

## SAN FRANCISCO COAL TRADE.

J. W. Harrison, coal and metal broker, San Francisco, reports June 23 as follows: "During the week, there have been the following arrivals: From the coast collieries, 25,595 tons; from Newcastle, Australia, 12,856 tons. From this time forward, the famine in Australian grades will be relieved, as we shall have a generous supply all this year. The Br. ship Osborne, 47 days from Newcastle, with 4,800 tons, is just at hand—a very fast trip and a very large cargo; this is the only way in which ship property can be made available, by being very large carriers and speedy sailers. There is no change in the coal situation, prices remain unchanged; the supply coming in this week is liberal, but it has all been disposed of prior to arrival, hence values have not been disturbed. The tariff is yet in abeyance, the rate to go into effect we are almost assured of, but are simply guessing the time; the writer still feels assured that in August next foreign coal will be paying only 40 cents per ton duty. The department is about to order the war ship Monterey to Washington to have the captain give a thorough test to their leading coal products, with a view to have the Government utilize same for navy purposes, as though tests after tests, year after year, have not been already made by Government officers. But the amusing portion of the order is for Capt. Kempff to test the anthracite, bituminous and lignite. He cannot find the first there with a magnifying glass, the second he will seek for with a telescope, but the third he will have a generous supply of."

## TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

The *News-Advertiser* announces the fact that Messrs. Burns, Philip & Co., Ltd., Australian merchants, have opened a branch of their business in Vancouver, under the management of Mr. Frank Logan, who has been for many years with the firm.

The company, which has a capital of \$2,500,000, have numerous branches in Queensland, New Guinea and Western Australia and are large buyers of all kinds of merchandise suitable for the Colonies. Hitherto a large business has been done with the United States by Australia, and Mr. Logan considers that there should be no reason why Canadian manufactures and products should not find a ready market in the Colonies, especially now that regular steamboat communication has been established by the steamers of the Canadian-Australian Steamship Co., of which his firm are the managing agents in Australia. He is very sanguine that good will result from the conference shortly

to be held at Ottawa, and should a reciprocal tariff be arranged an extended trade must follow.

The firm will be buyers of Canadian produce and Mr. Logan will be pleased to see merchants and others who have goods suitable for the Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane markets, and the head office in Sydney will be pleased to take charge of any consignments which may be forwarded to them.

Mexico will suffer a corn famine this year, unless rain falls soon.

Washington is agitated over an alleged plot of anarchists to blow up the Capitol buildings.

Goodwin & Swift, railroad contractors and promoters, of New York, have failed, with liabilities of nearly \$750,000.

The U. S. Senate amendments as adopted places a duty of 40 cents a ton on coal and shale, and 15 cents a ton on coal slack or culm.

In a paper read at the Colonial Institute in London recently, Bishop Selwyn advocated the extension of British protection to western Pacific islands.

A by-law has been presented in Hamilton to compel the street railway company to provide shelters for the motormen. If the company fails to do so the city may provide the shelters and tax the company for the expense.

On the Fraser, fishing will most likely begin on July 5th and the probabilities are that there will be a larger number of boats out than ever before. It is satisfactory also to be able to state that more white fishermen will be employed this season on the river, than on any other occasion.

Whenever a dealer is tempted by the falling off of his sales to be more liberal in extending his credits, he should carefully review the situation of the business in his neighborhood and ascertain whether there are not sufficient causes for the decrease in his sales other than what he may attribute to his extreme caution in crediting.

A new remedy for green aphids is reported in the *Ranch* of North Yakima, Wash., as follows: Dissolve one pound of Gold Dust washing powder in a gallon of hot water, and then dilute with 10 or 12 gallons of cold water. A spray of this mixture is found to destroy the insects, while it leaves the trees in good condition.

Isn't it rather a remarkable trait in the average business character that when approached on the subject of advertising in a trade journal, he thinks you can do him no good; but when the smallest item reflecting on his business appears, he lets out a leonine roar about his business being injured. His motto is: Consistency is the virtue of fools.

## COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

Mayor Hopkins, of Chicago, has declined to veto the ordinance closing certain stores on Sunday.

It is understood at Ottawa that Mr. Huddart has failed to see his way to the successful financing of his fast line scheme, and that the subsidy of \$750,000 a year, although it may be discussed in the House, will not be pressed. This will probably be a relief to the Government, which could not regard without some dismay the prospect of such a heavy undertaking. As to the Canadian people, there is no evidence so far that they will cry because of the disappointment.—*Winnipeg Nor' Wester*.

The gross debt of Canada, according to last *Official Gazette*, was \$304,294,786, of which \$205,333,076 is payable in England, \$7,409,134 in Canada and \$2,433,333 is a temporary loan, the balance of \$89,059,243 is made of Savings Bank funds; \$41,595,342; \$9,548,102 is Dominion notes; \$16,407,359 Province accounts; and the rest banking, trust and other balances. The sinking funds invested amount to \$31,846,244 and \$32,438,614, making a total of \$64,284,858, of assets, which leaves a net debt of \$240,009,927. This is \$3,029,648 in excess of the net debt at same date, 1893. This increase was caused by an expenditure of \$4,069,618 on capital account, chiefly for railways and canals. The receipts on consolidated fund account up to 1st May were \$4,773,000 in excess of expenditures on that account, so a surplus of some magnitude is assured for current year.

Sir George R. Dibbs, Premier and Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, has recently submitted to the premier of Victoria a scheme for Australasian unity. He suggests that the colonies of Victoria and New South Wales should first unite, and that afterwards the colonies of South Australia and Queensland enter the union. The plan suggested by the premier of New South Wales provides for one viceroy and a parliament composed of two chambers. In addition, it is suggested that the united colonies should have the same customs tariff, excise duties, land revenue, land law, arrangements for defence and the same administration of the postal and telegraph department. A high commissioner is to be established in London, and there is to be a supreme court and a provincial government for both the colonies mentioned as being the first to unite. The title of this union of the colonies, it is further suggested, should be first the United Colonies, and, eventually, when the union is completed, the title is to be the Dominion of Australia. In other respects, the political system is proposed to be modelled after that of Canada.