

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, AND MATERIALS.

the sets of five tanks, and over the intermediate walls of each tank, which were provided with double lips in order to assist the oxidation of the effluent. It was found that the production of wet sludge was at the rate of 17.5 tons per million gallons of sewage treated. The suspended matter is principally hydrated ferric oxide, and practically free from organic matter of an objectionable character. The amount of metallic iron used is about three grains per gallon of treated sewage, and nearly all this is present in the sludge as hydrated ferric oxide. Experiments were carried out with this sludge, by burning it under proper conditions, when it was found that a red oxide of iron was obtained which could be converted into a pigment. Possibly this pigment may be so produced in a satisfactory condition and disposed of at a price which will cover the cost of production; and thus get rid of the sludge. The suspended matter was removed by passing the settled effluent over ordinary sand filter-beds, and it was found that the filters did not become choked at all, but retained their efficiency from October, 1891, to the end of the trial in March, 1892.

Doubtless there is a future before this process, and American engineers would do well to investigate it thoroughly. It seems to leave little to be desired, regarded from a scientific point of view.

LEGAL DECISIONS AFFECTING MUNICIPALITIES.

Gooderham v. City of Toronto—Judgment on appeal by the plaintiff from the judgment of the Common Pleas Divisional Court (Galt, C. J. and Rose, J.) affirming by a division of opinion the judgment of Ferguson, J., the trial judge. These judgments are reported 21 O. R., 120. The action was brought by George Gooderham as owner and one Stark as lessee of certain land in Toronto, lying south of Eastern avenue, against the corporation of the City of Toronto, to restrain the defendants from entering upon the property, and for a declaration that the defendants had no right to open up certain streets to the south of Eastern avenue, viz., Sauter, Strange and McGee streets. The land in question, about twenty acres fenced in, had been owned and occupied by the plaintiff Gooderham and his predecessors in title for 25 years. Before that it had, with the other land lying to the north, been surveyed and laid out on a registered plan into lots and streets, and some lots had been sold by the then owners partly from the land now vested in the plaintiff, and partly from the land to the north of it. The plaintiff subsequently re-purchased the lots sold, except those lying to the north. Ferguson, J., held that sec. 62 of R. S. O., ch. 152, was retrospective, and applied to streets surveyed and laid out in plans made before the passing of that act, and that the streets so laid out here were public highways; but he also held that the defendants, not having passed a by-law for the purpose could not proceed to open them up. He awarded the plaintiffs an injunction until the defendants should pass a by-law. The plaintiffs appealed to the Divisional Court from the decision that the lands in question were public highways, with the result that Galt, C. J., held that McGee street and Strange street were not public highways, while Rose, J., held that all these streets were public highways. The plaintiffs now again appealed on the ground that these so-called streets were not public highways. The majority of the court held that the judgment of Ferguson, J., was right. Burton, J., held that the appeal should be allowed and the injunction made perpetual. Appeal dismissed with costs.

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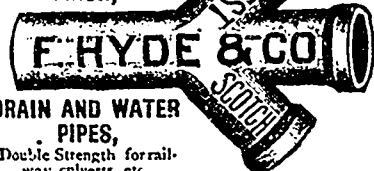
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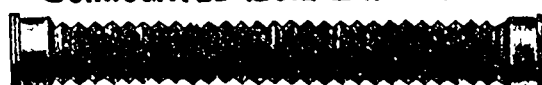
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