

20. The following is the Official Abstract of the probable Revenue of the Colonial Government of British Columbia, for the year 1870:—

	Estimate for 1870.	Revenue of 1868.	Revenue of 1869. Ap- proximate.
Customs.....}	\$350,000	\$381,475	\$353,000
Port and Harbour Dues.....}			
Roads' Tolls.....	50,000	67,825	46,500
Excise Duties.....	3,500	5,048	3,000
Land Sales.....	6,000	5,564	1,200
Land Revenue.....	4,000	6, 56	4,000
Rents, exclusive of Land.....	1,500	2,163	1,500
Free Miners' Certificates.....	11,000	11,535	10,500
Mining Receipts, General.....	12,500	15,756	11,500
Licenses.....	40,000	45,589	40,000
Postage.....	13,000	12,789	12,500
Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court.....	5,000	4,782	5,070
Fees of Office.....	6,050	3,179	3,500
Sale of Government Property.....	1,500	2,535	2,300
Reimbursement in aid of Expenses incurred.....	19,200	16,696	13,000
Miscellaneous Receipts.....	500	598	900
Arrears, Real Estate Tax, Vancouver Island.....	8,000	3,970	300
Road Tax.....	6,000	4,800
Total.....	\$537,750	\$585,610	\$513,500

11. Official Return shewing the amount of the Public Debt of the Colony of British Columbia, at 1st January, 1870, after deducting Sinking Fund Investments, also the amount of Floating Debt at same date.

	Amount of Loans.	Sums Invested	Balance still to be Invested.	Rate of Interest.	Rate of Sinking Fund.	When Repayable.
Loan of 1862.....	\$ 242,500	\$ 165,982	\$ 76,518	[annum.	[yearly.	1st Jan., 1873.
Do. 1863.....	242,500	67,907	174,593	Do. do.	2 p. c. do.	1st July, 1883.
Do. 1864.....	485,000	54,175	430,825	Do. do.	1½ do. do.	1st April, 1894.
V. I. Loan of 1862.....	194,000	58,756	135,244	Do. do.	2 do. do.	15th Jan. 1883.
	1,164,000	346,820	\$817,820			
Deduct Investments.....	346,820					
Net amount of debt still due	\$817,180					

The Floating Debt amounts to \$319,019.

12.—EDUCATION.

Government aid is given to each school in every district where the number of children able to attend is not less than 12. The sum of \$480 is given to each teacher, and half the cost of erecting school-houses is defrayed by the Government. The balance of moneys required is raised by local taxation. The number of schools for 1870 is 16; they are inspected periodically by a Government officer. The present Inspector is E. Graham Alston, Esq.

13. The rates of Postage are as follows:—

To Great Britain.....	25c.	(including Colonial charge of 5c.)
To Canada.....	15c.	do. do.
To United States.....	10c.	
To Australia.....	30c.	
To Germany and Europe.....	35c.	

The mails are brought irregularly about once a week by American steamers from San Francisco and Olympia.

14. For further information see "Hand-book of British Columbia and Vancouver Island," published by F. Algar, Lombard Street, London.