

boundary connecting with Spokane while in West Kootenay will be connected with all the principal camps in South Kootenay.

The Maple and the Tuesday-Climax have been sold, and companies have been incorporated to work them. One hundred men will be set to work developing.

Bradstreet's agent at Rossland reports business much more satisfactory there than at this time last year. Men of straw have given place in a great many instances to substantial men of means.

The advices against the Nest Egg owned by Victoria parties have been withdrawn. This proposition is said to be one of the best in South Kootenay.

NELSON.

The Hall mines smelter is smelting on an average 140 tons a day. As their capacity is 90 or 100, it speaks volumes for the smelting quality of the ore treated. Since last January 8,000 tons of Silver King ore has been smelted, which, as a record, according to the capacity of the smelter, is a world beater.

T. Collins has bonded the Champion Creek group for \$50,000.

A Springer Creek mine owned by J. Finch and P. Clark is producing native silver, some chunks of the pure metal being as good as the palm of a man's hand. The mine is called the Arlington. It is in this district that the silver mines are said to be the richest in the world.

The Hall Mine Co. have secured a bond on the Iroquois.

Fifteen men are at work on the Two Friends.

Messrs Kingsmill and Chowett of Toronto have bonded the Hera, Heba and Apollo.

Geo. Alexander has bought the Northern Belle, Kootenay Star, and Dublin Queen for \$

CARIBOO.

The Big Valley Creek Gold Mine Co. has been formed in England to acquire and work four gold mining leases in Cariboo. The chairman of the company is the Earl of Kilmorey. Their lease comprises 640 acres.

Four miles of Dragon Lake is being dammed and the stream diverted.

The Fader dredge 25 miles from Quesnell is securing \$140 a day net. From this report it would appear that dredging for gold in the river bottoms is proving a success.

Mr. Maslan, a mining expert of California says that the gravels of Cariboo are a sight to behold, even to a California miner.

Mr. Clemens is again in Cariboo. Mr. Clemens is a world famous mining expert sent out by English capitalists. He says the prospects of British Columbia are more than good. He says that the trouble in the Transvaal will be an ill wind that will blow British Columbia good.

The Horsefly have got 100 men at work, and the Cariboo about as many. Ditches and other construction work came through the winter well, and next week active washing will commence, when reports will be to hand weekly.

Messrs. McKinnon and de Back of Vancouver, have bought a claim situated on the mountain side near Lillooet on Cayuse Creek, for \$2,000. This remarkable proposition was only discovered a short time ago by Joe Copeland, a half breed. He saw the mineralized outcropping and dug it away, exposing a vein eight feet wide and running \$1000 to the ton in free milling ore. Old miners have been looking around there for gold since '58. They took \$1,000,000 out of the creek no doubt washed down this very vein, but never found the source from which the wash came.

SILKAMLEN.

The hydraulic mines are all busy. Fifty men are working on the Granite.

The Pogue Co. are selling out to English capitalists.

Jas. Kelly has staked a rich claim on Bear Creek running \$200 in silver.

The Anglo-American Co. have 25 men at work.

ALBERNI—VANCOUVER ISLAND.

All the hydraulic mines are working with a full force of men. The Cataract turned water on on the 16th. The Duke of York will commence to wash the 1st of June.

Among the quartz claim, the Last Chance is down 22 feet and is looking better.

The Alberni is down 51 feet and is showing lots of free gold, the vein having widened to six feet six inches. Mr. Ross, the manager says the Alberni ranks close to the Le Roi.

Fine specimens of free gold are shown from the Starlight, Arizona and Texas claims.

The National Debt is showing up well. It is thus named because it is claimed there is enough ore in sight to pay the national debt of Canada. The ore runs \$1,050 to the ton. The Consolidation Co. are putting up a 50 stamp mill.

British Columbia's largest ledge is said to have been discovered recently on Swiata Creek opening into Barclay Sound. The ledge is 800 feet wide. There are \$1,000,000 in sight, or about 100,000 tons of gold and silver ore visible. The claim is a few hours sail from Victoria and is but half a mile from the deep sea.

British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, May 30, 1896.

Eggs are easier. Oregon eggs are out of the market, and Manitoba are in good supply. Sheep are lower. Prices are as follows:

Butter.—Man. Dairy butter, 19c; Manitoba creamery, 22c; California dairy, 20c; creamery, 22c. Manitoba cheese, 10 to 10½c per lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 11½c; breakfast bacon 11½c; backs 11c; long, clear 8½c; short rolls 9c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10c per pound; in rails and tubs 9½c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$15.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 3c; smelt 4c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 7½c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; steel heads, 6c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut 8c; bloaters 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; oolachan 5c; smoked salmon 12½c.

Vegetables.—Potatoes \$5 to \$6 per ton; ash-croft potatoes, \$8 to 7 per ton; onions silver skins, 4½c lb.; California onions, 2c.; sweet potatoes \$2.25 per 100 lbs.; cabbage, 1½c lb; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs.—Fresh, local, 15c; Manitoba, 14c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 300 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 125 to 150 naval oranges. Standard Australian boxes for apples, etc., are smaller and contain from 125 to 150 apples in a box. California seedling oranges \$2.25 to \$2.50 per box; navels \$1.25 per box; Mediterranean sweets, \$3 to \$3.25; St. Michaels, \$3.25; blood oranges, \$3.25 to \$3.50. California lemons, \$3.00 per box; Australian apples \$2.50 to \$3.00 per box; bananas, \$1.75 per bunch; cherries, (10 lb box), \$1.40.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12½c; pecans, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$2.60; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45's, \$2.85. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 45's \$2.85.

Flour.—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$1.40; strong bakers, \$1.10; Oregon, \$1.20; Oak Lake patent \$1.20; do strong bakers \$1.00.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$30.00 per ton f.o.b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats 16.00 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$21 to \$23 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$18.00 ton; bran \$16.00; oil cake meal, \$26 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—Nominal at \$3 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 8½ to 9c; mutton, 8½c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7 to 8½c per lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$1.50 to \$1.60; per hundred lbs.; sheep, \$3.25 per 100 lbs; hogs, \$5.75 to \$6.00; lamb \$3.50 to \$4 per head.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$6 per dozen, scarce.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 6½c; granulated, 5½c; extra C, 5½c; fancy yellows 4½c; yellow 4½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c choice 25c. Ceylons. Fair 20c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat—Lower prices are being paid to the farmers. Cars of red are quoted north and west freights at 70c and white at 71 to 72c. Manitoba wheat is dull and easier. Four cars of No. 1 hard sold Toronto and west yesterday at 74c; it is quoted at 68c Midland and at 62½c to 63c afloat Fort William.

Flour—Is dull and nominally unchanged at \$3.50 for straight roller Toronto freights.

Barley—Is dull and nominal at 35c for No. 1, 32c for No. 2 and 25c for feed outside.

Oats—Cars of mixed were offered west to-day at 20c and white are quoted at 20½c to 21c.

Butter—The deliveries continue to be large. Prices are rather easy and unsteady. We quote:—Choice dairy tubs, 10c to 11½c; medium dairy tubs, 8c; low grade dairy tubs, 6c to 7c; choice large rolls, 10c to 11c; second large rolls, 9c; dairy pound prints, 11c to 12c; fresh made creamery tubs, 15c; creamery pound prints, 15 to 16c.

Eggs—Choice cases sell at 9 to 9½c. Split and chipped eggs go at 6 to 7c.

Wools.—The offerings of new fleece wool have been small. There is no enquiry for export and the advices from United States dealers are not very encouraging. Unwashed fleece is quoted at 10 to 11c.

Hides.—The market is firmer. Cured are quoted by sellers at 5c. Sheepskins.—The best fresh slaughtered full grown skins are quoted at \$1.25; country skins are in demand at 35c to \$1 according to quality. Calfskins.—4c for No. 2 and 6c for No. 1. Dakins are quoted at 20c to 25c and culls at half price. Horsehides.—Are quoted at \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality. Tallow.—Local dealers are quoting 3c to 3½c and asking 3½c to 4c.—Globe, May 27.