

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(This department is in charge of R. E. Gosnell, who is permanently engaged as a regular member of this Commercial staff, to represent this journal in British Columbia. Parties in British Columbia who wish to communicate in any way with this paper, may apply directly to Mr. Gosnell at Vancouver.)

British Columbia Business Review.

January 16, 1893.

B. C. Market Quotations.

SUGARS—The British Columbia Sugar Refining Company have advanced the price of sugar during the week, the advance being $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per lb all round. The current quotations are as follows. Powdered icing and bar, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ s; Paris lumps 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ s; granulated 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ s, extra C 5s; fancy yellow 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ s; yellow 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ s; golden C 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. Above prices are for barrels or bags; half-barrels and 100 lb kegs $\frac{1}{4}$ more. No order taken for less than 100 barrels or its equivalent.

They quote syrup as follows:—Finest golden, in 30 gal. bis, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ s; ditto, in 10 gal. kegs, 3s; ditto, in 5 gal. kegs, \$2.25 each; ditto, in 1 gal tins, \$4.50 per case of 10; ditto, in $\frac{1}{2}$ gal tins, \$6 per case of 20.

These prices are subject to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent discount for cash in fourteen days, and cover delivery in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, or New Westminster.

SHIPPING—The tonnage of shipping continues large, and is as follows

Port.	No.	Tonnage.
Vancouver.....	5	4,985
Victoria.....	2	2,701
Nanaimo.....	8	11,095
Cowichan.....	1	1,030
Total.....	15	20,812

LUMBER—Export rates are nominally as follows: Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to 40 feet, inclusive, per M feet, \$9; deck plank, rough, average length, 35 feet, per M, \$19; dressed T. and G. flooring, per M, \$17; pickets, rough, per M, \$9; lathe, 4 feet, per M, \$2.

Brief Business Notes.

Stevenson & Jones, Pritchard house, Victoria, have dissolved. J. B. Jones continues. Geo. Bellamy, Wilson restaurant, Victoria, has admitted C. R. Brown into partnership.

Kinnard & Wilson, merchant tailors, Victoria, contemplate a dissolution of partnership.

Jas. Crawford, commission agent, Victoria, is admitting Mr. Simpson, late of Montreal, as partner.

The King claim at Lorne creek may be "opened up." A \$20,000 joint stock company is being organized.

Jas. Kirkwood, grocer, Victoria, contemplates giving up business, and will travel for a San Francisco firm.

British ship Lulithgowshire, 1,337 tons, has been chartered to load lumber on Burrard Inlet for Iquiqui at 32s 6d.

The barque Geo. Thompson, that grounded in the Fraser River, has been examined, found a little damaged, and sent to sea.

The bark Colorado sailed from Cowichan. She is loaded with 832,657 feet of lumber for Valparaiso, and will sail as soon as possible.

The firm of Macpherson & Thompson, druggists, of this city, have dissolved partnership, L. G. Macpherson continuing the business.

Nanaimo pilots collected last year from British vessels \$3,006 and from foreign vessels \$15,164, a decrease of \$4,915 over the preceding year.

T. W. Clement & Co., sash and door factory, Victoria, have dissolved. Clement retires, Wm. Howes and W. Farmer continue the business.

The incorporation of the Okanagan Falls

Townsite Co., and of the Van Winkle Consolidated Hydraulic Mining Co. has been formally announced.

The ship *Monayshire* which is bringing a cargo of sugar for the B. C. Sugar Refinery from Java, has been chartered to load lumber at the Hastings Mill.

The Norwegian barque *Fritzo*, 1,078 tons, has cleared for Callao, with 20,000 feet of flooring and 860,000 feet of rough lumber. Total valuation, \$8,000.

C. G. Johnson has been appointed Lloyd's agent for Vancouver by R. P. Rithet, agent for the Province, during R. H. Alexander's absence in England.

The big sawmill at Claxton, on the Skeena river, is now busy on an order for 500,000 feet of lumber, to be shipped to San Francisco by sailing vessel direct.

The British barque *Sabrina*, has arrived at Vancouver from London, England. Her cargo is consigned to Bell Irving & Patterson, 1,100 tons general merchandise.

The steamship *Empress of India* sailed for Japan and China this morning. She had 2100 tons aboard. There were 200 Chinamen and a number of cabin passengers.

A new railway charter for a road from Nelson to Slokan Lake, via Slokan river, thence to New Denver, and having its terminus on the Arrow lakes, is advertised for.

The barque *Sabrina* has commenced discharging her cargo at Bell Irving & Patterson's wharf. She has been chartered to load lumber at this port for Valparaiso at 37s 6d.

Chas. Wood and W. H. Travis, have entered into partnership under the style of Wood, Travis & Co., as accountants, auditors, commission brokers, etc., at 6 Bastion Square, Victoria.

The snow has gone completely on the Nicola ranges, and cattle are feeding on them, a state of things which has not occurred for many years at so early a date. Some ranchers in Nicola began plowing this week.

W. H. Wittaker, solicitor for the applicants, announces in the Gazette that an act of incorporation will be applied for a company to build a railroad from Kamloops via the North Thompson river to Barkerville.

Commissioner Parmelee has written to J. A. Mara, M.P. stating that under no consideration will the Animals Quarantine regulations be suspended in order to allow the entry of American cattle at Trail creek.

A steam sealing schooner is being built at Victoria at a cost of \$10,000 by a syndicate. Shares of \$100 each nearly all taken up. She will have calcium search lights for night hunting, and other novelties in the business.

The *Empress of Japan* has left Yokohama with 20 saloon passengers and 125 Chinamen—53 for Victoria, 50 for Puget Sound and 23 overland. Cargo—575 tons general freight, 108 tons silk (225 tons for Portland, 50 for Puget Sound, 150 for Victoria, 150 for Vancouver.

A large quantity of excellent fire clay has recently been raised from No. 1 shaft, Departure Bay, of the Wellington Colliery. It is reported upon a good authority that the Messrs. Dunsmuir propose opening the works for the manufacture of fire proof bricks in the vicinity of the shaft.

It is said that operations will be commenced soon to open up the Alexandria mine, located on the E. & N. railway, about six miles from Nanaimo, and adjoining the N. V. C. Co.'s mines. This mine is owned by the Wellington Coal Co. J. Dick, brother to A. Dick inspector of mines, will be the manager.

Hon D. W. Higgins has resigned his position as Managing Director of the National Electrical Tramway Co., Victoria, the resignation to take effect as soon as a suitable manager can be procured. It is understood that a thoroughly practical and competent railway man will be appointed in Mr. Higgins place.

The Chilean barque *India*, 953 tons. Capt. Funke, has finished loading her cargo of lumber at the Moodyville mill and sailed for Valparaiso. She has on board a cargo of 783 788 feet of lumber, 27,254 feet of t. and g. flooring and 750,534 feet of rough, and 100 bauldes of laths. The value of the cargo is \$7,300.

Last year the mill at the Poorman crushed 250 tons of ore, some of which was picked, which yielded gold bricks, 816 fine, worth \$5,000. This result is considered so satisfactory that it is intended to do a considerable amount of work on this property during the coming summer, commencing operations about April 1st. A tunnel will be driven 400 feet, tapping the ledge 300 feet from the surface.

The last number of the British Columbia Gazette makes public the incorporation of the British Columbia Coal, Petroleum and Mineral Company (Limited Liability). The company was formed with the object of acquiring from the Crow's Nest Coal and Mineral Company (Limited Liability), all their real and personal property for the sum of four millions dollars, to be paid in fully paid-up shares of the company, and for other purposes, including the construction of a railroad from Michael Creek, Crow's Nest Pass, to the international boundary, to connect with some railway in Montana. The capital stock of the company is \$4,000,000 divided into 40,000 shares of \$100 each. J. D. Pemberton, E. G. Prior and W. Ferme, of Victoria, are the trustees named to conduct the affairs of the company for the first three months.

Messrs. Corboul, McColl, Wilson and Campbell, solicitors for the applicant, have given the required notice that a private bill will be asked for during the approaching session of the legislature, incorporating a company with power to construct and operate a railway from Cascade City, Osoyoos division of Yale district, northerly along the east shore of Christina lake, thence north-easterly to the right bank of the Columbia river, along said bank to Trail Creek; with power to build branch lines to a point on the present line of the Kootenay and Nelson railway at or near Robson, and to any mine or mines adjacent to the line of railway; to build wharves and docks, and erect, maintain and operate telegraph and telephone lines.

R. P. Rithet & Co. limited, in their freight and shipping circular for 1892, say: "In spite of some discouraging features and a depression which is shared in common with the entire Pacific coast, we have to record a year of steady progress in British Columbia. If the movement has not been so rapid as in one or two recent years, it has at least been solid, and the inactivity into which some of our industries have fallen for a time will do good in the end, by exposing weak spots and weeding out the superfluous. The output of coal has fallen off slightly, owing principally to overstocked markets in San Francisco, and the lumber industry during the entire year has suffered from overstocks in almost every foreign market. Prospects for the future are, however, brighter now than for some time past. The unsatisfactory position of the Behring Sea question is well known, so we need not say more than that the closing of the sea has more or less seriously interfered with sealing operations. The total catch has fallen off and in some instances heavy losses have been made. As 1892 was a fourth or "off" year a small pack of salmon was anticipated and this has proved to be the case, as there were packed about 86,000 cases less than last year, 181,000 less than in 1891. As the shortage is general along the coast, the salmon market has been entirely relieved from previous excessive stocks and is now in a healthier condition than it has been for a long time, while prices are good and show an upward tendency. The entire pack of the Province has been exported at an unusually early date, and stocks on hand will barely suffice for local consumption. The coming season therefore, will open with very fair prospects of an adequate pack, and a good market for it, at satisfactory prices."