

## BRITISH COLUMBIA.

[This department is in charge of R. E. Gosnell, who is permanently engaged as a regular member of The 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.]

### Brief Business Notes.

P. Wilson, fruit, etc., Victoria, is dead.  
 H. Henley, saloon, etc., Victoria, is dead.  
 The prospects are for a light supply of ice.  
 A. Mayer & Co., general store, retiring from business.  
 Mrs. W. J. Kidd, general store, Vancouver, has assigned.  
 Victoria has been having a successful dog and poultry show.  
 The Kamloops Electric Light company has been organized.  
 The steamer Thistle is being fitted up at Victoria for sealing.  
 J. Schmidt, clothing, etc., Nanaimo, is moving to Victoria.  
 N. S. McCartney, drugs, Vancouver, is moving to Nanaimo.  
 H. Marymont, general store, Nanaimo, is moving to Vancouver.  
 Hill & Coatham, drugs, New Westminster, are giving up business.  
 H. Gribble, toys, etc., Victoria, damaged by fire; insurance ample.  
 Capt. Rogers' new steamer, City of Nanaimo, has proved a great success.  
 Ramsay Bros., confectioners, etc., Victoria, have moved to Vancouver.  
 Vancouver Candy Co. & Ramsay Bros., of Victoria, have amalgamated.  
 A. Atanasse, grocer and baker, New Westminster, is giving up business.  
 Corbett & Co. is the name of a new stove and tinware firm, New Westminster.  
 The business men of Ainsworth are going in to improve their harbor facilities.  
 Robt. Jamieson, stationery, etc., Victoria, damaged by fire; insurance ample.  
 Ramsay Bros., Victoria, and the Vancouver Candy Company have amalgamated.  
 The British ship Angerona is at Hastings mills, loading lumber for Valparaiso.  
 The Cochin barque Indian has arrived to load lumber at Hastings mills for Valparaiso.  
 Hobbs & Peters, hotel, etc., Nanaimo, have dissolved partnership; continued by T. Peters.  
 The old Fraser river steamer Gladys is to be lengthened twenty-five feet and otherwise refitted.  
 The Titania sailed from Vancouver with lumber and canned salmon; value of cargo, \$122,314.  
 Mrs. J. Webb & Co., general store and hotel, North Bend, was burned out on the 12th inst.; total loss.  
 J. A. Christie, of the Brandon saw mill, has been making a tour of the province inspecting saw mills.  
 The Silver Queen Mining Co. are asking for incorporation to develop claims on Toad Mountain.  
 Geo. Hayes has retired from the firm of Hayes & McIntosh, butchers and ranchers, Vancouver.  
 Crickmay, Young & Co., paints, oils, etc., Vancouver, have dissolved partnership; Young has withdrawn.  
 Vancouver Soap Co., Vancouver, have sold out to E. J. & M. E. Peck; business continued under old style.  
 Mayor Oppenheimer, Vancouver, was banqueted by prominent citizens upon his retirement from office.

Report says that C. W. Whiffin, secretary of Nanaimo Building Society, has left the city short in his accounts.

A. McLean has been appointed secretary of the Vancouver-Westminster tramway vice A. V. McIntosh, deceased.

The new Vancouver Coal Company is going to put on a line of steam colliers from San Francisco to Nanaimo.

J. M. Atkins has entered into partnership with his brother, T. E. Atkins, Medical Hall drug store, Vancouver.

The American schooner W. H. Talbot, has been chartered to load lumber at the Hastings mill for Tientsin, China.

The steamer Esperanza, Nanaimo, has been purchased by Campbell & Freeman for general towing purposes.

During the year just closed 913 American vessels arrived in Victoria, representing a gross tonnage of 848,936 tons.

E. W. Whiffin, auctioneer, Nanaimo and Vancouver, is reported as taking a sudden departure, heavily in debt.

O. Harvey, general store, Ashcroft and Enderby, has formed a partnership under firm style of Harvey, Bailey & Co.

The Westminster Slate Company has instituted a carrier pig-on service between the slate quarry at Jarvis Islet and Westminster.

The annual meeting of the Okanagan Land and Development Company was held last week. A dividend of \$5 per share was declared.

The duties collected at the port of Victoria during the past year amounted to over \$1,000,000, the largest collection yet recorded.

A. Haslam, Nanaimo, a well-known and successful mill man, has decided to build a new mill on the water front for the foreign lumber trade.

Major & Pearson, real estate, are retiring from business in Vancouver, and H. P. McCroney, their managing partner, is taking over the business.

Shipments via port of Vancouver for the United States for 1891 aggregate \$1,441,000, the principal items being silk \$1,358,310 and tea \$445,951.

It is reported that an Atlantic seaboard Company, with a million dollars capital, is going to engage in the Behring Sea fur fisheries, making Victoria its headquarters.

The first lager beer brewery in British Columbia, will be started shortly in Vancouver by Diering & Marstrand. It will have a capacity of 25,000 barrels, yearly.

P. Wade & Co., marble dealers Vancouver, have leased land in Texada Island from the San Juan Lime Company, for the purpose of starting a marble quarry.

Capt. James W. Troup, formerly superintendent of the Union Pacific water lines, has been made manager of the Columbia & Kootenay Steam Navigation Company.

It is reported that one of the American sealing schooners put into a native village on Queen Charlotte Island and plundered it of everything. The Indians are highly incensed.

The British barque Aristonene, with a cargo of sugar from Java, for the British Columbia sugar refinery, had to put in at San Francisco almost a wreck, with a badly damaged cargo.

S.S. Grandholm brought 550 tons Portland freight for the Empress of India, which sailed with 1500 tons of freight for the Orient. The latter's cargo consisted mainly of flour and cotton.

H. Bell-Irving, of the shipping firm of Bell-Irving & Pattersen, has gone to Scotland on a business trip. F. R. Stewart, wholesale commission merchant, left recently on a business trip to Toronto.

Petitions are being circulated asking the Dominion Government to grant an unlimited number of licenses for fishing on the Fraser

River at \$5 each and the abolition of the close season.

The Puget Sound and British Columbia Stevedoring Company has been dissolved. Business will continue under the name of British Columbia Stevedoring Company, Capt. Yorke, manager.

The next issue of the P. C. Gazette will announce the incorporation of E. G. Prior & Co., as a joint stock company, with a capital stock at \$250,000. Col. E. G. Prior, G. F. Matthews and G. W. Wynno are the trustees of the company.

Following are returns for Vancouver for 1891 for customs and inland revenue: \$302,033, total custom receipts for 1891; for the month of December \$19,628. Inland revenue for the year, \$73,854, and \$7,621 inland revenue for December.

According to returns received at the Fisheries Department the approximate total of salmon put up by the British Columbia canneries during the past season was 304,978 cases, or 14,638,914 pound cans. This is a falling off in the pack of about 84,000 cases as compared with previous year.

At its last meeting the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council submitted and adopted an elaborate platform for the good government of the city. One plank was the abolition of the contract system, another was the control by the city of all public services such as sidewalks, etc., and another favored the introduction of the single tax system.

At the quarterly meeting of the Victoria board of trade held Jan. 8, it was reported that promises to extent of \$20,000 towards erecting a board of trade building. Some official correspondence was received and discussed relative to the wrecking of the steamer San Pedro. The fast Atlantic service came in for a good deal of consideration and resolutions from the Halifax and St. John boards of trade read, asking to have the Canadian ports made the terminus of subsidized trans-Atlantic steamers. The matter was finally dropped as being too far from home to interest the board. Politics entered the deliberations of the board in the form of a resolution asking the representatives of the city in the Dominion House of Commons to support any measure looking toward reciprocity with the United States. Col. Prior sat down on the proposal as a dictation of his duties as member of Parliament and it was ruled out of order.

### British Columbia Business Review.

January 13, 1892.

There is little change in the business situation since last week's report. Prospects for the lumbering trade are much brighter. Rates of freight are low which will compensate to some extent for the low rates of lumber in foreign markets. Recently the shipments of lumber from Burrard Inlet have been considerable and a number of charters are reported. The sealers are all busy preparing for another season, Blaine or no Blaine. If our sealers are to be hunted like pirates for catfishing fish in the open sea in which, by the way, with a peculiar instinct, the Americans are endeavoring to procure a corner, then pirates they will very likely be, and by taking on board a few small pieces of ordnance they could easily protect themselves against the whole American navy were it centered in Behring Sea. It is their intention to catch seals.

Of considerable interest to our shipping industry is the fact that S. Glenn Todd, of Port Townsend, has arrived in Vancouver as United States inspector of customs to be resident in the latter place. His appointment is regarded as an official intimation of the intention of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company to renew their traffic arrangements with Vancouver. Another matter of importance pointing to the growing interests of Comox is the establishment of a consular agency there by the United States government. It will be under the jurisdiction of the consulate of Vancouver.