

### British Columbia.

The Nanaimo custom collections for the month of January were \$3,403.62.

Roderick McNish, of the lodging department of the Oriental Hotel, Nanaimo, is dead.

Large importations of mutton are being made by the Victoria butchers from San Francisco.

Blackett & White, general merchants, Langley, have sold out to the Hudson's Bay Company.

The *Colonist* says Victoria will erect two million dollars worth of new buildings this year.

Property across the river from Westminster, which sold for \$40 per acre last year, is now valued at \$200 per acre.

Hampson & Terry, general store, Victoria, have dissolved partnership. C. L. Terry continuing business alone.

Diplock & Osborne, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership. The business will in future be carried on by Arthur B. Diplock.

J. J. Tiernay and A. O. Sutherland, lately of the Hastings mill, at Vancouver, have formed a partnership for the conduct of business as express, truck and draymen.

Vancouver *News*: It is understood that Talley, who recently acquired the Vancouver Lumber Mill, has sold it to Edmonds & Webster, of New Westminster, who will conduct it in future.

The McLaren-Ross Lumber Company expects to have a circular saw running within a month in its new mill at Westminster, but the whole establishment will not be ready for active operations until May.

The assessment of Vancouver for 1890 will show the assessed valuation for this year to be in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000. The large increase has taken place in the properties on the principal business streets.

The partnership existing between John C. Hayes and A. B. H. Cochrane, general commission merchants, Golden, has been dissolved by mutual consent. A. B. H. Cochrane assumes the business of the firm of Hayes & Cochrane.

At a special meeting of the Victoria city council a by law was ordered to be prepared to grant the sum of \$20,000 as a bonus to the Victoria Lumber Manufacturing Company as an inducement to build the new mill at or near Victoria.

The Kamloops *Sentinel* says: "A Portage la Prairie merchant did a thriving trade in butter at Kamloops this week. He sold choice butter by the firkin at 22 cents a pound, and a number of housekeepers took advantage of the opportunity to butter up. He left for the coast Wednesday."

The first consignment of Australian wool ever brought to British Columbia for manufacturing purposes, has arrived for the Westminster woolen mills. This is only a sample order, but if it proves satisfactory, and produces the required quality of goods, a larger quantity will be imported.

Application is made by D. Cartmel, E. H. Heaps, H. A. Jones, as trustees, for incorporation of "The Vancouver Manufacturing and Trading Company, limited," to acquire and carry on and extend the furniture factory now owned by E. H. Heaps. Capital stock is \$100,000, in \$100 shares,

The *Victoria Times* says: "It has been stated that the British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading Company intend to establish a large saw mill with an output of some 200,000 feet per day, at some point up the coast. A mill of this capacity means the employment of 250 to 300 hands, besides the loading and dispatch of saw at least 60 ships per annum."

The following are the shipments of coal from the mines for January:—

New Vancouver Coal Company	10,687
R. Dansmuir & Sons	12,853
East Wellington Coal Company	3,200
Union Colliery Company	4,200
Total	40,030

The directory for 1890, shows a very gratifying increase in the population of the British Columbia cities. Last year the population of Victoria was set down at 16,693. This year it is estimated to be 20,193. The number of names taken in the city was 5,566 which multiplied by three, the multiplier used every where in this kind of calculation, gives the above results.

The *Victoria Colonist* says: The snow on the line of the Island railway has reached the unprecedented depth of five feet on the level, and eight feet in the hills. Although the fight has been a hard one, trains have been kept running regularly right along, much to the credit of the able management of the road. Yesterday a thaw set in and the snow commenced to disappear in the neighborhood of Chemainus.

Westminster *Truth*: M. Manson, Nanaimo, is in the city negotiating for the building of a fine freight and passenger steamer, to be put on the coast trade of the province immediately upon its completion. The specifications call for a very substantial vessel, 105 feet in length, 26 feet beam and 9½ feet in the hold. The freight capacity will be about 250 tons, with cabins for 30 passengers. The contract has been let to Wescott & Huntley, and the Albion Iron Works will put in the engines.

In the last *British Columbia Gazette* a notice for the incorporation of the "British Columbia Fruit Canning and Coffee Co.," with headquarters at Vancouver. The capital stock is \$20,000. The trustees named are Walter Taylor, E. L. Phillips and Ellen Jane England. The objects of the company include preserving and evaporating of fruits, making extracts and cordials and manufacturing vinegar and pickles, and the roasting and grinding of coffee and spices.

*Victoria Colonist*. The fact that the Victoria Lumbering and Trading Company are commencing to manufacture at their mill at Chemainus the material for their new mill, should make the powers that be in Victoria move in the matter of inducing the company to locate near this city. The mill will have a capacity of sixty million feet annually, all of which is intended for the export trade. The industry named would employ 200 men, and would bring at least sixty ships per year to port. The trade that would directly and indirectly be created by the location of this industry on Esquimalt harbor would be very large and the benefit to Victoria incalculable.

The Westminster *Columbian* says: The demand throughout the eastern provinces for fresh Fraser river salmon bids fair to be far greater

this year than over in the past. Already orders are being received from dealers in all the largest cities in the east. The orders are generally for a ton to a ton and a half of fresh salmon per week, to be shipped in small lots daily throughout the season, and the orders now on hand although the fishing has not commenced, are full as those filed during the busiest portion of last year. The fishermen are naturally anxious to obtain their licenses so as to be able to get to work early. A prosperous season is ahead of them and they want to make the most of it.

Following are the customs returns for Victoria, for the months of January.

Imports—

Free Goods	\$ 50,124
Dutiable Goods	140,163

Total imports	\$ 190,287
Total collection	\$46,632.81

Exports.

Produce of Canada	\$ 47,000
Not " "	4,693
Total exports	\$ 52,693
Inland Revenue	\$8,784.89

The Vancouver custom returns for the month of January 1890, were:

Duty collected	\$ 8,752.55
Other revenue	3,552.77

### General Notes.

The *Northwestern Miller* says: "The extracts from the Jackson, Michigan, papers which we publish elsewhere indicate that the affairs of the George T. Smith Middlings Purifier Company, are in very bad shape and could hardly be worse. The more the matter is investigated the poorer the chances of the creditors appear to be and deeper depths of deceit and double-dealing characterizing the management of the concern are revealed daily. The assets of the company, originally said to be \$1,433,461.03, and estimated by the assignee at \$365,059.37, are finally found by the appraisers to be worth \$292,712.96. The accounts receivable from \$965,000 nominal value are discovered actually to amount to about \$85,000."

There were 8,732 mercantile failures in the United Kingdom in 1889, according to Richard Seyd, against 9,217 in 1888, a decline of 435, or 5½ per cent. Of the 1889 failures, 5,272, or 60 per cent., are classed as bankruptcies, and the remainder, 3,460, are classed as deeds of arrangement. The tenancy toward a decreased number of failures shown was shared in by both the wholesale and retail trades.

It is reported that T. Leese will start a cheese factory at Foxwarren.

M. C. SWALLOW, tailor, Carberry, Man., has sold out to S. Windsor, from Brandon.

*MACLEOD Gazette*. It is proposed to form a joint stock company, to be called the "Alberta Petroleum and Prospecting Company." Share capital, \$5,000, divided into 250 shares of \$20 each, 50 per cent. of which is to be paid down, 25 per cent. in three months, and the remaining 25 per cent. in six months from the date of allotment, for the purpose of developing the oil territory in the Crow's Nest pass, west of here,