

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has made arrangements with the Vancouver Electric Light Co. for furnishing the company's wharf with twenty-two lights. This will enable ships to load and discharge cargo as easily by night as by day.

The steamship Parthia, the next vessel due at Vancouver from Asia, sailed from Yokohama on Sunday, the 8th inst., and will arrive about the 21st. Her cargo consists of 175,000 pounds of tea and 220 bales of silk for eastern points, and 190,000 pounds of tea for San Francisco. The first-class passengers number 22; second-class and steerage, 9 Japanese and a number of Chinamen.

The hotel men of New Westminster do not relish a new by law providing for the closing of their places of business on Sunday. They held a meeting and passed the following resolution: "That this association notify in writing the mayor and council that if they do not at their next meeting rescind and cancel the newly made Sunday closing by-law that both the hotel and saloon-keepers will open up and keep open our respective places of business all day Sunday, and will not close during church hours."

Vancouver News: On the opposite side of the Inlet nearly a score of people are setting out grape vines and are making extensive preparations for going into grape culture on a large scale. Mr. Hanson has just completed arrangements for the setting out of 1,000 vines this fall, and next year this number will be doubled at least. He has made a personal inspection of the situation and the quality of the soil for grape growing, and says both are all that could be desired. The Italians who have taken up land for this purpose are getting along nicely, and will have a large number of vines planted this fall, although they only commenced clearing six weeks ago. Fruit growing is one of the things British Columbia excels in, though many people are slow to believe it.

The ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of British Columbia was held in London, England, on July 27th. R. Gillespie, who presided, stated that the net profit, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, had been £23,910, being an increase of £2,800 compared with the profit for the corresponding period of 1886. They proposed to offer the shareholders a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 1 per cent for the half-year. They must not regard the bonus as a guide to what they would receive hereafter, but the directors hoped it might be possible to pay it in future. They had opened agencies at Nanaimo and Kamloops. Though he was a proprietor and a director of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, he had no doubt that the Canadian Pacific Railway was benefitting the province of British Columbia and those districts. Latest reports informed them that the crops were favorable. Within the last few weeks they had represented the Government of British Columbia in bringing out a loan, which had been a great success. They had also assisted in an issue of bonds of the city of Vancouver. He concluded by proposing the dividend and bonus recommended. James Anderson seconded the motion, which was agreed to

The Victoria Standard claims that the Indians on their return from hop picking at Puget Sound, smuggle annually about \$100,000 worth of goods into the province.

The following were burned out at Victoria: Redgrave & Ella, confectioners, loss heavy; M. R. Smith, baker, insured, Mrs. K. Whitlaw, loss covered by insurance.

W. Port & Co., Victoria, have shipped this season over the C.P.R. about 100 tons of fresh fish in ice for the eastern markets. These have all gone by express, and have been widely distributed.

Among the late departures with lumber for foreign ports were the ship Zulieka from Vancouver for Valparaiso. Her cargo consists of 837,155 feet of rough and finished lumber, valued at \$9,669.45, and the ship Hindostan, also for Valparaiso. She had on board 1,280,749 feet of lumber, valued at \$14,000.33.

Alderman Oppenheimer has given notice in the Vancouver council that he would introduce a resolution offering \$25,000 for the establishment of iron smelting works and \$10,000 for a foundry and machine shop. This is a bad business. It is to be hoped the people of Vancouver will negative these propositions, should they come to a vote.

The Kamloops Sentinel, in referring to the mineral richness of the Nicola country says: "It only wants a McKay, a Jones, or a Flood, to develop the Nicola country; and, were any such mining speculators in this vicinity, a second Comstock would, doubtless be the result. Nicola has already proved itself equal to any locality in Nevada—so far as the richness and abundance of its mineral treasures are concerned."

Vancouver News: A sheaf of wheat was left in our office by E. Bell, of Chihliwhack. The heads average about 6 inches in length although some of them are 7 inches long. We took three heads and counted the grains in each, the number of which were 83, 93 and 103 respectively. The wheat is plump and hard, and will compare favorably with any grown on the continent. Mr. Bell has a patch of 25 acres ready to cut, all of which is equal to the sample left with us, and 60 bushels to the acre is what he expects to thresh from it. How is this for wheat growing, Manitoba? Let us hear from you.

Work at Illicillewaet mines says the Victoria Standard, is being pushed with energy. G. B. Wright & Co. have over half a hundred men at work mining, and many more engaged in building trails through their mines. The mines are situated about three miles from Illicillewaet station, and about 5,000 feet above the C.P.R. track. The ore mined is chiefly silver and is very rich, some samples assaying \$2,000 to the ton. \$700 to the ton is said to be the average assay. Mules are used to pack the ore down the mountain, but Wright & Co. propose shortly putting in a wire cable road or cars at an early date. The C.P.R. company have put in a siding to the foot of the mines, and ore is being shipped daily. The crushing and other machinery recently introduced is being worked and things are booming generally. Kennedy & Corbett also have a force of men at work and are striking it rich. Prospectors are numerous, and everything points to a rich future for Illicillewaet.

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