B. C. CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the customs returns for the four ports of the Province of British Columbia for the month of January, 1893: IMPORTS

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TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE. Tuesday Morning, Feb. 21.

VICTORIA.

recent stormy weather has, beyond a doubt, had the effect of discouraging any general feeling for trade. There is, of course, some little movement to meet the demand for immediate requirements in staple goods, but the volume in the aggregate is not large. There is, however, quite a general feeling of confidence that the opening of the spring season will bring general activity and a fair increase in the volume of trade. Collections are generally slow, and merchants complain of the tightness of money. Hong Kong exchange is posted by the banks at 67c.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

The following are the receipts of California butter from San Francisco, by ss. Umatilla, Feb. 19, for Victoria: 10 cases, 1205 lbs, 30 half cases, 1500 lbs; total, 2705 lbs. California rolls, extra choice, are quoted by the wholesale trade at 28c per lb., and squares, 29c. The price of Eastern creamery butter has slightly weakened since the California butter came on the market. The meat market continues to advance, and consequently local quotations are going upward in sympathy. It is expected that the price of American lard, lard compound, etc., will be advanced again shortly by packers. The American canned meat market is very strong, and a fourth advance of about I0c a doz. all round is looked for by well informed dealers. Another advance has taken place in raw sugars in the eastern market, and the general tendency is upward. It is quite probable that the Refinery prices will be advanced he in sympathy with the advance in the price of raws. Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co., L'td., have received a were 1,082 pkgs., against 1,373 pkgs., for consignment of China sugar of two the week previous. The market continues qualities. regular jobbers' quotations and will not be the cause of any cut in prices.

Roast corned and lunch beef, I's per doz., \$1.30; do. 2's per doz., \$2.10; lunch tongues, 1's per doz.\$3.35; do. 2's,\$5.90. Armour's white label conserved soaps in 2 lb. tins are quoted at \$3 per doz.

Commission agents quote American Business has not been active during the meats f. o. b. Victoria, duty paid, past week in any line of business. The as follows: Medium hams, 174c per lb; heavy hams, 17c; choice breakfast bacon, 18e; short clear sides, 113e, and dry salt clear sides, 14c. Armour's white label pure lard, 10 lb. pails, 19ge per lb.

are the finest quality on the Ameri. kegs in each case being to higher: which market, being a special grade for choice family trade, are quoted, (duty paid, Victoria), hams, 181c, breakfast bacon, 19c.

The British Columbia Sugar Refining Co. L'td., quote as follows in their weekly price list: Powdered icing and bar, 67c; Paris lumps, 64c; granulated 54c; extra C. 5c; fancy yellow, 13c; yellow 14c; golden C., 4gc. Above prices are for barrels or bags; half-barrels and 100 pound kegs, ic; more, boxes ic more. No order taken for less than 100 barrels or its equivalent.

They quote syrup as follows: Finest golden, in 30 gal. bls. 21c; ditto. in 10 gal. kegs. 3c; ditto. in 5 gal. kegs, \$2.25 each; ditto, in 1 gal. tins, \$1.50 per case of 10; ditto in 4 gal. tins, 80 per case of 20. Prices cover delivery in Vancouver, and at Victoria, New Westminster and Nanaimo, and are subject to a discount of 21 per cent. for cash in fourteen days. All prices sub ject to change without notice.

California evaporated fruits are quoted as follows: - Apples, evaporated, 50 lb. boxes, 14c per lb., 25 lb. boxes 13 tc; apricots, 25 1b. boxes, 20c; prunes, 25 lb. boxes, 14c; plums, 25 lb. boxes, 141c to 141c; peaches, 50 lb. boxes, 16c, 25 lb. boxes 17c. Canadian evaporated apples, 50 lb boxes, 81 to 9lc.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says "Butter receipts during the past week This is not offered to the firm with business confined to the local wholesale trade, but will be sold at trade. If there were any export demand prices would quickly advance; but in the absence of it. there will be no dearth of American canned meats, staples, are supplies between now and the new season. quoted to the jobbers in bond as follows: Sales of fine creamery have been made in and less than the average weekly ship-

jobbing lots at 23½c to 24c, but these prices could not be had for 100 tub lots. A lot of 30 tubs of very good creamcry was sold at 221c. In dairy butter the supply is getting very low of finest, sales of finest Townships having been made at 21c to 22c in 10 to 20 tub lots. Kamouraska is said to be scarce ir Quebec, and holders ask 20c. Western is gulet but steady at 18c to 20c as to quality. We quote:-Creamery choice fall, 22c to 23c; Creamery good to fine, 21c to 22c. About 1c to 2c may be added to above prices for choice selections of single tubs, Cheese receipts during the past week were 9 boxes against nil for the week previous. The cheese market here is now of very little import, as there is now left such a small quantity to dispose of. Since our last report how. ever, sales have transpired at 111c to 113c."

Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter-Eastern Creamery, tubs	2:3	@	23
Manitoba Dairy choice	18	œ	22
California rolls, extra choice	28	C	00
" squares, "	29	Œ	00
Cheese-Canadian, B	12	@	143
California	16	@	00
Eggs, pickled, per doz	25	@	00
case "	25	@	00
Smoked meats and lard are quo	ted	:	

Dinonea mente			
Hams	15	@	18
Breakfast bacon	17	@	18
Short rolls	14	@	15
Long rolls	15	@	16
Dry Salt, long clear	13	6	11
Pure Lard, 50ths	16	@	17
Pure Lard, 50lbs	17	œ	175
Lard Compound	15}	œ	16
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Sugar-Jobber's prices h-barrels and

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DRY GOODS.

The Toronto Empire says: "Business con tinues very satisfactory. Orders are considerably larger than last year and much greater than jobbers anticipated. There have been no changes in values during the week. The payments due on the 4th, and which have been made for the several days following, were satisfactory for this season of the year from Ontario, but in the Northwest and British Columbia there is not much money moving at present and remittances from there are not as large as expected. Trade is quiet there, as the weather has been exceedingly cold. The maritime provinces show up better than before; they are not dependent on the crops, but on lumbering and the fisheries.'

FLOUR AND FEED.

The market is featureless. Stocks in jobbers' warehouses are ample for demands. They bought largely before recent advances and prices are steady.

The Portland Commercial Review says: "All brands of flour are in liberal stock and more or less pressed for sale, there being considerable competition to work off supplies, and reports of cutting prices seem to be well founded. The outside call for the product is apparently slow