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THE VICTORIA PRICES CURRENT AND SHIPPING LIST.

Vol. 3.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1865.

No 128

By last accounts from British Columbia, we learn that much snow is still upon the ground and the cold continues so severe, that many of the smaller water courses are still frozen, much mining is being prosecuted on the Fraser, with good pay, the river being confined to narrower limits than has been known for years.

In consequence of the severe weather, supplies of the staple commodities at Cariboo were nearly exhausted, and four or five of the principal merchants at the mouth of Queznelles had bought up all the Flour, Beans, etc., in stock at that place, by which means they were enabled to raise the prices to \$1 per lb for Flour, 75 cents Beans, and so on for other articles; these high rates, however, can only be supported until the goods now on the way reach the upper country.

It is reported that the merchants of New Westminster will probably secure one or two steamers per month direct to that city, from San Francisco; the information, however, on this subject, is hardly sufficiently reliable to warrant more than an allusion to it.

From the mining districts of the Island, we have most cheering news; At Leech River and the neighbourhood, several new strikes have been made, promising profitable employment for a large number of men, the vicinity of these mines to this city, ensures to us a healthy trade during the summer. At Cariboo, new surface diggings have been discovered on Lowhee Creek, where a great number of claims have been staked off. On Williams creek hill diggings have been found, equal to any yet opened, promising a rich harvest to the explor-

ers. The accounts so far, from Kootenay, are of a varied character, but all denote the existence of a wide extent of auriferous deposits, likely to prove rich on further development on the whole, our mining population are likely to be well employed this season.

Much disappointment has been felt in this quarter, that no steps have been taken towards the formation of a Graving Dock at Esquimalt in accordance with the prospectus of a company incorporated for that purpose some time ago in London. The fine open harbour of Esquimalt, affording the best and safest anchorage on the Pacific, selected by the Home Government for a naval station, it would ensure to the proprietors a most profitable return for their investment, the nature of the land surrounding the harbour, offers many excellent positions for such an enterprise, material being close at hand, Timber is plentiful in the vicinity, and an inexhaustible supply of the finest spars in the world is to be found in the adjacent country. The absence of such an undertaking compels our shipwrights to resort to all the old fashioned devices for reaching the injured portions of vessels below the water line; entailing great labor and expense, besides the loss of much valuable time to the owners of ships; thus making it advisable, on the part of those concerned, where practicable, to take their vessels to San Francisco, were we possessed of this great requisite in a port like Esquimalt we should command all the repairing north of the Bay City, and we doubt not, that where a choice of the two ports was possible, we should have the preference, our advantages in cheap Coal and Timber, being so manifest, would form considerations not to be overlooked. It is unquestionable, that were such an undertaking properly carried out, a new impetus would be given to the trade of this port and a large amount of shipbuilders would unfailingly be carried on here, securing to us

the furnishing of all the requisits for that trade, such as Iron Work, Cordage, Sails, Naval Stores of all descriptions.

We are now favored with warm Spring weather, shedding its genial influence over all branches of industry; commercial, mining, and agricultural operations are steadily pushed forward and after a long period of inactivity, we are once more in the middle of a busy season; shipments to New Westminster have exceeded the transporting capabilities of the steamer "Enterprise," and the "Otter" has been placed on the berth for the same destination, and sails to-day with freight alone; miners for British Columbia are crowding the steamer each trip to the sister Colony, and our streets will soon be deserted by all but the resident population.

The Barque "Rival" brought us a large accession to our "celestial" gold-seekers, 114 Chinamen having arrived by that vessel from San Francisco.

The "Frigate Bird" has been surveyed and found to be perfectly seaworthy. She is now shipping a crew, and will sail for Valparaiso in a few days.

A large clearing out sale, by auction, of Dry Goods, principally composed of made up clothing, takes place to-day. So far as we could learn before going to press, the prices obtained were not satisfactory; the goods, in many cases, being such as are not saleable in this market. The amount realized, of course we are unable to give.

Stocks of Flour are very low, and high prices are likely to rule for some time; values about same as last quotations.

Tobacco and Cigars—Stocks heavy with small sales. Light pressed is worth from 90c. @ \$1 7/8 lb. Hard pressed 45c, @ 90c 7/8 lb. Sweet, 40c. @ 87 1/2; Anderson's Solace \$8 1/2 and Eureka, \$7 6/9 per gross.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

ENTR'D.

March 18—Str Fideliter, London, Nanaimo
Sch Bark, C. A. K., Nanaimo
Sch Industry, Oatvie, Nanaimo
Sch Speedwell, Glasgow, San Juan
March 20—Slp Letitia, Adams, Port Angeles
Sch Eliza, Carleton, Saanich
Sch Lord England, Byrne, New Westminster
Str Billy Harri, McIntosh, Nanaimo
Slp John Bull, Diaz, Saanich
Brg Brewster, Carleton, Valparaiso
March 21—Str Eliza Anderson, Port Angeles
Slp No. 1000 Light, Mountfort, Port Angeles
S. H. Discovery, Russell, Gunn
Slp, Porton, Warren, Burrard Inlet
March 22—Slp Casarwell, Alcazar, San Francisco
March 23—S. H. Winced Racer, Peterson, Saanich
Slp C. S. K. Alder, Aerperson, Port Angeles
March 24—Sch A. J. West, Mills, Port Angeles
Slp No. 1000 Light, Mountfort, Port Angeles
Str Enterprise, Mountfort, New Westminster
March 25—Str Oregon, Solisto, Astoria
Str Fideliter, London, Nanaimo
Sch Surprise, Francis, New Cana

S. H. A. pna, George, Nanaimo
March 27—Str G. S. W. Light, Lewis, Portland
Str Enterprise, Mountfort, Esquimalt
Slp Adam, Houston, Salt Spring Island
Slp W. B. Taylor, Walter, San Juan
March 27—Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles
Slp Bush, Baker, Dolan, Port Angeles
Slp Myflower, Maxwell, Salt Spring
March 29—Slp C. S. K. 100, Henderson, Port Angeles
Slp Eliza, Alan, Coquit
Sch Thos. Ke. T. Aruton, San Juan
March 31—Str Thos. Henderson, Abroni
Str Enterprise, Mountfort, New Westminster
Slp Bush, Baker, Dolan, Port Angeles
Slp Myflower, Maxwell, Salt Spring
Str G. S. W. Light, Lewis, Astoria
March 31—Sch Lord Ryland, Byrnes, San Juan
S. H. Bark, Carr, Salt Spring
Sch Flying Mt. Thompson, Port Angeles
Str Emily Harri, McIntosh, Nanaimo
April 1—Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles
Str U. M., Gillin, New Westminster
April 7—Str S. F. Nevada, Connor, Portland
April 7—Sch Flying Mt. Thompson, Port Angeles
Slp Frigate Bird, Wicks, do
Sch Pameter, Heaton, San Juan
CLEARED.
March 19—Bark G. Juniper, Hall, San Juan
March 21—Str Fideliter, London, Nanaimo
Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles

Str, Early Harris, McIntosh, Burrard Inlet
March 2—Sch Eliza, Carleton, Saanich
Sch Industry, Oatvie, Nanaimo
Sch Onward, McKay, Burrard Bay
March 25—Str Oregon, Johnston, San Francisco
Sch Alpha, George, Nanaimo
Sch Lord England, Byrnes, New Westminster
March 27—Str Enterprise, Mountfort, New Westminster
Str Enterprise, London, Nanaimo
Sch C. E. Clancy, R. Wilson, Port Angeles
March 28—Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles
Sch Donal, W. B., Honolulu
March 29—Str Brewster, Carleton, San Francisco
March 30—Str Enterprise, Mountfort, New Westminster
Sch Flying Mt. Thompson, Port Angeles
April 1—Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, do
Str S. F. Nevada, Connor, San Francisco

LOADING AND ON THE WAY.

From London—Ann Adamson, sailed 9th Jan'y.
do Philomela, loading.
From Liverpool—Cyclone, loading.
do Pa Lee, sailed 6th January

ALBERNI SHIPPING NEWS.

Corrected for the Prices Current by Anderson & Co. SAILED.
John S. Ophexcoz, for Adelaide, on 1st April