

at \$2.96; brass work, Hamilton Brass Co., \$1,002 50, the other tenderers being A Hope & Co., \$1,038; Dodson & Sutton, \$1,073; cast iron pipe, A. Gartshore & Co., \$25 per ton; junctions, bends, etc., Gartshore & Co., \$2.25 per 100 pounds, ordinary castings, A. J. Nic & Co., \$1.75 per 100 pounds; stop cock boxes, Nic & Co., \$1.15 each; stop valves, Gartshore & Co., 12-inch, \$33 each; 6-inch, \$12; hydrants, Hamilton Fire Escape Co., \$29.50 each; other tenderer, A. J. Nic & Co., \$29.75 each.—W. P. Witton, architect, has taken out a permit for the new building for the Hamilton Spectator. It will be six stories high, with three-story annex in rear, and will cost about \$33,000. The masonry contract has been let to Geo. Webb and the carpentry to R. Press.

POOR TOOLS.

There is in every business and calling a too general disposition to waste strength and time in endeavoring to effect a good deal of work with poor tools. The farmer too often wears out his horses with operating dull ploughs, blunted harrows, uncoiled rollers, and edgeless mowers, harvesters, and headers, and his own strength with dull hoes and clumsy appliances of many kinds.

The merchant too often has an insufficient stock of hammers, hatchets, screw-drivers, box-openers, knives, shovels, etc., or allows them to get dull-edged, broken, and generally unserviceable. His desk is too often but poorly supplied with writing materials and his book-keeping often suffers from a lack of suitable books of primary and final entry. If he handles bulky and heavy produce or goods, his storage-room is often narrow, poorly lighted, hard of approach, or devoid of elevators, truck, and other labour-saving devices.

Many more pride themselves somewhat upon the fact that in their days such conveniences were unthought of, and therefore argue that it is a sign of laziness or effeminacy to provide better things for the needs of modern business. They seem to forget that every delay caused by poor tools, inconvenient conditions, insufficient power, etc., often means the loss of one man's entire daily labour where five or six men are employed under such disadvantages.

There are still thousands of men who in one way or another, insist on using poor tools and on wasting their own strength, health and spirit in constant effort to make up for their inefficiency. Not all conveniences are improvements, but the sharp edge cuts cleanly and quickly; the square-faced hammer hits the nail and does not cripple the fingers; the convenient approach and exit leaves the teamster room for prompt action, and every labour saving device which is efficient and not too costly for the business done is a necessity. It does not pay for a business man to exhaust his own strength, temper, and health in false economies of the kind described.

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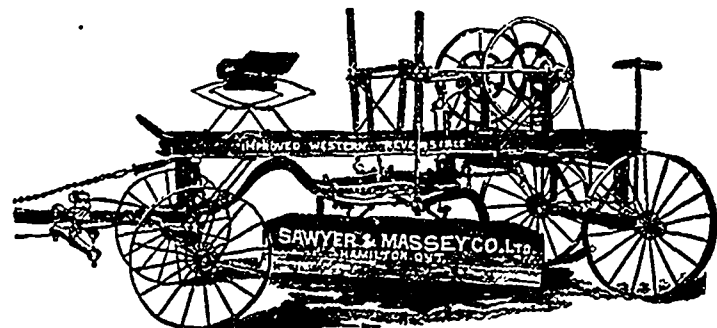
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