

**CONTRACTS OPEN.**

**LUCKNOW, ONT.**—New furnaces are required for the public school.

**GLENCOE, ONT.**—The Town Council have decided to purchase an electric light plant.

**WIARTON, ONT.**—The sum of \$5,000 is to be expended on the extension of the waterworks.

**MOUNT FOREST, ONT.**—A joint stock company is to be formed to build a curling and skating rink.

**PEMBROKE, ONT.**—The erection of a bridge is being urged to connect the village of Bryson with this town.

**SHELburne, ONT.**—F. G. Dunbar, Village Clerk, wants tenders for 5,000 ft. 12 inch sewer pipe, a quantity of 6 inch junction pipe, elbows and receivers.

**WOODSTOCK, ONT.**—Messrs. Cuthbertson & Fowler will reconstruct the interior of the Central Methodist Church.

**FORT WILLIAM, ONT.**—The C. P. R. are about to construct large coal docks, with a capacity of 100,000 tons.

**ALEXANDRIA, MAN.**—Plans have been prepared for the erection of a residence for Mr. J. McLeod, to cost \$2,600.

**BRAMPTON, ONT.**—Mr. E. J. Walsh is about to commence the erection of a three storey brick addition to the Queen's Hotel.

**REGINA, N. W. T.**—The Western Milling Company is seeking incorporation with the object of building a grist mill at this place.

**HALIFAX, N. S.**—The corner stone of the Oddfellows' Hall to be built on Buckingham street will be laid in a couple of weeks.

**STELLARTON, N. S.**—The Town Clerk will receive tenders until the 18th inst., for excavation and pipe laying for a system of waterworks.

**TWEED, ONT.**—Tenders will be received by Mr. J. M. Robertson until this (Saturday) noon for the erection of a Presbyterian church here.

**WATERLOO, ONT.**—The Town Council has decided to borrow a sum not exceeding \$6,000 for paving King street.—Improvements are to be made in the Council chamber.

**MELITA, MAN.**—Work will shortly be commenced on the erection of a stone grist mill for the Melita Milling Company.—Four elevators are to be erected here during the present year.

**NEEPAWA, MAN.**—The plans of Mr. McDonald, architect, of Portage la Prairie, have been accepted for the erection of the Presbyterian Church. The cost of the building will be \$9,000.

**ST. STANISLAS, QUE.**—The ratepayers have granted a bonus of \$1,000 to the St. Lawrence & Adirondack Railway for the erection of a depot.—A trestle bridge will be erected over the Trout river.

**WINNIPEG, MAN.**—Mr. J. C. Wilkinson, Sec.-Treas. of the municipality of Ellice, will receive tenders until the 29th inst. for the construction of a bridge over the Assiniboine river at Fort Ellice. Plans, etc., at the Department of Public Works, this city.

**KINGSTON, ONT.**—The council have decided to again advertise for tenders for lighting the streets with electricity.—Tenders will be received by Mr. Thos. Hennessey, Secretary Separate School Board, for the erection of a six-roomed school building on the corner of William and Bagot streets.

**BROCKVILLE, ONT.**—Col. De Frece, of New York, intends to construct a railway from Alexandria Bay to Redwood, a distance of seven miles.—Mr. Stearns, of Kingston, will erect a handsome cottage on one of the islands recently purchased by him.—It is probable that a chapel for religious services will be erected at Grand View Park.

**VANCOUVER, B. C.**—It is expected that work on the Government Buildings will shortly be commenced.—The Bank of British North America has purchased two lots with a frontage of 52 feet on Hastings street, and intend to erect

thereon a large brick block.—Plans have been approved for the erection of the new building for the Bank of Montreal.—The Board of Health has decided to erect an addition to the city hospital, to accommodate 50 beds.

**LONDON, ONT.**—Tenders will be received by the City Engineer until the 18th inst. for the construction of a tile sewer on Waterloo street, between King and York streets.—The Board of Works has decided to lay water mains on Maitland street, between Victoria and Regent streets, and on Victoria street, between Maitland and William streets.—McBride & Jones, architects, will receive tenders until the 22nd inst. for the erection of a brick residence on King street.

**TORONTO JUNCTION, ONT.**—A gentleman from Montreal was in town recently organizing a company for the manufacture of metal specialties. The company purpose erecting a large factory, a site for which has already been chosen.—The corner of Keele street and Pine avenue has been selected as a market site.—The town clerk will receive tenders until the 28th inst. for the construction of the approaches to the Weston road bridge over the C.P.R. in this town. All particulars obtainable from the town engineer.

**HAMILTON, ONT.**—Charles Mills, architect, will receive tenders until this (Saturday) noon for the construction of a power station for the Hamilton Light & Power Co.—A movement has been commenced by Rev. Thos. Geoghegan to establish an Industrial School similar to that in Mimico.—Tenders are invited by Messrs. Abrey & Tyrrell, civil engineers, for the construction of retaining walls for the Hamilton & Barton Incline Railway.—A building permit has been granted to E. P. Tregenza for a two-story brick dwelling on East avenue, between King and Wilson streets, to cost \$1,400.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—The City Clerk will receive tenders until the 18th inst. for the erection of a joint fire and police station on Rachael street, St. Jean Baptiste Ward, and also for a fire station on Mullins street, St. Gabriel's Ward. Plans to be seen at the office of J. R. Montbriant, architect, 1583 St. Catherine street.—The Finance Committee have granted the sum of \$15,000 for the grading of Pine ave.—St. Catherine st. is to be opened up from Desery street to the harbor.—The city council have notified the ratepayers of their intention to construct permanent sidewalks on the following streets: Place d'Armes Hill, both sides, from St. James street to Craig street; St. Lambert Hill, both sides, from St. James street to Craig street; Laeroix street, both sides, from Notre Dame street to Craig street; St. Vincent street, both sides, from Notre Dame street to St. Paul street; St. Lawrence street, west side, from Craig street to Laguchetiere street; St. Lawrence street, east side, from Craig street to Laguchetiere street.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—Mr. W. R. Gregg, architect, has prepared plans for an Aged Women's Home to be erected on Belmont St. Size, 76 x 123 ft., two stories and basement. Materials, brick and stone, slate, stained glass, steam heat. Cost, \$18,000.—Messrs. Post & Holmes, architects, have prepared plans for St. Bernard's R. C. Church. Materials, common and pressed brick, plate, stained and cathedral glass, steam heat. Size, 60 x 150 ft. Cost \$30,000.—Building permits have been issued as follows: E. Eddy, det. 2 story b. f. dwelling, w. side Dovecourt Rd., just north of Northumberland st., cost \$1,400; Geo. L. Diehl, 3 story bk. factory building, s. side King st. w., near Niagara st., cost \$6,500; Jas. Crowther, 2 att. 2 story bk. stables, rear 453-5 Yonge st., cost \$1,100; Corporation of Toronto, 2 story bk. garbage crematory, w. bank of the Don, cost \$2,500; Joseph Nelson, two pair s. d. 2 story and attic bk. dwellings, w. side Bathurst st., just north of Arthur, cost \$13,500.—The Public School Board will memorialize the City Council to the effect that funds are required at once for the purpose of providing school accommodation for that portion of the city east of the Woodbine Park.—The City Engineer will recommend that a channel be cut through the

old breakwater at the west end of Ashbridge's Bay for sanitary purposes.—Strickland & Symons, architects, will receive tenders until this (Saturday) noon for excavation for a block of stores to be erected on College street.

**CONTRACTS AWARDED.**

**VANCOUVER, B. C.**—Mr. C. Chardon has been given the contract for the erection of a large residence for Mr. H. Collins.

**KNOWLTON, QUE.**—Mr. Miles Rhicard has been awarded the contract for the new Episcopal Church. The building is to cost about \$5,000.

**GUELPH, ONT.**—The contract for building an iron bridge over the Speed river has been given to the G. & J. Brown Manufacturing Co. of Belleville, Ont., at the price of \$2,000.

**NEW WESTMINSTER B. C.**—Messrs. McQuarrie & Co. have been awarded the contract for laying the distribution system of water pipes for the city, at a figure slightly below \$20,000.

**AURORA, ONT.**—The contract for masonry on the new High School has been let to Mr. Hoover, of Toronto, at the price of \$2,500, and the carpentry to James Brother, of this place, at \$2,550.

**ST. JOHN, N. B.**—The contract for the masonry work for the new Victoria School annex has been awarded to Messrs. Mooney & Sons, and the carpenter work to Mr. C. W. Legee. The amount of the combined tenders is \$4,568.

**HALIFAX, N. S.**—The Canadian Office and School Furniture Co., of Preston, Ont., has been awarded the contract to supply the desks for the Davenport school, also for seating the opera house now in course of erection.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—Mr. E. J. Lennox, architect, has awarded the following contracts: Plumbing, heating, electric light, etc., for Freehold Loan building, Bennett & Wright, price \$30,000; elevators, Otis Bros., \$16,000. Residence on Isabella St., for C. Gormally—excavator, drainage mason and bricklayer, T. V. Gearing, price, \$2,411; carpenter and joiner, T. V. Gearing, \$2,300; painter and glazier, A. M. Browne, \$424.

**WHERE OIL-STONES COME FROM.**

Washita oil-stone rock is crystallized silica. The crystals are very small, and are formed in clusters with point ends interlaced, leaving numerous cavities. These minute crystals are hexagonal in shape, with sharp points, and can be seen under a microscope when magnified about 100 times. They are harder than steel, and that is why whet stones, cut from this rock will wear and sharpen steel tools. Washita whet stones are called oil stones, because oil must be used to fill the cavities and float away the steel particles that are cut off the tools. The peculiar geological formation from which these rocks are taken is not known to exist outside the State of Arkansas, where it occurs in many of the mountains of Saline, Hot Springs, Garland and Montgomery counties. These strata are in a vertical position varying from nearly perpendicular to horizontal, and have been considerably broken up by upheaval or folding of the earth crust.

**TOUCHING UP OLD GRAINING.**—Take distemper color, the color of the graining, and with a small fitch touch up all the spots, and rub off the surplus with a rag. If the graining is cracked, take some color in oil and brush it well into the cracks, and then take a rag and wipe it all off the surface; when dry, varnish.

The Canadian Contractors' Hand-Book 50 cents to RECORD subscribers.