

Mr. H. J. LYALL, who has for several years past endeavored to establish a boys' college at Sorel, P.Q., and has worked hard under adverse circumstances, has been obliged to make an assignment. Mr. Lyall was highly thought of as an educationist, and had scholars from a number of the best families throughout the Dominion, but could not make the college a paying venture.

The grocers of New Brunswick, N. J., have hit upon a novel method of bringing their debtors to terms. At a secret meeting, it was resolved that the association of grocers employ a person to dun the debtors in this manner: A waggon is to be purchased, on one side of which is painted in glaring letters, "New Brunswick Grocers' Association Collecting Bureau." The driver is instructed to draw up before the door of a debtor, and, after waiting a reasonable time for passers-by to notice the

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object of the visit, to ask for the amount of money outstanding. This plan is to be repeated until the debtor for shame's sake pays the bill. A similar plan was some time ago declared illegal in a New York case.

A TWIN-SCREW steamer named the "Islander" has been built on the Clyde for the C.P. Navigation Co. She is specially designed for passenger traffic between Victoria and Vancouver. With a gross tonnage of 1,600 tons, the vessel is 240 feet long, 42 feet broad, and has a depth to main deck of 14 feet 8 inches. She has two sets of triple-expansion engines, indicator 3,000 horse power, estimated to ensure a speed of about 15 knots per hour. The vessel throughout is fitted with electricity.

Among recent notes of interest from Calgary is the fact, upon which the *Banff Herald* congratulates her sister town, that the station agent at that place, Mr. Feehan, has received the first prize for the best specimens of grain and root crops west of Ontario. Brandon was second in the competition. At the agricultural fair were samples of white oats, champion wheat, and very fine potatoes, grown by the Blackfoot Indians, and put on exhibition by Mr. Magnus Begg, the Government Indian

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agent. The Royal City Mills, of New Westminster, B. C., made a good show of doors, newel posts, and other woodwork in Douglas fir and cedar; while the Calgary Planing Factory showed creditable sashes, doors, panels and mouldings. This we gather from the *Calgary Herald*.

THERE is a great increase in the assessed value of Toronto since last year. The assessment reaches the figure of \$113,188,828, being an increase of \$14,885,927 over the amount of last year. This does not take into account \$15,887,404 worth of property which is exempted under the law. A large part of this exempted property, ought, in equity, to be subject to taxation. The increase in assessment is due to three causes: the annexation of suburbs has brought an additional area within the limits of the city, the value of new buildings counts for much, and the price of building land has gone up. Of course the assessment as returned by the assessors, is only provisional; appeals to the court of revision and the county court, may alter the total, and will be almost certain to reduce it more or less. The annexation of Parkdale, duly petitioned for, must, under the law, be decided by a vote within a month.

On Monday afternoon last, the Hon. James G. Ross, of Quebec, Senator, died, at the residence of his brother Frank, in Quebec, after an illness which was neither protracted nor considered immediately dangerous. His age was about 75 years. Mr. Ross was a very shrewd man and a successful and prosperous merchant. One of a numerous family of living merchants, he was known as the Ross and his name was a household word, not only in Quebec but all over Canada. His estate is variously estimated, some say four or five millions of dollars, some guess seven. He is understood to have left no will. A good deal of it is spread out in advances to lumbermen and shipowners. He was himself an extensive holder of timber limits and a large owner of shipping, president of the Quebec Bank for many years and a holder of shares in other banks. The funeral of the deceased gentleman was held yesterday, and was an imposing tribute to the memory of an influential merchant. Among those present were Sir Narcisse Belleau, Sir Hector Langevin, Sir Adolphe Caron, and leading representatives of all the commercial houses in Quebec, besides many from a distance, including Mr. Robert Ross, New York; Mr. Little, Montreal; Dr. Ross, ex-premier, St. Anne's; Mr. J. G. Robertson, ex-treasurer, Sherbrooke; Mr. Naegle, Ottawa, etc.

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