ontario is not entitled to call for relief until its assessments reach 24 in a year. The sum Ontario will need to pay toward relief call No. 7 will be about \$1,500.

BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 1886.

In the New Year's issue of the *Victoria Daily Times*, which consists of ten pages, we find a voluminous account of the progress and position of British Columbia and its principal towns. Never before in the history of British Columbia, says that journal, were the prospects so favorable for the development of the quartz mines; the coal trade is improving and the lumber export finding new markets. The Esquimalt and Nanaimo railway was finished and begun to be operated and the dry dock was practically completed.

The estimate of revenues and expenditures of that province for the current financial year 1886-7, puts the revenue at \$576,161.05, and the proposed expenditures at \$710,524.50. Of the receipts, the Dominion pays \$100,000 for lands conveyed in trust; \$48,000 in a *per capita* grant; \$35,000 by way of subsidy and \$29,000 as annual interest at five per cent. The provincial land sales are estimated at \$100,000; free miners' certificates \$24,000; licenses \$30,000; provincial revenue tax \$75,000; real property \$24,000 and personal property tax \$20,000. Among the proposed expenditures of the province we find \$225,000 in public works; \$94,000 for education; \$50,000 for administration of justice (salaries, \$75,000, not included); civil government \$62,000; hospitals and charities \$21,000; legislation \$19,800.

The exports of British Columbia form an interesting list. From twenty to thirty million feet of lumber in various shapes was dispatched to foreign shores last year. From Victoria, the declared exports for 1886 to the United States amounted in value to two and a quarter millions, an increase of 11 per cent. on the average of three preceding years, and consisted mainly of coal, coin, furs, skins, salmon, fish oil. The list is as under:

Coal	\$ 896,312 84
Treasure	693,815 36
Furs, hides and skins	299,721 95
Seal skins (undressed)	218,452 61
Canned salmon and fish oil....	53,676 60
Tobacco and liquors.....	21,055 01
Opium, rice and Chinese goods..	18,973 03
Miscellaneous.....	46,934 14
Total.....	\$2,248,941 54

The fiscal year 1888 showed the largest export trade from all ports of the last fifteen; it amounted to \$3,845,000, and of this total \$1,383,000 was from the fisheries. For the year ending June, 1886, the exports were:

The Mine	\$1,720,336
" Fisheries	633,110
" Forest	200,178
" Field.....	1,917
Animals.....	329,248
Manufactures.....	1,035

Total \$2,885,824

The salmon pack for 1886 of the seventeen canneries in the province amounted to 163,004 cases. The price realized were regarded as satisfactory. The English market was reduced in the supply on hand carried over from previous seasons, thereby enabling shippers to place their pack of the coast to advantage. "The run in this province," says the *Times*, especially on the Fraser River, was slight, disappointing in fact. Nevertheless the prices realized will in a measure make up for the shortness in quantity. Many of the canneries are carrying over supplies for another season, when it is expected they will recoup themselves by an increase in the pack. Of the quantity mentioned above, there was sent: to the United Kingdom, 102,091 cases; Eastern Canada, 47,223 cases; Australia, 12,700; local dealers, 900 cases; total 163,004 cases. These were caught principally (103,000 cases) in Fraser River, the remainder in rivers Inlet, the Skeena, the Duncan, and the Alert.

The city of Victoria is growing rapidly. In the year 1884, some \$750,000 was expended in new buildings, in 1885 about \$500,000 and last year a hundred and fifty structures were erected at a cost of \$550,000. A list of something over a hundred of the largest tax-payers shows their assessment to reach \$2,892,000. The revenue of the city, which in 1876 was but \$57,000 was in 1886 \$134,000, a sum of \$14,000 in excess of the previous year's revenue.

From the port of Nanaimo in the fiscal year ended with June 1886 there was exported \$975,000 worth of coal, iron ore, lumber and dogfish oil to the United States, Sandwich Islands, Mexico and Asiatic Russia. The imports of the same period amounted in value to \$300,000.

Some figures relating to the city of Vancouver will prove of interest. This city, situated on a peninsula formed by the waters of Burrard Inlet and False Creek, possesses great advantages in extensive water frontage. Coal Harbor extends along its northern front three miles, with a mean breadth of two miles, and the noble roadstead of English Bay is beyond. The city limits embrace an area of six miles in length by two and a half in breadth. Since the disastrous fire of June last, buildings valued at \$521,000 have been erected, which added to the assessment of the real estate makes a total value of over \$3,000,000. The city has put down fire protection pipes at a cost of \$12,000. There are three saw-mills in the city having an annual capacity of 40,000,000 feet. The C. P. R. Co. has expended \$200,000 in clearing and street-making and will expend some hundreds of thousands more in round-house

and other buildings. The assessed value of the company's property in the city is about \$1,000,000, while some twenty-five other owners are taxed on an assessment of another million.

On Burrard Inlet is the Hastings saw-mill, which cuts fifteen million feet per year and during 1886 shipped seven million feet to Valparaiso, Shanghai, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Callao and Iquique, or other ports in Australia, South America and Mexico. The Chemainus mill is on the east coast of the Island and cuts say twelve million feet per year, three-fourths of which was last year used for the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway. At New Westminster and at Vancouver are the Royal City mills, consisting of two concerns which have a capacity of some twenty millions yearly and also make sashes and doors, shingles, lath and boxes. They have three steamers, fifteen barges, and employ over 400 men. At the mouth of the Brunette River, on the west bank of the Fraser are the Brunette mills, which cut six million feet last year. The Moodyville Saw-mill Co. shipped during 1886 twenty cargoes of rough and dressed lumber, spars, pickets and laths, to Australia, China, Japan, the Sandwich Islands and South America. Their total carriage was 11,605,000 feet rough boards; 824,000 dressed ditto.

The Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Co., limited, incorporated in 1862, took over mines and lands from the Hudson's Bay Co., and has since produced nearly two million tons of coal, the yearly production ranging from 21,000 tons in 1883 to 238,000 tons in 1885. It employs some 800 men, at from \$2.00 to \$3.50 per day. The Wellington Mines near Departure Bay, to which their railway, five miles in length, runs, employ some 600 hands and their out-put last year reached 180,000 tons.

KEEPING TRADE AT HOME.

On the interesting subject, *the* a retail dealer, how to keep trade at home, the *Chicago Grocer* has the following:—"There is nothing that grieves a storekeeper more than to have somebody living in the town go outside or to an adjoining city to purchase goods for home consumption. The very people who do this often pay higher prices for identically the same goods that can be purchased at their local storekeepers; to say nothing of car fare, express charges, etc. Now, why do they do it? In nine cases out of ten because they are willing to pay something extra for the privilege of looking over and selecting from a large stock of goods. That is of course, a privilege; and the storekeeper, who desires to prevent these people from going out of town to purchase, should be careful to keep his shelves so full of the best goods that the customer will get into the habit of believing that you are to be depended upon in the matter of always keeping up with the times."

This is very well up to a certain point, but it is advice that cannot be acted upon indiscriminately. A shop-keeper in a small place, with slender means and a limited custom cannot be expected to keep his shelves full of the best goods, and probably