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A CANADIAN and Mexican syndicate, represented, we understand, by Mr. J. Robinson, of Toronto, is organizing for the purpose of establishing smelting and structural bridge works in Ottawa or some other Canadian city.

LAST week the Balmoral Hotel, Montreal, with its contents, was placed under the auctioneer's hammer. A good deal of the furniture was sold, but the price bid for the building and land, viz., \$75,-000, was not deemed sufficient to warrant a sale.

MR. W. D. Scott, Canadian commissioner at the Glasgow Exhibition, expresses the opinion that in ores and foodstuffs, Canada is likely to sweep the board. He says a unique feature of the coming Exposition is that practically everything is in place awaiting the opening ceremony.

NEW YORK paper interests are becoming alarmed at the gradual denudation of the United States of its spruce forests and at the increasing price of paper. Some experts recommend the promotion of trade relations with Canada in order to draw upon the practically inexhaustible pulp supply of this country.

THE father-in-law of C. F. Pequegnot. hardware and grocery merchant, at Sandwich, has been the backer of the latter for a long time. This business was started as long ago as 1874, and ran along fairly quietly until April, 1896, when a compromise with creditors, at 50 cents on the dollar, was effected. Since then, no headway has been made by the concern, it seems, and an assignment has taken place.

A DESPATCH from Ottawa says that the the Vanderbilt system of railways, by the acquisition of the Ottawa and New York line, has been strengthened within the past few days. Some railway magnates, representing the New York Central, and the Rutland Railway, have been on an inspection tour, and express themselves as favorably impressed with the line. Ottawa and New York connects with the New York Central at Tupper Lake, and with the Rutland railway at Moira.

THE Nickel-Copper Company, of Hamilton, have purchased the McConnell properties in what is called the Northern Nickel Range. These are supposed to be the largest nickel and copper-bearing properties in the Sudbury district. their action in purchasing these properties for over \$300,000, it is believed that the company must have become satisfied that the Frasch system of reducing ores is a thorough success. Extensive developments will be begun at once.

THE owners of the Dominion Line fleet of steamships have issued a circular stating that they have no intention of abandoning the ports of Montreal and Quebec, though the vessels will continue to sail to Portland, as at present. As soon as the "Canada," which is now being used by the Imperial authorities as a transport, is released, it will probably be placed on the Montreal-Liverpool route. Efforts are also being made to secure other vessels for this service.

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