

# CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD

A Weekly Journal of Advance Information and Public Works.

ITS PURPOSE: TO SUPPLY TO CONTRACTORS ADVANCE INFORMATION RESPECTING CONTRACTS OPEN TO TENDER, AND TO ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, MUNICIPAL AND OTHER CORPORATIONS, A DIRECT MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION WITH CONTRACTORS.

ITS MERIT: ECONOMICAL AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE

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## THE CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD,

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Information solicited from any part of the Dominion regarding contracts open to tender.

### ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

At its Convention held in Toronto, Nov. 20 and 21, 1889, the Ontario Association of Architects signified its approval of the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD, and pledged its members to use this journal as their medium of communication with contractors with respect to advertisements for Tenders.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the First Annual Meeting of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects, held in Montreal, Oct. 10th and 11th, 1890: "Moved by M. Perrault, seconded by A. F. Dunlop, that we the Architects of the Province of Quebec now assembled in Convention being satisfied that the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD affords us a direct communication with the Contractors,—Resolved, that we pledge our support to it by using its columns when calling for Tenders."

The publisher desires to ensure the regular and prompt delivery of this Journal to every subscriber, requests that any cause of complaint in this particular be reported at once to the office of publication. Subscribers who may change their address should also give prompt notice of same, and in doing so, should give both old and new address.

Leaks in cisterns can be repaired by applying to the seams a mixture of four parts of linseed oil, boiled with litharge, and eight parts of melted glue, mixed well together. In about two days after application it will be found to have set so hard that water can again be admitted with safety.

To mark tools, cover the articles to be marked with a thin coating of tallow or beeswax, then with a sharp instrument write the name in the tallow. Clear with a feather; fill the letters written with nitrid acid; let it remain from one to ten minutes, then dip in water and wipe off, and the marks will be etched in the metal.



## ASHBRIDGE'S BAY IMPROVEMENTS.

Tenders addressed to the undersigned will be received through registered post up to noon on

### WEDNESDAY, 31ST DAY OF OCTOBER

next, for the improvement of the sanitary condition of Ashbridge's Bay and the reclamation of the marsh lands adjacent thereto.

These lands comprise about 1300 acres, and are situated on Lake Ontario, within the limits of the City of Toronto, and will, when reclaimed, be valuable sites for manufacturers of all kinds.

Terms, conditions and specifications for the proposed work have been adopted by the City Council. Copies can be obtained upon application at the office of the City Clerk. Plans of the works may be seen at the office of the City Engineer.

The consideration to be given by the city in payment for the works and improvements will be a lease of the strip of land along the south shore of Ashbridge's Bay and the land now known as the "Marsh" for a term of forty-five years free of rental; such lease to be renewable for a further term of twenty-one years, at a valuation to be determined by arbitration in the usual way.

### ALTERNATIVE TENDERS.

Parties who do not desire to tender upon the specifications adopted by the City Council may submit alternative tenders.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

EDWARD HEWITT,

Chairman Ashbridge's Bay Committee  
City Hall, Toronto, October 1st, 1891.

### STONE FROM PLASTIC SLATE.

A correspondent writing to *Stone* says. "It has been quite recently demonstrated that slate, ground up and bolted, can be made into a plastic mass, can be made involving great pressure, and the product then subjected to great heat, changed into an enduring and solid stone. The paste can be formed into anything that can be formed into moulds or by the hands, and everything that is now made from the actual stone can be formed in this way."

### SCREW PILES.

The following note is an abstract from an interesting book, recently published, entitled "Scamping Tricks":

Piles can be screwed with a small pitch when sufficient power can be obtained to make a steep-pitched screw penetrate. Piles with a single turn of the screw, it seems to me, are the best, although the double-threaded screw may be right in soft marshy ground; but the usefulness of a double-thread is doubtful, for I believe it breaks up the ground for no good, although

some state that the screw threads work in parallel lines, and that a double-threaded screw is steadier, for they say a single threaded pile is always likely to turn on the outside edge of the blade, and that the double-threaded is not, as it has a lip on both sides.

### COST OF EXCAVATING.

Having excavated a new canal within the past thirty days, I have found some interesting experiments concerning the communication of the gravel bank, an Irishman and a shovel. I have found the limit of horizontal conveying of gravel by means of a single throw with a shovel to be about 12 feet. A vertical throw is limited to 6 feet. When dirt must be thrown horizontally from 12 to 20 feet, one intermediate stage is required; when 20 to 30 feet must be covered in this manner, two stages will answer. For vertical work the stages may be 6 feet apart, but work will be done at the same cost for labor if the stages are only 3 feet apart. With a wheelbarrow for conveying dirt or gravel, it does not pay where the distance is greater than 200 feet. Portable railways and small handcars should be provided for distances greater than 200 feet. The horse and dump carts may be employed to good advantage for distances over 1,000 feet, provided the quantity of dirt to be removed is not great enough to warrant the laying of a tramway. *American Miller.*

In painting ironwork exposed to wind and rain, take red oxide of iron, ground in oil, and mix with equal parts of boiled linseed oil and turpentine, add one ounce of patent dryers to the pound. This is said to be an excellent paint for the purpose.

The simplicity of the process by which designs in relief are obtained in basswood is one of the most striking features. It is founded on the peculiar quality of the wood, which admits of its being compressed much within its original bulk, and of swelling out again to its former volume when steamed. Accordingly, the pattern which it is desired to produce in relief is stamped in the soft wood under very powerful pressure; the die is withdrawn and the whole piece is planed down to the level of the stamped portions. It is then placed in the steamer, and the swelling of the compressed parts brings them back to their original volume. The pattern thus appears in relief, as exact, and, if desired, as delicate and elaborate as actual carving by hand.