

WILLIAM L. KEENE & CO

(Successors to Chipman, Morison & Co.)

SHIPBROKERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS

632 Cordova St., Vancouver, B.C.

Importers of Rice, Sacks, Japan, Indian and China Teas, Steel, Iron, Rope, Cement, Oils, Fruit, Canned Goods, Etc., Etc.

BRITISH COLUMBIA**Business Review.**

January 15, 1894.

There is no appreciable change in the business situation, and all lines are steady and quiet. Of late the sealing vessels have been fitting out, and day by day are clearing for the sealing grounds. There has been a great deal of rain of late and some snow, and the activities consequent upon fine weather have been repressed. There are a good many out of employment, although very few cases of destitution have been reported. With the commencement of the new Parliament buildings and various works throughout the province employment will be found for all willing to work. Trade generally has a confident tone, and business men are looking hopefully to the year as it advances. As has been shown by the trade returns for 1893, last year, despite the hard times, showed an unusually large volume transacted, and were it not for the amount of money locked up in real estate and unproductive concerns, times to-day on the coast would have been excellent.

Trade generally shows an increase in volume. After the stagnation following the holiday flurry, collections are still very slow, though there is a slight improvement over last week. Protested paper at the banks is still reported, though there is an encouraging falling off in this respect, since the rather alarming months of July and August of last year. Merchants speak hopefully of trade present and future to the newspapers and wholesale houses; but in their fireside chats with friends, they give expression to vague, indefinite fear of the approach of still harder times and tighter money in British Columbia. The less hopeful traders say that perhaps some of the lighter firms will have to go to the wall before the long promised new era of prosperity for British Columbia arrives. At present we are far better off than our neighbors to the south of us.

A strange feature of the universal money stringency in Vancouver is that, with few exceptions, the poorer classes have paid their taxes for last year, while the \$88,000 yet due is owing chiefly by the large real-estate firms, until recently reputed to be financially strong, with a powerful influence in the money market. Surely such a state of affairs, as far as Vancouver is concerned, would indicate that the temporary depression in Vancouver is due mainly to over speculation of her citizens.

Second payments, tight money and the demands of the relentless tax collector is the antidote for the trouble. Already the fever has left. It is going rather hard with the patient, for the crisis is close at hand, but the condition is hopeful, the pulse of commerce still beats strong, and the immense reserved vitality will pull the patient through alive and kicking, with a thoroughly cleansed and invigorated constitution, ready to cope more successfully with the less serious commercial difficulties of the future.

There is no real poverty or distress here, and compared with most of the cities of America and Europe Vancouver and Victoria are very desirable places to live in, particularly for the working classes.

Every Mackintosh

Bearing this Trade Mark is

Thoroughly Guaranteed.

These are not merely "dew proof" or "shower proof" goods they are THOROUGHLY WATER-PROOF and will absolutely withstand all changes of climate.

For Sale by all the Leading Wholesale Houses.

Try them and you will Buy Again.



A large shipment of Japanese oranges has arrived by the s.s. Tacoma, and more are expected by the Empress of Japan.

The Australian steamer Warrimoo brought a large consignment of coconuts. The demand being limited the price will likely decline.

Large quantities of hay are being shipped to British Columbia from Valley Stevens county, Wash., which will tend to lower the present market price. In some instances farmers are obliged to let their hay go at rates ranging from \$9 to 10 a ton, on board cars, in order to relieve the pressure of present needs. So that the greater market price is evidently nominal. The early autumn storms, however, destroyed a great deal of hay in the field and stacks, and farmers will be short of feed this spring if they are not careful.

The barque Harold sailed from Westminster with 25,000 cases of salmon, for England.

D. Day, of Dumfries, Scotland, is starting an establishment in Vancouver for the dyeing of silks, laces, carpets and rugs.

The Nelson *Tribune* says: "The output of the mines of South Kootenay from January 1st to further notice is \$15,000 a day. It is estimated for the year 1894, the total output will be \$19,000,000.

The price of potatoes is stiffening. Those grown in British Columbia last summer have been consumed and importations from outside will have to be entirely resorted to.

The British ship Borrowdale, from Liverpool, to Vancouver, passed Holyhead Jan. 3rd.

The Tescott Packing Co., of New Westminster, are making a few catches of sturgeon for shipment East.

B. C. Market Quotations.

Large quantities of poultry flooding the market from the east. Prices weak and uncertain. Geese, 10 to 13c a pound; turkey, 10 to 14c a pound. Some sales at 8c. Chickens, 10 to 12c—downward tendency.

FRUITS—Lemons, Cal., \$4.00 to \$4.50; apples, 80c to \$1.10—a little slack; Oregon, \$1.25 to 1.50; evaporated apples are quoted at 12c per pound; apricots, 18c; peaches, 14; dates, 8 to 9c; Smyrna prunes, 9c; layer raisins, \$2.75; cocoa nuts, \$1 to 1.10 per doz.; Japanese oranges 50 to 65c per box. California oranges, seedlings, \$3 to 3.25; navals, \$3.50 to 4.00. Cape Cod cranberries, \$9.50 per barrel. Honolulu bananas, 50c to \$3; New Orleans bananas, \$3 to 3.25; California figs, 10 to 12c; Smyrna figs, 14 to 15c.

VEGETABLES—New potatoes \$20 per ton firm; onions, 2 to 3c; cabbage, 3c; carrots, turnips and beets, 2 to 1c.

DAIRY.—Eastern creamery is quoted at 27 to 29c, improved tendency, firm; dairy, 24 to 25c, scarce; cheese, 12½ to 13½c.

EGGS—Eastern case eggs, 20 to 22; fresh local eggs coming into market offered at 30 to 35c.

FISH—Prices are—salmon 10c; flounders, 4c; smelt, 5c; seabass, 5c; cod, 8c; halibut, 8c; smoked salmon, 10c; smoked halibut, 10c; kippered herring, 12½c; bloaters, 10c.

DRESSED MEAT, LIVE STOCK, ETC.—Live steers are 3½c; cows 3c; beef, 6½ to 7½—sheep, 4½c; mutton, 5½ to 6½, quantities in the butcher stalls; hogs, 7½c; pork, 10½c.

MEATS—Hams 14c; breakfast bacon, 15c; backs 14½c; long clear, 11½c; short rolls, 11½ to 12c; long rolls, 14c. Lard is held at the following figures: In tins, 15c per pound; in pails, 14c; in tubs, 14c. Corned beef, \$8.00 per barrel; mess pork, \$20; short cut, \$24.

FLOUR, FEED, GRAIN, ETC.—The Ogilvie Milling Co. and Keewatin Milling Co. quote standard brands of Manitoba flour, in car lots only, at Victoria, Vancouver and Westminster as follows: Patent, per bbl., \$4.40; strong bakers, \$4.10. The Columbia Flouring Mills quote Enderby flour in carload lots at Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster: Premier, \$4.50; XXX, \$4.00; strong bakers, or XX, \$3.80; superfine, \$3.50. Quotations small lots are: Flour, Manitoba patents, \$4.50; strong bakers, \$4.30; ladies choice, \$4.50; prairie lily, \$4.25; Oregon, \$4.50. Enderby mills—three star, \$4.30; two star, \$3.90; oatmeal eastern \$3.00; California granulated in gunnies, \$4.25; National mills, Victoria, \$3.00; rolled oats eastern \$3.00 to \$3.25; California, \$4.00; National mills \$3.00 per sack; Westminster Mills, 4c per lb., cornmeal \$2.75; split peas \$3.50; pearl barley \$4.50. Rice—The Victoria rice mills quote wholesale Japan rice per ton, \$77.50; best China rice, do., \$100; China rice, do., \$70; rice flour, do, \$70; chit rice, do, \$25; rice meal do, \$17.50; chopped feed \$30 per ton; bran, \$23; shorts \$25; Man. oats, \$30.00; wheat \$28; oil cake, \$40; hay, \$16. Feed wheat, \$26 to 28; per ton; oats \$31; chop barley, \$30. California malting barley, \$26 to \$27 f.o.b. in San Francisco. California chop, \$32 to \$33. Oak Lake patent Hungarian \$4.25; Oak Lake strong bakers, \$3.95. Shorts, \$23; bran, \$21; barley chop, \$26; Brandon Mills, Hungarian, \$4.60; strong bakers, \$4.40.

Brief Business Notes.

The Dominion Government have notified the board of trade that they propose erecting a lighthouse and fog horn at the entrance of Vancouver harbor.

The steamer Warrimoo sailed on Jan. 17 for Sydney, via Honolulu and Fiji. She had twenty-four saloon passengers and 600 tons of freight.

R. M. Palmer, of Hall's Prairie, has been gazetted inspector of fruit pests.