

## CONTRACTS OPEN.

**BELLEVILLE, ONT.**—The city invites tenders for electric street lighting.

**WINDSOR, ONT.**—The Keystone Gun Club will erect a fine club house.

**KINGSVILLE, ONT.**—Frank Bell and Hugh Wigle will build residences.

**PERTH, ONT.**—The Germans will erect a brick church the coming summer.

**SANDWICH, ONT.**—Lassaline & Co. will rebuild their furniture factory.

**NANAIMO, B. C.**—The citizens have under consideration the adoption of electric light for street purposes.

**DOUGLAS, MAN.**—The Masonic fraternity has appointed a Committee to select a site for a Masonic Hall building.

**PORT ARTHUR, ONT.**—The Dominion Government has accepted a site for the proposed customs' house and post office.

**HARRINGTON, ONT.**—The Presbyterians have subscriptions in hand to the amount of \$2,000 for the erection of a new church. The work will be proceeded with at once.

**VALLEYFIELD, QUE.**—It is positively stated that the construction of the proposed railway between this place and Malone, N. Y., will be commenced the coming summer.

**WINGHAM, ONT.**—Plans have been prepared for a new building for the Bank of Hamilton. It will be built of red brick with stone trimmings, and will be three stories in height.

**QUEBEC, QUE.**—Mr. Collingwood Schieber, Chief Engineer of Government Railways, was in the city a few days ago, and carefully examined the proposed sites for a railway bridge across the St. Lawrence.

**VANCOUVER, B. C.**—At a meeting of citizens a few days ago steps were taken to organize a company and secure a charter to build a line of milway from this city northward towards the Peace river country and Alaska.

**WALLACEBURG, ONT.**—Mr. A. L. Schambleau, of this place, will receive tenders on behalf of the county council until March 2nd, for the construction of a new stone and iron bridge across the river Sydenham in this village.

**LEAMINGTON, ONT.**—New water works buildings will be erected.—The Oddfellows are making arrangements to erect a large building to be used as a hall, opera house, and business purposes. Work will commence in the spring.

**KINGSTON, ONT.**—The Oddfellows will erect a building to cost about \$20,000.—Additional electric plant is to be purchased in the spring.—A committee of the Separate School Board is discussing the advisability of erecting a new building.

**MILLBROOK, ONT.**—Geo. Southern, clerk of the Township of Cavan, invites tenders until the 20th of March for the construction of an open drain in said township. Approximate excavation, 60,000 cubic yards. Full particulars obtainable at Mr. Southern's office, Millbrook.

**OTTAWA, ONT.**—The Secretary of the Dept. of Railways and Canals will receive tenders until the 17th of March for the construction of a brick sewer at Lachine, Que., and a collecting drain along the north side of the Lachine Canal from Convent station to Cote St. Paul's road, thence following the course of the river Pierce to the St. Lawrence. Plans, etc., at the Dept. of Railways and Canals, Ottawa.

**WEST TORONTO JUNCTION, ONT.**—The Town Clerk will receive tenders until 6 p. m. on the 6th of March for the following materials: About 75,000 feet of 4 x 4 cedar scantling, 12 and 16 feet long; about 225,000 feet of two inch pine plank, 10 or 12 inches wide and 16 feet long gang sawed. About 100 kegs five inch nails. Tenders must state the price per thousand feet of each kind, and the price per keg for nails.

**HAMILTON, ONT.**—W. A. Edwards, architect, asks tenders on a house to be built on MacNab street south.—J. Powell, architect, is closing con-

tracts for a beach cottage for Mr. W. Worthington. He is also preparing plans for a large store or warehouse for Geo. E. Martin, barrister, King St. west. He asks tenders for the remodelling of five stores, James St. north. He intends shortly visiting some of the iron smelting furnaces of the United States, previous to preparing plans for an American who propose building iron smelting works in this city the coming summer.—The erection of a large hall is talked of.—Tenders will be received by Mr. Seargeant, general manager of the G.T. Railway, Montreal, until March 14th, for various classes of iron bridges required on the Great Western and Northern and Northwestern divisions of that road. Full particulars obtainable from Mr. Hobson, chief engineer, this city.

**WINNIPEG, MAN.**—The people of the McDougall Memorial Church (Methodist), intend building a church here to cost about six or seven thousand dollars. The tenders have been received, but as it has not been decided what the character of construction shall be (brick, brick veneer, with basement or without), they may have to tender over again. It is to be completed next autumn.—The annual report of the hospital management directs attention to the necessity for the enlargement of the buildings. It is suggested that a separate building should be erected to accommodate patients suffering from infectious diseases.—The City Council and Board of Trade will again endeavor to induce the Government to proceed with the improvements necessary to render navigable the Red river.—A mass meeting of the members of the Masonic order of the province was held at Winnipeg on the 20th inst., with the object of considering the advisability of erecting a handsome hall in this city. If the scheme meets with favor, operations will be commenced at once.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—It is the intention to enlarge Mount St. Louis instantly.—The plans of Messrs. Shepley, Putan & Coolidge, of Boston, Mass., for the proposed new Board of Trade building have been accepted, and tenders for the work will be invited in the course of two or three weeks.—The municipal council of Maisonneuve has decided to open a new street connecting the municipality with the city by way of St. Catherine street east. Expropriations will be required extending over a distance of some eighteen acres, and the total cost is placed in the neighborhood of \$20,000.—The Water Department invites tenders until noon of March 3rd, for about 10,000 lbs. of pneumatic stop cocks and branch brass castings, viz: 200 four way, 200 three way and 500 two way branches and the balance of the 10,000 lbs. in stop cocks. Also 6,000 lbs. of brass castings for 4, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16 and 20 inch valves, as may be required. Patterns will be furnished by the department. Tenders to state a price per pound.—Tenders are invited by the Water Department until March 3rd for one engine gap lathe.—The Water Committee are asking for \$60,000 to lay pipes on Sherbrooke street from the Grand Seminary to Atwater avenue, and on Amherst St. from Craig to Notre Dame street.—Messrs. Daoust & Gendron, architects, are preparing plans for alterations to La Banque Nationale, a villa for Hon. J. E. Robidoux, 4 stores on St. Lawrence Main St., 5 tenement houses on Palace St., a cottage on Lorn Crescent avenue, 3 tenement houses on St. Charles Berromée St.—The following building permits have been granted: J. L. Noakes, wood and brick dwelling, 186 Charron St., cost \$1,200; Timothy Tracey, 2-storey wood and bk. shop and dwelling, 888 Ontario St., cost \$1,500; S. D. Vallieres, 3-storey bk. shop and dwelling, St. Antoine and Martin streets, P. Lortie & Son, architects, cost \$1,800; Ulderic Provencher, 2-storey wood and bk. house, Duquette St. cor. of Desery St., cost \$1,200.—The chief of the Fire Department asks an appropriation for the building of two new stations and a water tower.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—A public meeting of the ratepayers of East Toronto will shortly be held to decide upon some improved method of lighting the streets.—The City Engineer again recommends the construction of asphalt pavements on

Jordon street, from King to Wellington, and on Melinda street, from Yonge to Bay.—Plans are being prepared in the City Engineer's office for the purpose of converting the Rosedale Ravine into a park and drive.—The Davenport Street Railway Company, of Toronto, has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$100,000, the incorporators being James Austin, Frank Turner, C. E., Allan Royce, Robert Jaffray, A. J. B. Close, W. J. Mackenzie, F. B. Cumberland, Alexander Rankin, P. G. Close, William Booth, T. H. Bull, John Brimer, Dr. J. T. Gilmour, M. P. P.—Regarding the proposed bridge over the Don at King St., the city authorities will write to the Railway Committee of the Privy Council to see whether a bridge that can be converted into swing bridge will be acceptable, and also to see whether the railways are prepared to pay their proportion and have the work go on at once.—The Public School Board has determined to sell the site of the Bathurst street school and erect a new one in that vicinity.—The Council will be asked to consider a by-law to raise the sum of \$100,000 by the issue of debentures for the purpose of laying mains and purchasing meters to extend and improve the water works.—Mr. Wm. Rayside, architect, is preparing plans for a block of eleven stores and public hall to be erected at the cor. of College St. and Brunswick ave.—Mr. J. A. Ellis, architect, West Toronto Junction, has prepared plans for a 3-storey and basement bk. carriage shop and dwelling for Mr. J. Armstrong, to be erected at 1289 Queen street west.—Messrs. Somerville & Co., Richmond St. west, have prepared plans for a det. 2-storey and attic bk. and stone dwelling for Mrs. Johanna Brown, to be erected on the east side of Huron street, near Dupont St., to cost \$7,500.—Plans have been prepared for a store and five dwellings to be erected at the north-west cor. of Broadview ave. and Close St.—The following building permits have been granted: Mr. McQuaig, det. 2 storey and attic bk. dwelling, north side St. George street, north of College, cost \$8,000; Mr. J. R. Armstrong has had plans prepared for four 1-storey bk. stores on Queen St. near Sherbourne St., cost \$2,000.

## FOUL PIPES.

Cast-iron foul-air pipes located on the outside buildings, says the *Building Register*, are, under some circumstances, among the most potent and insidious means of introducing drain-gases into sleeping and other apartments.

For obvious reasons, it is necessary that the air in ventilating pipes must be warmer than the outside air, to establish and maintain an up-draught therein. If the pipe is exposed, it is impossible to obtain such a draft to a servicable extent in cold weather. The pipe fills with gas, which is retained under pressure by the cold air above, and for want of a draft escapes by any lateral vent conveniently offered.

The viscidities of the weather frequently develop flaws in the iron into apertures, and cause the pipes to crack. When such openings occur near a window or fresh air inlet, quantities of the drain emanations in the pipe escape and are wafted into windows or drawn into house inlets, and thus incorporated in the air of inhabited rooms.

In a recent case, in which the presence of drain-gas was offensively perceptible, the inspector failed to find any defect in the indoor plumbing, and almost despairing of finding a solution of the difficulty, until he discovered a crack in the outside ventilating pipe, almost in front of the opening of the fresh-air inlet. Thus is manifested another instance of the extent to which the health and lives of the inhabitants of modern dwellings depend upon the intelligence and conscientiousness of the plumber.