

## MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

### MACHINES FOR CUTTING PAVING BLOCKS.

The Settmakers' and Stoneworkers' Journal, of Aberdeen, the official organ of the paving block makers of Great Britain, gives an account of a machine which has recently been installed in Alberdeen for cutting paving blocks. The Journal says:

"A new settmaking machine has been erected in the yard of Mr. Charles McDonald, Jute Street, a short description of which may be interesting, especially to those connected with the quarrying industry who have no opportunity of seeing it for themselves. The machine is constructed on the principle of the steam hammer which is used in blacksmiths' shops, except that it is worked by the foot in place of the hand in order to allow the operator to use both his hands in holding the stone in the exact position required. The hammer can be made by a touch of the foot to go up and down in the same manner as the ordinary steam hammer, and can also be made to strike a heavy or light blow as the case may require. Right underneath the hammer, securely fixed on a table, is a knife or cutter similar in design to thepeen end of a settmaker's clearing hammer, but longer. The stone is balanced on this knife, and the hammer is brought gently down three or four times in order to prepare the place for the final blow which immediately follows. As a natural consequence the heavy stroke from the hammer drives the stone against the knife underneath with such tremendous force as to cause an immediate fracture. It will, therefore, be seen that the stone is broken exactly where it is wanted from the effect of the knife underneath and the heavy blow from the hammer above. This machine cuts out the blocks remarkably well, but is of little or no use for trimming them, as the knife requires a hold on the stone of about an inch before it will work effectively. This machine is of German make, and is worked by a Dane. It is said to be able to block out some 500 small cubes in a day of 9 hours, but, of course, they would all have to be trimmed up and finished by the settmakers before they were ready for the ordinary requirements of the trade."

Commenting upon this machine editorially, the Journal, which does not fear its effect upon hand word, say:

"We paid a visit to the place in order to see the machine in operation and get an opportunity of inspecting it. The blocks produced by the machine were just like those broken out by a settmaker and ready for the reel. They would all have to be trimmed and sized before they were marketable, unless used for a kind of mashed rubble or random paving blocks. There were practically two men employed at the work, the one placing the stones on the table and the other working the machine. All things considered, we do not think there is any cause for alarm regarding this new machine, and that settmakers

may rest assured that this new invention will not in any way injure the present system of sett-dressing.

"Another experiment has recently been made in sett-making which is doomed to failure owing to the excessive expense connected with the manufacture of the blocks. In this case a saw-frame was erected capable of admitting blocks 9 ft. by 4 ft. by 4 ft., and six blades 6 in. wide by 3-16ths in. thick were used driven by an engine of ten horse power to saw the blocks into seven slabs of various thickness suitable for the usual sizes of paving setts. Chilled shot and copious supply of water fed continuously into the slits assisted the blades in cutting the slabs. The

rate of cutting was about 5 in. in depth per hour, but the cost of chilled shot and of the renewals of the saw blades was very high for the quantity of setts produced. The total cost of setts produced at saw was 19s. 1d. per ton, to which falls to be added the cost of breaking and dressing the slabs into the various sizes of setts."

### JOHN GALT, C.E. & M.E.

ME: CAN. SOC. C.E. AND C.E.A., ETC.

### CONSULTING ENGINEER and EXPERT

National Trust Building 20 King Street East Toronto  
Specialties—Water Supply and Sewerage.

## JOSSON CEMENT .. Manufactured at. NIEL ON RUPELL

Is the Highest Grade Artificial Portland Cement and the Best for High Class Work. Has been used largely for Government and Municipal Works.

TO BE HAD FROM ALL CANADIAN DEALERS

C. I. de Sola, Manager in Canada :: 180 St. James Street, MONTREAL

## THE ONTARIO ASPHALT BLOCK CO., L'T'D.

MANUFACTURERS OF

### ASPHALT BLOCK PAVING

Information and samples furnished municipalities on application.

Main Office: WINDSOR, ONT.

Works: WALKERVILLE, ONT.

## The KERR ENGINE COMPANY, Limited

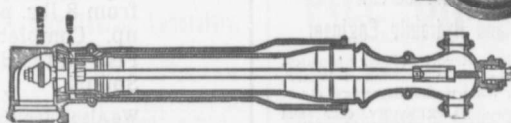
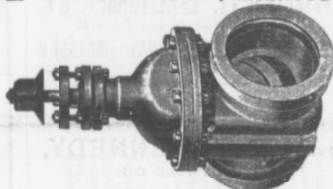
### PUMPING MACHINERY

### HYDRANTS and VALVES

Are our Specialty

Don't fail to write us for Catalogue and prices.

WALKERVILLE, - ONTARIO



## "Lehigh" Portland Cement

Capacity 11,000 Barrels every Day in the Year.

For Sidewalks and all other work requiring the highest quality Portland Cement Used by the U.S. Government and the largest contractors and users of Portland Cements in the United States.

Absolutely the most popular Cement in Canada on account of its merits.

For Prices, etc., address—

THORN CEMENT CO. - Buffalo, N. Y.

## Portland Cement..

ALL GRADES.

Write or Telegraph to

BELLHOUSE, DILLON & CO.

201-203 Coristine Building, St. Nicholas Street, Montreal

for prices—Large stock constantly on hand.



Largest Makers in the World.