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VICTORIA IS THE FIRST AND LAST POINT OF CALL FOR ALLOCEAN MAIL STEAMERS.

Represented by
 WELCH & Co., SAN FRANCISCO.
 WELCH, ACKERLEY & Co., LIVERPOOL.

Cable address. "RITHET, VICTORIA."

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 CODES USED: —A. 1.; A. B. C. 4TH ED.; SCOTT'S
 ED. 1885-92.

BY
 RELATIVE ASSOCIATE.

MAR 1898

VICTORIA, B. C.

MONTHLY FREIGHT AND SHIPPING REPORT

OF

R. P. RITHET & CO., LTD.

FOR

JANUARY.

VICTORIA, B. C., January 31st, 1898.

After the close of the year grain freights receded a good deal, but have since recovered most of the fall in San Francisco, though rates from the north still remain on a lower basis. Chartering in any direction, however, is on a somewhat limited scale.

Lumber tonnage is, if possible, scarcer than ever, and as the rush to Klondike has now begun in earnest, every available steamer and all but a few of the sailing craft on the coast have been taken up, directly or indirectly, at advancing figures. Coal charters are now offered at nearly double the rates current only a short time ago, and they are comparatively much more profitable than lumber, which, of course, keeps vessels out of the latter trade.

From our annual salmon supplement which accompanies this circular, it will be seen that last year's pack was a record, over one million cases being put up. Such a result, however, is scarcely beneficial to the market at large, so a strong combination of canners and dealers has been entered into. Their objects are merely to regulate the prices of last year's pack and judiciously limit the quantity to be put up this season, with a view to placing the industry in a sounder position.

THE KLONDIKE IS IN CANADA,

SMALLS BOTTLES OF WINE ARE SUBJECT TO DUTY AVERAGE OF 10%
 VICTORIA IS THE BEST PLACE TO GET ONE.