Victoria Colonist: A young man the other day, had occasion to consult an "uncle" for monetary assistance and left several diamonds as, eccurity. He went to redeem them on Thursday and was informed they were in the bank but he could have them next day. He was then put off with another excuse, and on enquiring at the bank found no diamonds were deposited there. He then consuited the police, and the "uncle" acknowledged that his wife had gone over to celebrate the Fourth in Seattle and he had loaned her the jewels, but she would be back on Saturday evening. Money sufficient to cover their value was put up by "uncle" for the time being, and so the matter was sottled.

Dun, Wiman & Co.'s "Business Outlook" for the first half of 1888 is to hand. Of British Columbia it says: Trade in the province has been quiet the past six months, but it is generally regarded in a very healthy state, and aerchants are reported as making slow but steady progress. Failures have been few and unimportant, and banks state collections are very fair and but few renewals asked. What little acreage there is under crop promises favorably. It is also expected considerable money will be spent this year in the development of quartz mining. A large quantity of lumber is being shipped to Australia and South America ports, and the exports in this line, as well as the output from the collieries, are expected to slightly exceed that of 1887-some 315,380 tons of coal being shipped that year. Altogether we cannot say the outlook is unfavorable, and the general feeling is one of confidence in the future.

The salmon packors met lately and formed an association. J. H. Todd was elected president, and E. A. Wadhams secretarytreasurer. The object of the association is mutual benefit and the advancement and protection of the fishing industry on the Fraser river. The Columbian says : The association has issued a poster offering \$500 reward to anyone who can prove that the employees of the canneries have sold fish to outside parties. This was made necessary from the fact that unscrupulous white men, pretending to be legitimate fishermen, have been in the hab", during the night, of visiting the boats manned by Indians and purchasing from them, at a trifling cost, a sufficient number of fish to make a good night's catch. In the morning the Indians, who are all on salary, would return to the cannery with sufficient fish to pay their wages. The association has enrolled the name of every canner of importance on the river, and we wish it every success.

The Vancouver News says :-- The Council of the Board of Trade had an interview with Mr. Van Horne recently. The subjects discussed were the carriage of exhibits to the Toronto exhibition, which Mr. Van Horne promised the C. P. R. would make no charge for; arrangements whereby tourists can get their tickets certified here instead of being obliged to go over to Victoria; a site for an emigration shed; better steamship communication between Vancouver and San Francisco and between this city and Nanaimo; the establishment of a quarantine station here, especially important now that steamers are running to China from here at fre-

quent intervals; the question of Vancouver having railway communication by way of Westminster with Scattle and the other Sound ports, and False Creek bridge. Mr. Van Horne discussed the whole of these matters at considerable length with the council and assured his listeners that the people of Vancouver would always find the company anxious to co-operate with them in any matter affecting the prosperity of the cit;.

## Prince Albert.

Although the spring was late in opening and much colder than the corresponding period in former years, yet since the beginning of June the weather has been so very anapicious that the promise of an abundant yield for 1888 is much better than it has been for many years past. The frequent showers and the very warm weather during the last few weeks have brought the crops on very rapidly. The farmers have sown a larger area than last year, and from the favorable prospects at present in the Prince Albert district, there will be a large yield of cereals, and the result, grain will be a drug in the market, there being no means of export nearer than 250 miles. Should flour contracts for the Indians and N. W. M. Police be awarded to outsiders as it has been in the past, the farmers will have no means of disposing of any of their produce over and above what they can dispose of for local consumption. A short drive through the country at present would convince the most skeptical that Prince Albert is the centre of one of the most fertile districts in the Northwest, and with railway communication would soon assert her right in wealth and population .- Times.

