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THE VICTORIA PRICES CURRENT AND SHIPPING LIST.

Vol. 3. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1865. No 126.

The unusually protracted winter has seriously affected our commercial affairs in neutralising all the calculations of our merchants; our warehouses are full of most descriptions of goods, whilst buyers hesitate, owing to the uncertainty of river transit to the interior of the sister Colony; under these circumstances, as a natural consequence, sellers are in some cases anxious to realise, and prices that in a more advanced period of the season would be refused are at present readily submitted to. There are, however, those amongst our importers and dealers who feel more confidence in the advancing season, and who decline to transact business without a fair profit. We predict for them a profitable result for their firmness.

This city has never had so many difficulties opposed to its commercial progress as at present. In the first place, the preliminary measures to the creation of a tariff in our own Island are beginning to have their influence. Secondly, the absurd impositions in the sister Colony will undoubtedly restrict commercial operations to immediate demand in that quarter. Thirdly, the stringent application of the customs regulations in the United States involving heavy duties, or still heavier penalties on any attempt at evasion, compresses our trade within very narrow limits. Fourthly, the still unsettled state of affairs in Mexico prevents any shipment in that direction, except on unquestionable orders. With all these obstacles to contend against, our people, with few exceptions, look forward to brighter times. British Columbian legislators will sooner or later (may it not be too late) see the error of their ways. Our own tariff will, we are happy to observe, be maturely considered before it becomes law. The United States will, we trust, be soon in a position to look calmly at the unswerving laws of commerce, and see the folly of casting away the beef for the shadow. California, Oregon and Washington Territory will always be our customers from their close vicinity, and the facilities of transit are daily on the increase. Mexico is gradually accustoming herself to the new order of things, and will soon offer a wide field to commercial explorers; our market being the best on the Pacific for European manufactures will of course be the first appealed to for supplies. Our erring sister will embrace the opportunity of supplying her wants where she can procure all she requires much cheaper than by direct importation.

The latest news from the various mining districts is full of promise for the coming season, and we heartily wish our hardy miners may meet with the well merited reward for their toil during the past two years. The extent of country lately opened up will afford an opening for thousands of new comers, who will arrive at success in a much shorter period than in older communities.

Sugar—At McCrea's Auction Sale, on the 16th instant, good prices were realized for all descriptions, the whole quantity offered being disposed of. The stock in first hands was completely exhausted, when the arrival of the 'Domitilla' furnished a timely supply; the whole of this cargo changed hands and prices are firm at quotations as follows.—Sandwich Island No. 1, 10½ cts., No. 2, 9 cts. **Coffee** is held at 21 cts.; for *Pulu* there is no sale.

Wines and Spirits—An Auction Sale was held a few days ago—of the Wines only sample lots were sold—Brandy of various brands brought very fair prices, the amount realized was \$6000 to \$7000.

Grain and Flour—At a late sale of Grain by Auction the prices obtained were very low. Stocks are heavy. The 'Brewster' has just arrived from Valparaiso; she made the passage in 71 days and brings the following produce: Barley, 243 tons 1241 lbs.; Beans, 136 tons 273 lbs. At the time of our going to press we learn that nothing is definitely fixed with regard to her cargo, but in the present state of the market here we think it not improbable that arrangements will be made to send the cargo to California instead of discharging at this port, as we have already enough of both these articles to meet any demand that we are likely to have for some time to come: had the 'Brewster' brought Flour it would have met with ready sale as prices are still inclined to rise. Advices from Chile report trade very brisk generally, and from the Captain we learn that every vessel that could be obtained at the time he was in Valparaiso was chartered at once for Australia.

By late advices we learn that the 'Philomela' had been laid on the berth at London to load for this port. We publish a supplement with this issue containing the resolutions lately passed by the Chamber of Commerce in this city. The resolutions sufficiently denote the high class to which our merchants belong, and will no doubt command that attention which the importance of the subjects under discussion require at the hands of all those interested in commercial progress.

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—2½ per cent. premium.
New York—4 per cent. premium.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

OFFICERS FOR 1865-66.

JULES DAVID, Esq., PRESIDENT.
JAMES LOWE, Esq., VICE PRESIDENT.
A. F. MAIN, Esq., ... SECRETARY & TREASURER.

COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION.

W. PICKETT, Esq.,
R. BURNABY, Esq.,
H. NATHAN, Jr. Esq.,
J. WILKIE, Esq.,
F. WIESSENBURGER, Esq.,
HENRY RHODES, Esq.,

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

ENTERED.

March 9.—Sloop Thornton, Warren, New Westminster
Sch J. K. Thornhyke, Thornton, San Juan,
Str Fideliter, London, Nainaimo,
Str G. S. Wright, Lewis, Portland.
Sch Gen. W ndham, June, Port Angelos,
Sch Alpha, George, Nainaimo,
Str Fideliter, London, do.
March 11.—A. Cro-by, Ketchum, Astoria.
March 13.—Str Fideliter London New Westminster
Bk Massachusetts McIntyre San Francisco
Sch Leah W Robertson Port Angelos
Sch Onward H McKay Nainaimo
Sch Domatilla J P Webb Honolulu
Slp Thornton Warren Salt Spring Island
Sch North Star W McCulloch Nainaimo
Str Emily Harris McIntosh Nainaimo
March 17.—Str Enterprise Mount New Westminster
Sch Leah Hillyer Port Angelos

CLEARED.

Feb. 25.—Str Fideliter, London, Nainaimo
Sch Alpha, George, Nainaimo
Slp Boy Dak Cowichan.
In Thornton Warren New Westminster
Sch Flying Mist Thompson Port Angelos
Bt Harriet Disk San Juan
March 11.—Sch Sweepstakes, Kellner, Stekin,
Sch Matilda, Everstein, New Westminster,
Sloop Thornton, Warren, Salt Spring Island,
Sloop Native, Jones, Soke.
March 13.—Sch Eliza Carleton Stanich

Slp Alarm Hollin Salt Spring Island
Str F deliter London Nainaimo
Slp Thornton Warren New Westminster
Slp Northern Light Montfort Port Angelos
March 17.—Sch Alpha George Nainaimo
Sch Gen Harney Oberg Port Angelos
Str Enterprise Mount New Westminster
Sch Winged Racer Peterson Saanich.

LOADING AND ON THE WAY.

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

ALBERNI SHIPPING NEWS.

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

Egeria, for Shanghai.

LOADING.

John Stephenson, for Adelaide.

J. J. COCHRANE, C. E.,

Land Agent, Surveyor, and Auctioneer
of Real Estate only.

Government street, near the Post Office,
Victoria, Vancouver Island. del

SUPPLEMENT TO THE
Victoria Prices Current & Shipping List.

RESOLUTIONS & EXPLANATORY REPORT OF THE
VICTORIA, V. I., CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The following resolutions with an annexed explanatory report have been recently handed to His Excellency the Governor for transmission to the Home Government

Chamber of Commerce, }
Victoria, V. I., 9th March, 1865. }

HENRY WAKEFIELD, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Sir:—Herewith I have the honor to hand you a series of resolutions and a report relative thereto, passed unanimously at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 6th instant, and signed by the members.

On behalf of the Chamber I have to beg that you will be kind enough to lay these resolutions before His Excellency the Governor with the request that His Excellency will be pleased to comply with the prayer therein contained, and to transmit the documents to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Signed)

JULES DAVID
President of the Chamber of Commerce.
A. F. MAIN,
Secretary.

Victoria, V. I., }
March 6th, 1865. }

The committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to draft a series of resolutions on the subject of union with British Columbia as viewed in connection with the new tariff, respectfully submit the following resolutions and report for the consideration of the Chamber.

Resolved. 1. That an equitable union of the Colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver Island at as early a date as possible is essential to the maintenance of Imperial and local interest in the British Possessions on the North Pacific.

2. That the Chamber of Commerce adheres nevertheless to its Resolutions on the subject of the free Port lately adopted, believing the interests of the two colonies whether united or separate will be best maintained by the preservation in its integrity in this Island of the Free Trade policy hitherto pursued.

3. That these resolutions with the annexed report be signed by the whole of the members of the Chamber of Commerce and transmitted by the President to His Excellency the Governor with the prayer

that they may be forwarded for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the resolutions of the House of Assembly on the same subject.

JAMES LOWE.

Vice Pres't & Chairman of the Committee
Passed unanimously at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 6th March, 1865.

In adopting the foregoing resolutions, the Members of the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria, V. I., representing as they do the chief part of the capital that has been invested in the joint development of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, deem it proper to place on record the facts and circumstances that necessitate their present expression of opinion.

Prior to the year 1858 the British possessions in the North Pacific attracted but slight attention; the trading posts and forts of the Hudson Bay Company, and a few farming establishments on Vancouver Island under their control, being the only inducements for commerce, which therefore remained entirely in the hands of the Company, by whom Vancouver Island was then held under a charter from the Crown.

The discovery of gold on the river Fraser in 1858, and the large floating population it attracted chiefly from California and Oregon, gave an entirely new impetus to commerce. Merchants and traders followed the new community, with capital and enterprise, to supply its requirements in the quickest manner and form the most convenient point.

The action of the Hudson Bay company in its corporate capacity, as well as of the several members in their individual interests, proves conclusively that from the first the Mainland and Vancouver Island were regarded as identical, and their separation as a temporary condition of Imperial policy, arising out of the grant of the Island to the Company.

Victoria, as early as 1818, was selected by the Hudson Bay Company as the most eligible spot for carrying on business in North West America to the best advantage, and the merchants who followed them in 1858 ratified the wisdom of that choice.

It should be borne in mind that there were many reasons why American merchants should have settled by preference

on the opposite coast, and should have thus derived on their own territory the privileges for a coasting trade, as well as of importing American produce duty free. There were the further inducements of good town sites, excellent harbours, and access to British Columbia overland; but Victoria with the *prestige of a Free Port* offered greater advantages still.

The commanding nature of its geographical position, its capacious and convenient harbours of Victoria and Esquimalt, the only safe harbours on the sea board north of San Francisco, a distance of 700 miles, and approachable at all times by night or day for sea-going ships of any burthen) the comparatively large area of land in its vicinity, its proximity to the coal fields of Nanaimo, and its temperate and delightful climate, all indicated it as a natural depot from whence might be supplied not only the requirements of British Columbia, but of Puget Sound, Oregon, California, Mexico, the Hawaiian Islands, and the Russian possessions in the North Pacific, (all of which have since become the customers of Victoria and give promise of increasing trade,) and thus to build up an entrepot for British commerce and influence, the vast results of which in course of time can only be matter of conjecture, occupying as Victoria does a most important position in what, when overland communication is opened through British Columbia, will be the shortest and healthiest route from Great Britain to her many valuable possessions in the East.

The action of the U. S. Congress in voting a subsidy for monthly mail steam communication between Olinx and San Francisco evinces that our neighbors are fully alive to the value of securing this important traffic for themselves.

The selection of Esquimalt as the Naval Station for the North Pacific proves that these several points have been duly weighed by the Imperial Government and their value recognised.

The internal resources of Vancouver Island, extensive and promising for the future successful working of minerals, farming, and manufactures, are only casually referred to as being but partially developed. The same may be said of the gold fields discovered last year, which have yet to be proved, and their richness and extent to be ascertained.

But the commercial interests of Vancouver Island, which is the peculiar province of this Chamber, is an ascertained fact.

After the formal separation of the Colonies in 1858, and the establishment in 1859 of New Westminster as the capital of British Columbia, their relative positions remained the same, and under the

judicious rule of Sir James Douglas, then the joint Governor of both, the progress of the Colonies was coincident, and their division merely nominal. The advancement of each was regarded as the benefit of the other.

The shipping and importing interests were unable to avail themselves of New Westminster (although original purchasers, and still extensive holders of property there) other than as a port of entry to the interior of British Columbia for the following reasons:

The great additional risks and delays for sea-going ships, without steam, navigating between Victoria and the Fraser river

The intricate narrow and uncertain channel through the sand-heads at the mouth of the Fraser, available only for ships drawing 16 feet at the utmost, and then requiring the assistance of steam.

The subsequent danger and delay attending river navigation to New Westminster, the current during the summer's freshets being very rapid.

The closing of the river by ice from time to time during the winter season extending over four months.

The general inconvenience of the situation for imports and exports to and from foreign markets, and the limited and uncertain nature of the new local demand.

Accordingly in no spirit of rivalry to the sister Colony, but with the clearly defined purpose of fostering her advancement as the best means of promoting their own; the merchants, without an exception, settled down in Victoria, and under a Free Trade policy assisted to build it up to its present flourishing condition; investing considerable sums of money in permanent improvements, and in the establishment of business connections, under the belief that the relative positions of the Colonies would remain without material alterations.

It was hoped that they would still work harmoniously together, and that Vancouver Island, in maintaining her independence, and with it her Free Trade, would find in British Columbia her best customer and her staunchest supporter; and on these grounds the members of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce declined to touch upon Union, as being more a political than a commercial question.

The further reconstruction of British Columbia in 1863, and the arrival in 1861 of separate Governors with distinct establishments for that Colony and for Vancouver Island, somewhat altered the relations of the two, and now threatens seriously to imperil the mutually beneficial relations hitherto existing between them, which would directly tend to destroy the good effect already springing from the Free trade policy of Vancouver Island, and would build up rival towns on the

adjacent American territory to the sacrifice of British interests in the North Pacific.

The members of the Victoria, V. I., Chamber of Commerce view with surprise and astonishment the passing of enactments by the Legislative Council of British Columbia intentionally antagonistic to Victoria, from whence the great proportion of capital that has been, and still is, employed in Trading, Mining, and other enterprises in British Columbia has been supplied on a very liberal credit, and where it is still owned, there not being at this moment one single importing mercantile establishment throughout that colony.

The annexed tariff, recently passed by the Legislative Council of British Columbia and put into operation the same day, without any notice to the mercantile community, most clearly indicates a desire to sacrifice the material interests of the colony of British Columbia at large, provided that in so doing a blow is aimed that will elevate New Westminster at the expense of Victoria.

It is certain that the miners, traders, and packers of British Columbia who are chiefly affected by this measure, are not shirers in the feeling of opposition against Vancouver Island prevalent in New Westminster. Such of them as were in Victoria have given expression to their views at a public meeting, and petitions are in active circulation against it.

Another instance may be cited as evincing the spirit of antagonistic legislation; in compelling vessels from Victoria, bound for the North West coast of British Columbia, to proceed 27 miles up the river to New Westminster at great risk and loss of time, for the simple purpose of entering and clearing, instead of being allowed as heretofore to clear from Victoria. (In the case of large craft involving the additional delay of going and returning 70 miles each way, as the inner passage by Johnson's straits is only available for small vessels or steamers.)

It frequently happens that sailing vessels, so bound, are unable from ice in winter, and from freshets in summer, to reach New Westminster at all. A case recently occurred, as set forth in the declaration in the appendix, in which a schooner, bound for Queen Charlotte Island for supplies for some miners supposed to be short of provisions, could not enter the Fraser owing to the ice. She went round to Burrard Inlet, from whence New Westminster has constantly receives supplies when the river was closed, a distance of seven miles overland from New Westminster, and was refused a clearance unless she came to New Westminster, and ultimately returned to Victoria. In this particular instance, the action of the authorities may prove to have been fatal to life.

From such ill-advised Legislation most serious issues must spring, and it is the deliberately expressed opinion of this Chamber that the paramount interests of the Imperial Government in the North Pacific will be seriously jeopardized by it.

The want of concord between two colonies in such close proximity whose limited populations are mutually dependent on each other, can only result in access of strength to our American neighbors at the expense of British influence in a quarter of the world where it is needless to state that influence, ought to be fostered to the utmost.

Finally, as bearing on the question of union with British Columbia, public opinion in opposition to the views of their Chamber, seems to be wavering and unstable on the question of Free Trade, and it is obvious that unless that policy is adhered to, the natural advantages of Vancouver Island can only be made available by the establishment of perfect harmony and union of interests between it and British Columbia.

In view of which, and regarding the general progress of the two Colonies as far above mere local considerations, the members of the Vancouver Island Chamber of Commerce can only see in equitable union a practical solution of existing difficulties, and while feeling that Victoria as a Free Port Depot, established with so much forethought and maintained with so much cost, to the substantial benefit of British Columbia as well as of Vancouver Island, may be weakened for a time, they are content to leave the solution of the whole question to the wisdom of Her Majesty's Government, feeling sure that the true interests of all parties will be carefully estimated and provided for.

1. *Resolved*: That in the opinion of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce the maintenance of the free port is of vital importance to the prosperity of Victoria and of Vancouver Island.

2 That commerce should not be subjected to any species of restraint because freedom from restraint is calculated to give the utmost extension to foreign trade, and the best direction to the capital and industry of the country.

3 That the adoption of a protective tariff would be detrimental to the commercial interests of the colony, without benefiting the farmer or manufacturer.

That a tariff for revenue would necessitate such an outlay of expenditure for the collection of duties, that it would not answer the requirements of the Government, and would inflict a heavy blow on the commerce of Victoria.

4 That direct taxation is the only politic and equitable mode of raising a revenue.

That a general system of taxation by which all classes of the community would be made to contribute to the support of the Government is the most simple and economical.

Adopted unanimously.

JULES DAVID, *President*.

JAMES LOWE, *Vice President*.

A. F. MAIN, *Secretary*.

R. Burnaby.	Louis Goldstone.
W. F. Tolmie.	A. H. Guild.
Henry Rhodes.	J. G. McKay.
John M. Work.	J. L. Stahlshmidt.
John Wilkie.	P. M. Backus.
H. F. Heisterman.	H. Nathan.
F. Weissenburger.	Wm. Pickett.
James Cricks.	Godfrey Brown.
G. C. Webster.	James Fell.
J. Ruel.	Edgar Marvin.
M. Sporborg.	Simon Rienhart.
E. Graucini.	Earnest Schloesser.
J. J. Southgate.	G. Sutro.
A. Casamayan.	E. Sutro.
Aime Guilloteau.	J. T. Little.
David Leneven.	Lumley Franklin.
T. C. Nuttall.	J. C. Nicholson.
J. A. McCrea.	C. W. Wallace.
J. P. Davies.	Lee Chang.

J. J. SOUTHGATE,
COMMISSION MERCHANT, Union Wharf,
Victoria, Vancouver Island.

Low Brothers,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
Wharf Street, Victoria, V. I.

JANION, GREEN & RHODES,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
STORK STREET, VICTORIA, V. I.

Agents for the Liverpool Board of Underwriters,
and for British and Foreign Mercantile Insurance Co.
do for the Northern Assurance Company.

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THE UNDERSIGNED ARE APPOINTED
Sole Agents for the sale of the above well known
Brands, and are now prepared to supply same in case
and bulk.

DICKSON, CAMPBELL & CO.
Wharf street

BURTON BREWERY CO.

The Undersigned receive regular supplies in bulk and
bottle, of the above well known and favorite brand.

DICKSON, CAMPBELL, & CO.

MORRIS, COX, & CO.,

Well known and celebrated

BRANDS OF ALE AND STOUT,

The undersigned are sole Agents for the above
favourite Brands, and are in constant receipt
of same, which they offer for sale in lots to
suit.

DICKSON, CAMPBELL & CO.

Wharf street.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

Established in 1821.
Incorporated by Royal Charter 1840.
Capital £1,000,000.
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Branches in Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia
and Vancouver Island.

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Ireland—Provincial Bank of Ireland
Scotland—National Bank of Scotland
Liverpool—Royal Bank of Liverpool
Manchester—Manchester and Salford Bank
Birmingham—Birmingham Town and District and
Messrs Lloyd & Co.
Credits on all in Branches and its Agents in New York
are granted at the London Office, and at all the Branches
of the National Bank of Scotland, Provincial Bank of Ire-
land, Royal Bank of Liverpool, and of the Manchester and
Salford Bank.

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Victoria, Vancouver Island.

BASS & CO.

BURTON ON TRENT, The above celebrated
ALE, of the new brew on hand and for
sale by
DICKSON CAMPBELL & CO.

BERNARD & CO.

THE UNDERSIGNED AGENTS FOR
Messrs. BERNARD & Co. are in regular receipt of
their celebrated manufactures, viz.

BRANDY, in bulk and case
OLD TOM GIN,
FINE MALT WHISKEY,
ORANGE BITTERS,
GINGER WINE.

Which they offer to the Trade.

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DEALERS IN
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Orders from the country promptly attended to.

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Importers and wholesale dealers in Groceries, Provisions,
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ROBERT BURNABY,
Victoria.

Henderson & Burnaby,

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Wharf street, Victoria.

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DICKSON CAMPBELL & Co.
Wharf street.

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

AND IMPORTERS OF

Groceries, Provisions, Boots & Shoes, &c.
Wharf Street, VICTORIA, V. I.

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THE UNDERSIGNED, Sole Agents for Messrs. Swaine
Boord & Co.'s celebrated Cold Cream, Ginger Brandy, Or-
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which they offer for sale in lots to suit.

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Albion Steam Saw Mills.

BARCLAY FOUND, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

Spars, Piles, and Lumber,
OF First Quality & Full Dimensions.
Furnished for Export at Moderate Prices

VESSELS LOADING AT ALBION. CAN
clear from the Mill. They save the tedious naviga-
tion of the straits of Fuca, and get to sea readily when
loaded, owing to the position of Albion, despatches
from ships are of rare occurrence. The wharf is easily
accessible and commodious. A STEAM TUG is kept to
assist vessels.

Regular communication is maintained with Victoria,

AGENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO,

Messrs. Falkner, Bell, & Co.

ANDERSON & CO.

Victoria, V. I., Feb. 3rd, 1863.

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Heyworth, Thomas Harrison, Thomas Kendall, Edward
Lawrence, George Lyall, Andrew Malcolmson, Robert
Maxwell, George M. Papayanni, John Park, Charles K.
Polecar, John Ravenscroft, James Sawright, Samuel
Stitt, Thomas Steinheuser, T. Wilkinson, Tetley.

Liverpool—Manager & Underwriter—ROBERT N. DALE
Secretary—J. H. LUKIS,

Office—Manchester Buildings,

LONDON OFFICES—25 Cornhill.

The undersigned have been appointed Agents for the
above Company, and are now in a position to accept
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Victoria, V. I.

THE BANK

OF

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Capital - - - \$1,250,000

In 12,500 Shares of \$100 Each,

WITH POWER TO INCREASE.

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NANAIMO—The Bank of British Columbia

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NEW WESTMINSTER—Bank of B. Columbia

YALE— Ditto

QUESNELMOUTH— Ditto

CAMERONTON, GARIBOO—Ditto

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lodged for fixed periods.

BITS DISCOUNTED and Collected; and BITS OF EXCHANGE
on Great Britain, San Francisco, and New York pur-
chased.

DRAFTS issued on all the Branches and Agencies; and
CREDITS granted on Great Britain, San Francisco, and
New York, authorizing payment for goods shipped to the
Colonies.

GOVERNMENT and other SECURITIES received for safe
custody; Interest and Dividends Collected.

**GOLD DUST AND BARS
PURCHASED,**

Received on Deposit, or Advances made upon them.

Victoria, August, 1864

D. M. LANG, Manager.
del5

EAST INDIA PALE ALE

OF VERY SUPERIOR QUALITY,

BREWED BY GUNDRY, DOWNE, & CO.

BRIDPORT, DORSET.

THE undersigned having been appointed
Sole Agents for the above, have the same constantly
on hand in Bulk and Bottle.

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