

(Successors to Chipman, Mor; an & Co.)

### SHIPBRUAERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS

632 Cordova St., Vaucouver, B C.

Importers of Rice, Sacks, Japan, Iudian and China Teas, Steel. Iron, Rope, Cement, Oils, Fruit, Canned Goods, Etc., Etc.

# For Sale

A BARGAIN.

Steam Engine in first class order, and only used a short time. Size, 24 inch bore and 30 inch stroke. Heavy pattern suitable for saw mill work, Made by William Hamilton, Peterborough, Ont., also a very fine Feed Water Heater for same.

#### STUART & HARPER,

Machinery Dealers, Winnipeg, Man.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA.

## Victoria Business Review.

April 16, 1894.

There is no special feature of this week's business. Eggs are very cheap, fresh ranch eggs selling as low as 26c retail, and it is thought they will go lower. Vegetables are also plentiful, local stock again coming into the market. Although the supply of eastern fresh meats has been limited, quotations have not advanced. Locally, fish have been scarce. During the week the s.s. Arawa arrived from Australia with a small cargo. Tariff changes do not seem to have been made with any special view to encourage this trade, and it will require a more extended business than at present exists to make the new line pay. Of course, the sesson is an unfavorable one, and commerce everywhere at a low ebb. As times improve and in the event of the negotiatious for freer exchange and a greater encourage ment to trade succeeding, no doubt prospects will become better, but it is a little anomalous to see the Dominion Government on the one hand clinging to the principle of protection in regard to those products in which exchange is possible between Canada and Aus tralia, and at the same time offering increased subsidies to steamship lines having this in view. The Empress of Japan brought in a fair cargo of merchandisc from the Orient this week, 850 Asiatics and 36 saloon passengers.

An encouraging feature of home development ic noted by the Colonist which says, "the amount of land under cultivation in the neigh borhood and disirict this year is much greater than in any previous year, as will, no doubt, be shown by the quantity of home produce to be offered for sale later in the season. A great deal of attention of late has been paid to the subject and the necessity of cultivating more of our waste land in small holdings is painfully evident. The local government has taken the initiative in this by legislating in this direction by opening to settlement on favorable terme reserved government lands. We may expect to see land owners in their own interests following this example. While telking of our "resources," there is one resources the development of which is necessary to offset the heavy drain on the pockets of the people for agricultural imports, and that is that of our farming lands in the way indicated.

Regarding lumber, the monthly circular of R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd., says: "Thore has been a steady and increasing demand for lum-



ber vessels from all quarters, and the list given on another page is of the most encourag ing dimensions, as compared with a long series of months previously. Rates, however, have not responded to any exteut, but doubtless an advance will follow in due time."

The greatest advance noticeable during the past few months has been in the fishing industry, and especially in respect to the deep sea fishing. The experimental stage in halibut has fairly passed, as has been demonstrated by the considerable market obtained for halibut in the season just closed. Last year's return for the Dominion show over \$4,500,000 for this province, a remarkable increase in proportion. If the output of canned selmon for 1894 remains equal to that of last, we may expect to see the total value of our fisheries very much augment ed this year by the fresh and cured output.

The export demand for coal is still limited to actual existing demands, and the industry is still depressed.

It is stated that the British Columbia sugar refinery has decided to close down. This is said to be the result of a limited market, and competition with Chinese sugar from Hong Kong refineries, which is of itself almost sufficient to supply the home market. The de cision to close down was immediately brought about by the recent tariff amendments, so that whatever good the tariff reform will do to the Dominion as a whole, owing to the peculiar conditions in this province, the principal effect will be to cripple a few of our leading industries. When we consider that British Columbia pays per head to the Federal Treasury, nearly three times the average taxation in the Dominion and that we have to import direct three fourths of our necessaries from the Eastern provinces upon which there are heavy freight rates, it is not surprising that the people of British Colum bia are not in ecsta.ics over "tariff reform."

Despite such drawbacks, which perhaps may be better described as geographical disadvantages, it is satisfactory to note the unusually active signs of revival in certain important gespects, and more especially that of mining. Two railways, in addition to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard, will tap the West Kootenay mines this summer. These mines are so rich that despite the low price of silver and the heavy rates for freight, that shipments of ore to date have paid handsomely. The breaking up of the wagon roads has prevented further shipments for the present, but will resume with dry weather. Activity in placer mining is exhibited everywhere where gold is known to exist, and one \$1,000,000 worth this summer, and will have 500men at work in its operations. If these mines succeed a railroad into Cariboo will follow, as the C. P. R. Co. is largely interested in the mines in question.

This week saw the closing up of the session of the B. C. legislature, which had lasted almost three months and did a large amount of work. About 90 bills were passed and numerous resolutions having in view the promotion of various interests. Assistance was given to five lines of railways, which practically assures their completion this or next year, viz., the Nakaup & Slocan, the Kaslo & Slocan, the Ashcroft & Cariboo, the Nicola Valley & Chillwack railways. A substantial subsidy was given to a bridge across the Fraser at New Westminster and provision made for assisting large drainage enterprises in Westminster district. Then there was important legislation affecting mining, agriculture, etc., altogether a very comprehensive bill of fare.

#### Vancouver Business Roview. April 16, 1894.

The volume of business, wholesale and retail, is in excess of last week. Collections are said to be fair, which, compared with recent very unfavorable reports, would indicate prospects of a atill greater volume of trade in the near future. The lumber trade has revived. The American barkentine Katie Flickinger, Capt. McRao, is loading lumber at the Hastings mill for Rossalla, Mexico, and the Britisl, ship East Croft, 1,312 tons, Capt. Rimmer, is loading at Moolyville mill for South America. Besides these the Hastings mill has under charter: The Desixib Actoria on Ford form British Astoria, en route from Victoria, the British ship Grace Harwar, on her way from Yokabama, and the British barque Xanthippe, en route from Honolulu. This week the Australian steamer Arawa and the Ociental steamer Empress of Japan arrived within a few hours of each other, and as the Signal of Portland, the Walla Walla from San Francisco, and the steamers Cutch, Premier and Kerr were seeking whaif room at the same time, and the wharf room was very limited, the atmosphere became so very "blue" in the vicioity that a equal blew up and the Arawa was three solid hours making ber moorings. The Arawa brought a heavy shipment of butter which arrived just in time to relieve the market. It is of excellent quality and sells readily at 28 cents. Cheese is begining to come in in large quantities from California and is selling at 15 cents. This is apple season in Australia and a large shipment arrived. Most of them arrived in excellent arrived. Most of them arrived in excellent order, but are not to be compared in quality with Eastern apples. The principal varieties were the crow eggs and codlins. Owing to the great scarcity of fruit in the market the Aus-tralian apples sold at \$3 a box. A large con-signment of bananas were shipped too ripe, and were sold at sacrificing prices, from 50 center to \$1.50 a crate cents to \$1.50 a crate.

<sup>(</sup>B. C. articles continued on page 766)