

KINMOUNT is active in the wood trade; Capt Sadler buys cordwood; Mr. Swanton, railway ties; Messrs. Hodgson & Thurston, shingle bolts and birch saw logs. Messrs. Cluxton & Co.'s sawmills have contracted for 400,000 feet hardwood lumber, principally black birch, which has heretofore been rather a neglected wood.

SINCE 1830, or thereabout, the firm of James Roy & Co., wholesale dry goods merchants, has been a well-known and respected Montreal house. The business was carried on by Messrs. James and William Roy up to August, 1848, when the latter retired to Royston Park, Sarawak. Near the close of last month, the stock of the firm was sold at 62½ cents in the dollar to Messrs. Alex. Walker & Co., who removed to the premises of the Messrs. Roy on McGill street.

ACCORDING to the Ottawa letter of the New York *World*, the Princess Louise has intimated to the Secretary of State, that this is not an appropriate time for costly entertainments. He was deploring the shabbiness of the furnishings of Rideau Hall, which all who have seen it must admit, and proposing to carpet it anew before the meeting of the House, when the Princess sensible said that not a dollar of public money should be spent on the Hall so long as the present hard times continue; that economy was necessary everywhere, and that she would see that Rideau Hall set a good example in that respect.

THERE was a loss to the Glen Tay cheese factory last season of \$2000 on the season's cheese, owing to low prices. And now, it appears that D. McGonigle, its manager, has left the country, after obtaining advances of \$5000 on the last lot of cheese, which he shipped in his own name, and not by the Committee and Treasurer. The patrons are "out" from \$50 to \$400 each for milk. "One would almost suppose," says the *Perth Expositor*, "that the Grangers had managed this business. No security was given by the manager, and no check kept on him."

WORK is being vigorously pushed forward by the contractor for the Prince Edward County (Ont.) Railway, 14,000 ties have been delivered along the line between Picton and Wellington, and many fence posts are ready. The route from Wellington to Conseccon, is on the south side of the lake.

ROSSEAU is a town, or rather the site of one, in Manitoba, where the Pembina branch of the Canada Pacific R. R. crosses the Red River. It is predicted to become an active business centre, having very rich land all about it. There are legends that coal exists near it. In 1876 it was granted a post office with a weekly mail. Then followed a store and a few private dwelling houses; now it has an important railway station, with two daily mails.

THE Orford Nickel and Copper Co'y have let a contract for sinking a shaft at their Nickel mine to a depth of 160 feet. Machine drills with air-compressor are to be used, and the work is to be completed within four months. The

same company will likely work soon at the Brook Copper mine, Capelton.

A MEETING of the shareholders of the Canadian Copper and Sulphur Company was held lately in Glasgow. A proposition was made by Mr. Wilson, the chairman, to put the Company into liquidation, but this was negated by a vote of 13 to 5, whereupon the Directors resigned. A new Board has been elected, and the headquarters of the Company are likely to be removed to London. It is not yet known whether the Company will resume work or not at Capelton, Quebec.

How riches take to themselves wings in these days is illustrated in the case of a worthy merchant in the County of Wellington, who for years past has done an active business and accumulated property. This gentleman owed, at the beginning of the year, say \$15,000, and had assets of over \$30,000, of which about \$14,000 was in the shape of real estate, amongst it a shop built for \$8,000 cash. Being unable to realize and to meet his bills, a writ was served upon him. His stock, when sold at auction en bloc, brought 53 cents in the dollar; the real property was estimated to bring no more than its incumbrances, \$6,000, and the result was that a compromise was effected by which eighty per cent. of their dues was accepted by creditors with security. Nothing, we feel sure, could have been further from the idea or purpose of the merchant in question than a compromise; in fact he deemed himself rich, but the lock up in land and buildings was too great in proportion to his obligations.

THE Lennox County grangers who opened a grain-purchasing depot in Napanee, are by this time undeceived as to the simplicity of mercantile affairs. From a neglect to settle with those who sold them grain, suits were brought against the grangers, and the state of affairs grew to be, in grain parlance, "high mixed." A year at a commercial college, followed by several in a real counting-house, and then by some more years behind a counter, might teach these farmers, or sons of farmers, that the rotation of crops is simpler than the theory of book-keeping, and that manuring, sowing and reaping are easier work, after all, than successful shop-keeping.

"AN EASY-GOING LOT," was the opinion of a stranger who heard of the following incidents. Whether he meant to apply the term to the creditors or to the country dealers, we are not told. A general dealer in a northern village met his creditors by appointment here the other day, claiming to owe "about" \$7000, and to have "about" \$6000 to pay it with. Part of these assets consisted of another trader's bankrupt stock which he had bought at 70 cents in the \$. He had no statement of affairs, had to guess at how he stood, and could make no definite offer. Another example is that of Mr. Macfarlane, of Listowell, who advised his creditors last week that he would meet them here, and did so, Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and London being represented in an aggregate of \$10,000. He, too, had no statement of affairs ready. A verbal estimate of his resources was \$8000 to meet

\$10,000, although at stock-taking a year ago he had \$1900 to the good. Now, he leaves himself in the hands of his creditors. It is undoubtedly "easy going" for a man to summon his creditors and then have no statement ready, and it would be unwarrantably "easy-going" if creditors found no fault with such carelessness.

THE manufacture of canned cod fish balls is comparatively a new enterprise. A Boston firm began this business about nine months ago, and has succeeded. For several years they tried to discover a method by which minced fish, or fish-balls, could be canned so as to retain their freshness and the peculiar flavor so agreeable to a New-Englander's palate. They finally succeeded in producing an article composed of Vermont or New York butter, the best fish, and Nova Scotia potatoes, which would go round the world and retain all its original virtues. The fish-balls are packed solid in tin cans and hermetically sealed, after which, put up in cases of ten dozen each, they are ready for market. In the last four months, 25,000 bushels of potatoes and several hundred quintals of fish have been used. A case of the goods exhibited at Paris, gained a prize. They are shipped to all the leading cities in the West; have also gone to South America, Great Britain, France, and lately orders have been received from Turkey, Egypt, India and China.

To be known as "a vigorous collector" is flattering to many among those whose unpleasant business it is to collect past due accounts. To get the name of being more vigorous than polite is not considered derogatory; and we do not wonder, for politeness is thrown away on some debtors. The liveliest scene in the collection way of which we have heard of late was in a Brantford lawyer's office. A druggist's clerk was sent by his employer repeatedly to collect an account from the lawyer, who threatened the youth with a crack on the head with a ruler and ejection from the office. At the next call, says the police court evidence, "Clarke seized Malcolm (the lawyer) by the throat and bounced his head forty or fifty times against the wall, threw him flat down on the floor, and holding his fist over Malcolm's head demanded his watch as security for the account, after which he jerked him up again, and otherwise used him very roughly." This was carrying on the war in the enemy's country with a vengeance; but the collector's version of the story is that the lawyer threatened to split his head with a hatchet, to prevent which bloodthirsty consummation he took the initiative by grasping the legal throat, as above described. We trust, after all this violence, that the druggist's account was paid, and that peaceable cash dealings will hereafter prevail.

THE Port Hope *Guide* warns newspaper men and others, against a sneak who is sending advertisements of Empress Relief, a patent medicine, from Toronto to country newspapers, and promising remittances which do not come. He is "beating" his often-changed boarding-house keepers as well.