

## TRADE AND COMMERCE.

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,  
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## VICTORIA.

Hong Kong exchange is a little lower and is quoted at 71½, which is said to be the lowest point touched for years. London exchange still rules high. The outlook for the summer is very favorable. Building operations are going steadily forward, and although general trade is not so brisk as merchants expected the volume is steady and at the end of the season the balances will, it is believed, compare favorably with past years. The sealing industry also gives promise of being very successful this year, according to reports received from the vessels that have already been spoken.

## FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The arrivals of California fruit and vegetables from San Francisco on Monday by steamer Umatilla consisted of 148 cs oranges, 31 cs lemons, 36 cs bananas, 57 cs cabbage, 55 cs asparagus, 28 cs rhubarb, and 11 cs miscellaneous vegetables; total 386 cases. The arrivals on the previous Monday were 489 cases. Cabbage is ½c cheaper. Asparagus has dropped 5c per lb., and rhubarb 6c per lb. Mountain oranges are quoted at \$2.50 per case. It is expected that cherries will begin to arrive in two or three weeks, and peaches in small quantities about the beginning of May. The market in San Francisco is said to be abundantly stocked with oranges and prices favor the buyer. Quotations are:—Oranges—Riverside seedlings, \$2.35 to \$3.25; navels, \$1 to \$5; Los Angeles, \$2; California lemons, \$1 to \$5; Sicily lemons, \$7; bananas, \$3.50; silverskin onions, 2c per lb.; cabbage, 2c per lb.; asparagus, 10c per lb.; Oregon yellow danver, 1½c; apples, \$1.62½ to \$2 per box; potatoes, \$15 to \$20 per ton. Rhubarb, 5c.

## GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The receipts of California roll butter from San Francisco by ss. Umatilla composed 50 cases and 20 kegs. Fancy is quoted at 20c in San Francisco this week, where the market is said to be liberally stocked and weak. Supplies are also not of the best keeping qualities. The fight between the dairymen's union and the commission men seems to be off for the present but is liable to break out again at any time.

Quotations are: California fancy roll, 26½c@27c per lb; Eastern creamery, 23½c per lb. for large and 20½c for small; Manitoba creamery, 30c; dairv, 18c; Eastern Townships, first quality, 26c. Cheese is quoted at 11c; supplies being light, quotations are firm. Prices of meats are unchanged by jobbers, although an advance of ½c is advised by packers on lard in pails and kettle rendered, also on long clear side in case lots. Quotations are: Hams, 11c per lb.; breakfast bacon, 11c; backs, 13c; short roll, 11½c; long clear, 11c; pure kettle lard, 50 lbs, 13c; pure steam do., 12c; lard compound, 10½c@11½c; lard tins, 12½c@13½c. Granulated sugar is quoted by jobbers at 5½c, and yellows at 4½c to 5c.

Cowan & Wilson have received another regular shipment of fresh Havana cigars

direct from Cuba by SS. Umatilla. These are of the finest quality and are appreciated by the trade as is evidenced by the liberal sales that have been made of the same brands.

Falconer's Victoria Vinegar Works' goods are now carried by the leading wholesale grocers, comprising pure malt vinegar, tomato catsup, Worcestershire sauce, mushroom catsup, apple and quince cider, lemon and vanilla extracts and fruit syrups—of home manufacture.

## FLOUR AND FEED.

The Ogilvie Milling Co. and the Keewatin Mills have come to an agreement to sell only to the wholesale trade and in carload lots. A uniform scale of prices and terms has been fixed. Quotations for Manitoba flour and mill products in car lots f. o. b., Victoria: Hungarian, \$5.00 per bbl; Strong Bakers, \$5.20; bran, \$21 per ton; shorts, \$23; chop feed, \$30.50; oats, \$26; feed wheat, \$30. It is reported that prices of Manitoba flour will be put up again shortly, as the mills have been running for some time at ruinous rates.

The Commercial Review says that in Portland the local demand has been quiet and business of light proportion. A decline is to be noted in prices; quote standard brands, \$1.75 per bbl. This shows a decline of 15c since last week.

Local quotations are unchanged.

The Columbia Flouring Mills quote. For Enderby flour in carload lots, Premier, \$5.50; XXX., \$5.30; Strong Bakers or XX., \$5.00; Superfine, \$1.00. Quotations to the trade are:

Delta, Victoria mills.....	\$5 50 @ 0 00
Lion, " " " " " " " "	5 50 @ 0 00
Premier, Enderby mills.....	5 85 @ 0 00
XXX, " " " " " " " "	5 55 @ 0 00
XX, " " " " " " " "	5 25 @ 5 50
Superfine, " " " " " " " "	1 25 @ 1 50
Ogilvie's Hungarian.....	6 00 @ 0 00
" Strong Bakers.....	5 60 @ 0 00
H. B. C. Fort Garry Hungarian	6 00 @ 0 00
Benton County, Oregon.....	6 00 @ 0 00
Snowflake.....	6 25 @ 0 00
Portland Roller.....	6 10 @ 0 00
Royal.....	6 00 @ 0 00
Oregon Superfine.....	4 25 @ 0 00
Wheat, per ton.....	\$10 00 @ 15 00
Oats.....	32 50 @ 35 00
Oil cake meal.....	32 50 @ 35 00
Chop feed.....	33 00 @ 35 00
Shorts.....	28 00 @ 30 00
Bran.....	26 00 @ 27 50
National Mills oatmeal.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " rolled oats.....	3 25 @ 0 00
" " split peas.....	3 50 @ 0 00
" " pearl barley.....	4 50 @ 0 00
California oatmeal.....	4 35 @ 0 00
California rolled oats.....	3 90 @ 4 00
Corameal.....	2 75 @ 3 00
Cracked corn.....	15 00 @ 50 00
Hay, per ton.....	18 00 @ 20 00
Straw, per bale.....	1 25 @ 0 00

## RICE.

The Victoria Rice Mills quote wholesale:

Japan rice, per ton.....	\$77 50
China rice " " " " " "	70 00
Rice flour " " " " " "	70 00
Chit rice " " " " " "	25 00
Rice Meal " " " " " "	17 50

## SALMON.

A late advice from London says that most of the shipments now arriving are going into warehouse and will probably have to remain there until the old stocks of 1890 are worked down. It is estimated by competent authorities that there were over 200,000 cases of salmon of 1890 pack

in warehouse last January in London and Liverpool. Old stocks of British Columbia salmon are selling at 17s to 10s, and some sales have been made as low as 16s 6d. No sales of the new pack of 1891 just arriving are being made.

## LUMBER.

Since last week, the charter of the Argyleshire, 708 tons, is announced to Valparaiso for orders at 40s. The Norwegian iron bark Fritzoe, 1,078 tons, has been chartered from Chemalmus to Melbourne at 45s; also the British ship Earl Granville, 1,149 tons, from Cowichan to the United Kingdom at 02s 6d. The Glenbervie sailed March 25 for Valparaiso, with a cargo consisting of over 800,000 feet. Quotations are as follows for cargo lots for a foreign shipment, being the prices of the Pacific Pine Lumber Association: Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to 40 feet, inclusive, \$9 per M feet; rough deck plank, average length 35 feet, \$10; dressed flooring, \$17; pickets, \$9; laths, 4 feet, \$2.

## COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

Col. BOLCKOW, of the firm of Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., limited, large iron masters, iron and steel manufacturers and colliery owners, near Middlesborough, Eng., has failed. The failure has caused a great sensation in the Middlesborough district.

The Winnipeg Commercial, after referring to the conflict of interests which exists—as is the case here also—in connection with its fishery interests, says: "There is one point upon which all agree, namely, in condemning the report of Senator Wilnot upon the Manitoba fisheries. He made no investigation at all, but simply reported what were his own opinions, or the opinions of some person or persons whom he accepted as his advisors, without taking the pains to make anything approaching an investigation into the actual facts of the case. This seems to be the style of the man."

A CURIOUS fact is brought to light by an English trade contemporary. In a recent failure an item usually found in the statement of assets was wanting, namely "book debts." It transpired that these had passed into the possession of a local bank as collateral security. The law which requires that notice shall be given each debtor of the transfer of his debt to a third party was circumvented in the following way:—The bank obtained the signature of the firm to an agreement which assigned to them, generally, all the book debts then existing, or which would come into existence, with power to enter upon the premises of the firm at any time, and ascertain what the debts were and by whom owing. Money was advanced upon the strength of this agreement, and when difficulties supervened the power taken was exercised, and all the book debts of the firm were seized. Our contemporary wisely points out the danger arising from so palpable a trick becoming general. The transaction is practically a bill of sale over unspecified property, with the advantages of not requiring the publicity of registration and of conveying property that may not be in existence at the time.