

boracic acid is used in its manufacture. Such an amount is said to be absolutely non-injurious to health, even of the most delicate person.

A SLENDER ESTATE.

Henry M. Henrich was a hotel-keeper in New Hamburg, one of the most German of the many German villages in the thriving Ontario county of Waterloo. He failed, and his estate went into the hands of I. M. Clemens, who has just issued a statement. Henry owed \$2,267.09, of which \$400 was for rent, and \$78.10 for wages, leaving the ordinary claims at \$1,788.99. No statement of the prospective value of the assets is given, but the amount realized from them was \$521.41. Out of this there was paid, during the winding up of the estate, \$66 for wages, \$30 for legal expenses, \$30 for inspectors' fees and \$50 for assignee's commission. Other expenses make the total outgo of the assignee, \$246.41, which leaves a balance of assets equal to \$275. How to pay preference claims of \$478.10 out of this \$275 is the conundrum which confronted the assignee. After some cogitation, possibly assisted by a smoke, as he is a German, Mr. Clemens gave it up, and proceeded to do his best. He says, in a circular to creditors, "The above balance (\$275) will be paid to the landlord, his claim having priority over all other claims and open to objection for eight days." The unfortunate claimants for wages accrued before the assignment have apparently no show. The landlord gets 68 per cent. of his claim; the unsecured creditors not a cent.

TRURO, NOVA SCOTIA.

The town of Truro is the chief jobbing centre of trade for the province of Nova Scotia outside of Halifax. In fact, it is claimed that in many lines Truro outbids the capital city in securing business. We note a few proofs of development in the town. The immense new four story brick building of J. J. Snook on the corner of Prince and Outram streets is nearing completion. When it is occupied Mr. Snook will have one of the largest and most complete wholesale harness and saddlery establishments in the Dominion. Black & Company, Truro's enterprising wholesale grocers, have added tea blending and packing to their business. They have registered at Ottawa the trade mark "Daisy," which in lead packets is becoming popular with the consumer and the trade. The Midland railway, connecting Truro with Windsor, is completed, and trains will, we are told, be running regularly in a few days. This makes the fourth line of railway radiating from Truro. The North Colchester railway from Truro to Brule, whence steamer communication will be established with Charlottetown, P.E.I.; the Truro and Parrsboro railway, and the Stewiacke Valley railway, are all likely to be built in the very near future. The establishment of these lines should make Truro's position unique as a jobbing centre in Nova Scotia.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

MOODY'S MANUAL OF CORPORATION SECURITIES.—A book whose alphabetical index contains between 1,800 and 1,900 concerns in the United States and Canada issuing securities, must needs be a bulky volume. And this need is all the more pronounced when it is remembered that the book in question contains membership lists of the stock exchanges of New York and six other of the largest American cities; descriptions and statistics of electric railways, gas and electric light companies, manufacturing and mining companies, telephone and cable companies, textile companies, besides several hundred pages of "miscellaneous securities." This book of 1,500 pages contains information which should make it a valuable hand-book for any man doing business with incorporated companies on this continent. Although it does not profess to describe all the companies in existence in America it does give all the leading ones and very many of the minor ones. Testing it in half a dozen cases by the descriptions given of Canadian concerns of which we have knowledge, its information has been found accurate. It is published annually by John Moody & Co., 35 Nassau street, New York, and costs \$7.50 per copy.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIES.

GEORGE MONTEITH, Rosseau, enquires, "Will you kindly inform me which is the wealthier, Great Britain and her colonies or the United States." We reply that the value of land in the United Kingdom in 1896 was £1,686,000,000 sterling, which was considered to be only one-seventh of the national wealth. This would make the wealth of the United Kingdom £11,802,000,000. Mulhall calculates (*Industries and Wealth of Nations*, page 309), that the actual wealth of the United States at the same date was £16,350,000,000 sterling. These estimates would go to show, contrary to the general impression, that the United States is the wealthier nation. But the colonies are yet to be counted.

R. G. C., Montreal.—The figures we have given were derived from Ottawa and Toronto respectively. We have not yet seen the corresponding figures from Quebec.

KOOTENAY MINING NOTES.

At the Silver King mine, the property of the Hall Mines, limited, developments are progressing favorably. From the 600 and 800 foot levels the ore is being shipped daily, and with the completion of the tunnel at the 900-foot level the mine will be in shape to turn out larger daily shipments than at present.

F. H. Oliver, managing director of the Morrison Mines, limited, which is operating in the Deadwood camp, near Greenwood, reports that 20 men are actively engaged in developing the Morrison. The bunkers at the mine are finished and are filled with ore, and there is a large quantity of ore in sight in the mine. Shipping will begin soon.

Charles Earle, who has the contract for making 1,250,000 brick for the smelter of the Sullivan Group Mining Company at Marysville, East Kootenay, reports that he has a brick-making plant in full operation. He has a 70 horse-power engine and brick-making machinery capable of turning out 80,000 brick per day, and expects to have his contract completed some time during the present month.

The general manager of the London and Richelieu Consolidated Mining Company, Mr. Henry Roy, near Crawford Bay, reports a large force of men at work clearing a right of way 80 feet wide for the aerial tram which is to transport the ore. For 25 feet on each side of the 80 feet trees are being cleared away. Mr. Roy says that work will be pushed on the building of the tramway to the end that commencing the delivery of the 15,000 tons of ore contracted to be delivered to the Trail smelter may be begun at once.

A number of interesting items about mines in the Nelson mining division are given in the last issue of the *Nelson Miner*. According to the superintendent of the Fisher Maiden group, near New Denver, Mr. Clark, this property has shown much recent improvement. There is a series of five tunnels, one of which is down 80 feet, and on another drifted 250 feet, each showing pay ore. "The vein varies in width from 10 to 25 feet, carrying a pay streak of from six inches to three feet in width, which consists of a high grade dry silver ore, giving smelter returns of as high as \$345 to the ton." This group, after shipping about 200 tons of ore, became entangled in a lawsuit, was shut down and lay dormant for about four years. In February of last year the legal troubles were adjusted and work has gone on since.

—We learn that the following officers have been elected by the Montreal Association of Accountants for the year: President, John Hyde; 1st vice-president, W. J. Common; 2nd vice-president, John W. Ross; secretary-treasurer, A. F. C. Ross. Council, Messrs. G. Creak, George Durnford, Preble MacIntosh and A. F. Mitchell.

With a view to encouraging trade the management of the Pickford & Black line of steamers has invited the secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Mr. T. A. Russell, to make a trip of investigation at their expense to the different islands of the West Indies to study trade needs there. It is much to be hoped that Mr. Russell can arrange to go.