

THE VICTORIA PRICES CURRENT AND SHIPPING LIST.

Vol. 3.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1865.

No. 125

The weather during the past few days, has passed through all the phases of Spring and Winter; two or three days gave such promise of an early Spring, that numbers of miners proceeded to New Westminster with the expectation of finding the Fraser navigation open; they were doomed, unfortunately, to disappointment, as we have again been visited by all the rigours of a northern winter: the snow having fallen in some localities to the depth of two to three feet. Despairing of an early reopening of the river, about 20 of the hardy fellows returned on the last steamer from New Westminster, and they will doubtless remain here until a return of milder weather.

We annex the new Tariff for British Columbia, and would direct the attention of our readers to the portions which bear most heavily upon the miner, the great resource of present wealth of the Colony; the duty on Flour, his principal article of food, is increased from 2 to 20 per cent; on Flour, from 5 to 15 per cent, and so on in relation to other articles of prime necessity, the injustice and impolicy of such impositions, when taken from the hard earnings of those who have so much to do for the country, are so strikingly palpable that we refrain from commenting upon the other incongruities in the tariff, our impression is that a revision is almost inevitable.

The efforts of American packers and traders to control the trade of the Kootenay and Selkirk rivers are not to be confined to their own territory: they propose to place a line of steamers on the British Columbia portion of the Columbia River; although British will ultimately supplant them, we must confess that British enterprise is sadly behind in the race with our neighbours.

Recent advice from California notices the continued flow of emigration to Sonora, in defiance of General McDowell's arbitrary order requiring all American citizens to take the Oath of Allegiance before leaving for that quarter. We have every reason to believe that Northern Mexico will become a new outlet for our merchandise; Victoria can obtain many better markets over San Francisco as a market for European productions. We trust the time is not far distant when our machine shops will take the lead in their line of business also; the material will, ere long, be entirely produced on this Island, capital and labor being the only requisites necessary.

Our legislators have given unquestionable proof of their confidence in the progress of our Island, by voting \$50,000 for a new residence for the Governor, in this they have shown good taste although a little smaller a central situation should be made for a site, in order that the building may become an ornament to the city; there are plenty of pleasant localities where such a structure would make a most favorable impression on strangers visiting Victoria.

Our Sugar market is very bare of stock in all descriptions; the Dominick is now due here however, from the Sandwich Islands, with a cargo of that quality, which will supply our market for a short time.

Flour—By last advices from San Francisco, flour generally was higher, we cannot, however, look for a reduction in prices at present.

Dry Goods—Under this head we have no change worthy of note to remark.

Whisky—The stocks at present on hand far exceed the demand, in fact we hear of lots being re-shipped to England in consequence of the market being oversupplied.

The barque "Kalgat Bay" has been chartered by Dickson, Campbell & Co. for six months, to carry coal from Nanaimo to San Francisco.

The shipment of freights from California during 1864 amounted to \$55,797,201, being the largest sum ever exported from San Francisco in the like period.

The "Envoy," which is still in this port for the purpose of undergoing repairs, is found, on examination, to have sustained considerable damage, a large portion of her copper having been torn off.

By last advices, we learn that the "San Adamson" was expected to complete her loading in London, for this port, about 1st January last.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE NEW BRITISH COLUMBIAN TARIFF REFERRED TO IN OUR LAST ISSUE:

SCHEDULE A.

AD VALOREM CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Everything not enumerated under Schedules A, B, and C, shall be subject to a duty of 12 1/2 per cent.

Pork (salt.) Wheat, Window Sashes and Doors, 10 per cent.

Axes, Barley, Beet (salt.) Billiard and Bagatelle Tables, Bricks, Camphene, Chocolate, Cider, Confectionery, Cordials, Earthenware, Fish (preserved,) Fire Arms, Fruits (preserved) Furniture, (excepting as provided for in Schedule C.) Glass and Glass-ware, Groceries (not otherwise provided for.) Hardware and Ironmongery, Harness and Saddlery, Iron and Steel, Leather, Lime; Meat (preserved.) Molasses, Nails, Nuts and Almonds, Oats, Paints, Potatoes, Quicksilver, Rope and Cordage, Shot, Soap, Stationery, Tar and Pitch, Tin and Tinware, Vegetables, Vegetables (preserved,) Wagons, Woodware, Yeast Powder, 12 1/2 per cent.

Bacon, Boots and Shoes, Butter, Cheese, Clothing, Coffee (ground.) Dry Goods, Flour, Gunpowder, Lard, Oils, 15 per cent.

Alc and Porter, Beans, Blankets, Candles, Coffee, (manufactured,) Drugs and Chemicals, Rice, Sugar, 20 per cent.

Tea, Wine (Claret,) Wine (various,) 25 per cent.

Dried Fruits, Tobacco, 30 per cent. Bitters, Wine (Champagne) 10 per cent. Opium; Playing Cards, 50 per cent.

SCHEDULE B.

AD VALOREM AND SPECIFIC.

Spirits and Distilled Liquors of all kinds, for every gallon Imperial measure, of full strength, or less than full strength of proof by Syke's Hydrometer, 65; and so on in proportion for any greater strength than proof; and on the value thereof at the place from whence imported, 20 per cent.

Chinese medicated Wine and Spirits, per Gallon, 5s. and on the value thereof at the place from whence imported, 20 per cent.

Cigars and Cheroots, per 100, 4s. 2d.; and on the value thereof at the place from whence last imported, 20 per cent.

SCHEDULE C.

ARTICLES FREE OF DUTY.

All material required for ship or boat building, all kinds of Machinery, Pig Iron, Agricultural Implements, Coin, Fresh Fish, Fruit, Poultry, alive or dead, Seeds and bulbs, and roots of plants to be used in agriculture and horticulture, Coal, Eggs, Hay, Salt, Lumber, empty Gunny Sacks, Printed and Manuscript Books and Papers, Baggage and Apparel, Household Furniture which has been in use, belonging to and arriving with bona fide immigrants, and the professional apparatus of passengers. And also all goods, animals and

articles whatsoever, imported for the public service or uses of the Colony of British Columbia, or for the use of Her Majesty's Land or Sea Forces, or of any person holding any command or appointment in Her Majesty's Forces aforesaid. Provided always, that all articles so excepted from duty as above mentioned are the property of passengers and officers for use, and not for making a profit by the sale thereof.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London—60 days, \$5 00, £1 sterling.
do 30 days, \$5 05, do
do 3 days, \$5 10, do
San Francisco—1 per cent. premium.
Canada and New Brunswick—4 per cent. premium.
Nova Scotia—2 1/2 per cent. premium.
New York—4 per cent. premium.

LOADING AND ON THE WAY.

From London—Ann Adamson, loading.
From Liverpool—Cyclone loading.
do Ta Lee.

ALBURNI SHIPPING NEWS.

Corrected for the Prices Current by Anderson & Co. SAILED.

Ejeria, for Shaoghae.

LOADING.

John Stephenson, for Adelaide.