

BRITISH COLUMBIA SLATE.

A shipment of 80 tons of slate was made the other day from the Jervis Inlet quarries of the Westminster Slate Company. Fifty tons went forward by the steamer Walla Walla to San Jose, for the United States Government. Most of the balance of the cargo was shipped per C. P. R. to Portage la Prairie, Man., to complete an order of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for slate roofing for the new station buildings.

Samples of the slate were asked for and submitted to the Department of Public Works at Washington from the quarries of Pennsylvania, Vermont, Maine and British Columbia, tested and examined by experts and reported upon, as a result of which the British Columbia article was chosen by the department and as a sequence of this the Westminster Slate Company received an order for material for roofing a government building in California, as mentioned above.

The Company sent by the steamer Warimoo samples of their slate to Honolulu, and Sydney, N. S. W. They feel that it is only a question of a short time till the superior quality of their roofing slate, as evidenced by the Washington test, opens to the Jervis Inlet article the markets of the American continent.

THE HOTELS OF VICTORIA.

It is well that strangers should know something of the hotels in a city he is about to visit. There are altogether 42 houses for the accommodation of guests in Victoria and of these the principal are the Driard, the Dallas, the Hotel Victoria and the Occidental, and to those who prefer a hotel kept on temperance principles, the Brunswick.

The Driard is one of the finest and well appointed hotels on the coast and is an old and general favorite with the travelling public. The Driard has always held front rank among the hotels of British Columbia and many a traveller who has visited Victoria will remember with pleasure the good dinners he enjoyed at this famous hostelry. In this and other respects the hotel is just as much of a favorite as it was in days gone by. The Driard needs no commendation, its name and the excellence of the accommodation it affords being too well known.

The Dallas is one of the most charming hotels a traveller could wish to stay at. Situated on the shore and close to the entrance to the harbor of Victoria, the view from its windows is superb, and the air wafted from the sea, across the point where the hotel is situated, is most invigorating. The Dallas although not located in the business centre of the city is in close connection with it by means of an excellent and regular tramcar service, and it is especially well situated for passengers going to China, Japan or California, as the steamers of the different lines leave within a few minutes walk of the hotel. The appointments of the Dallas are of the best, the cuisine everything that can be desired, and although a city hotel it has the air and surroundings of a delightful health and pleasure resort.

The Hotel Victoria is essentially a city hotel of the first-class order, well furnished rooms with every convenience that a traveller can desire. centrally located and altogether a most desirable house to stay at. Although not an old hotel like the Driard is has already established itself as a popular favorite with the travelling public.

The Occidental and Brunswick are most comfortable houses and well kept in every respect, the latter being a strictly temperance house. It is newly and elegantly furnished with all the modern conveniences of a first-class hotel.

There are a number of other good hotels in the city, but these mentioned can be recommended to readers of the Monthly.