

coming year: G. W. Brown, terrace of four houses; Lawson & Cane, business block; Major Montgomery, business block; A. L. Lucan, business block, Tinning & Hoskin, extensive addition to present store, Western Milling company, enlargement of their mill; C. P. R., new brick station; Bayne, McConnel & Smith, brick block, W. Mollard, W. C. Hamilton and T. Little, new residences, new court house, land and registry offices, addition to Knox church.

LONDON, ONT.—Mr. John M. Moore, Engineer will receive tenders until Tuesday, the 28th inst., for furnishing the following supplies required by the Waterworks Department: Cast iron water mains, laying water mains, brass fittings, special castings, lighting and lubricating oils, lead piping and hardware.—The City Engineer has recommended the construction of an 8 inch iron main on Campbell street, from Rectory to Egerton street, cost \$3,000; a 6 inch main from Campbell street through the Fair Grounds, cost \$450; a 4 inch main on Egerton street, from present main to Hamilton Road, westerly and along the Hamilton Road, cost \$2,500.

OTTAWA, ONT.—E. F. E. Roy, Secretary Department of Public Works, will receive tenders until Wednesday, the 22nd March, for the construction of a wharf for quarantine at Williams' Head, British Columbia. Plans may be seen at the office of the Resident Engineer, Victoria, B. C. and at the Department of Public Works, this city.—The following items appear in the supplementary estimates of the Dominion Parliament for the current year: Bridge over the Lachine canal at Wellington street, Montreal, \$51,000; Sault Ste. Marie canal, \$191,000; Toronto drill hall, \$53,000; quarantine stations \$146,140, including \$50,656 for Grosse Isle and \$62,000 for the British Columbia station at Williams' Head; wharves at quarantine stations, \$51,000.—A survey is being made of the harbor at Sydney, C. B., and at Partridge Island, St. John Harbor, N. B., to ascertain the cost of constructing a landing or deep water wharf for quarantine accommodation.—The Secretary of the Department of Public Works will receive tenders until Tuesday, the 15th day of March, for the several works connected with sections Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Soulages Canal, also for the re-letting of section 12.—Tenders will also be received by the above Department until Friday, 10th March, for the erection of post office fittings at Orillia, Ont., and for the erection of a wharf for quarantine purposes at Lawlor's Island, Halifax harbor, tenders for the latter to be sent in not later than the 3rd of March.

HAMILTON, ONT.—Charles Mills, architect, is preparing plans for a new church and Sunday school building to be erected on the site of the Burlington Methodist church recently destroyed by fire.—The same architect has prepared plans for a handsome boat house to be erected on Hamilton Beach, also for a two story brick dwelling, and alterations to the Traders Bank on King street west. He will shortly prepare plans for a large sale stable to be built on Charles street and a private residence on Bay street south.—The City Engineer is of the opinion that an extension of the sewerage system in the southwestern part of the city is much needed. He favors the building of a sewer along Bold Hess and Robinson streets, to connect with the Locke street sewer. The cost is estimated at \$25,000.—The City Engineer has estimated the cost of constructing a Trinidad asphalt pavement on King street, from Bay street to Ferguson avenue, and on James street, from Main to Stuart street, at \$117,044. Tenders for this work will in all probability be asked for at an early date.—The following building permits have been granted: John Lindner, four 2 story brick attached houses and two 2 story brick houses on Grant avenue, cost \$6,500; Samuel Buchanan, one 2 story frame house on Emerald street, cost \$1,200.—Messrs. Wm. Stewart & Son, architects, will receive tenders until 6 p. m. on Monday next, the 27th inst., for the erection of two dwellings on Hilton street.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—Mr. G. Browne, architect, is preparing the plans for the two new school buildings to be erected in the northern part of the city.—Mr. Browne has also prepared the plans for the following buildings: Residence for Mr. W. J. Watson, corner of Colony and Bico

way streets to be built of stone, with brick superstructure, two stories and basement; cost \$6,000; residence for Rev. Prof. Baird, of Manitoba college, to be erected on the east side of Colony street, near York, brick two stories and basement; cost \$3,500; stone block, 50 x 50 ft. for a merchant at Grenville; two stories and basement; cost \$8,000.—Messrs. Barber & Barber, architects, have prepared plans for a terrace of seven houses to be erected by Mr. C. A. Barber on the southwest corner of Hargrave and Broadway streets. The material used will be brown stone, for the first flat, the remainder being pressed brick and terra cotta. The houses will be heated by furnaces and lighted with gas and electric light. Estimated cost \$50,000.—The congregation of St. Andrew's Church have purchased a site for their new church at the northeast corner of Jemima and Ellen streets.—It is probable that the Dominion Government will erect a married men's quarters in connection with the Mounted Infantry barracks.—The congregation of the Children of Israel have purchased a lot on the corner of Henry and Mary streets and will erect a new edifice thereon. The plans are now being prepared and work will be commenced as soon as the weather will permit. The total cost will be about \$3,500.—Mr. McCowan, architect, is preparing plans for a large residence to be erected at Mordey, Man., by Mr. H. B. Hanson, merchant, estimated cost \$6,000.

TORONTO, ONT.—Mr. C. J. Gibson, architect, will receive tenders until to-day (Thursday) for making alterations to the World Building on Yonge street.—It is probable that a new building will be erected by the Dominion Government, to contain the offices of the Receiver General, Inland Revenue, and Weights and Measures now situated on Toronto street. Mr. Coatsworth, M. P. P., will inquire in the House what steps the Government propose to take towards carrying out the work.—We learn that tenders will be called for the completion of the Court House and City Hall during the early part of next week.—At a meeting of the Property Committee of the City Council held last week, Ald. Maloney, Stewart, J. E. Verral, Hewitt and Joliffe were appointed a sub-committee to consider the erection of three fire halls, one west of Yonge and south of Queen streets, one on Dundas street, and one on Berkeley street; also the erection of a police station on Cape avenue and the putting up of whatever illuminated clocks are necessary. The City Commissioner reported recommending that the old immigrant sheds be turned into an alhambra, the estimated expenditure for putting the building in order and erecting a building for the conversion of the offal into fertilizers being estimated at \$21,500. The matter was allowed to stand over.—The Sites and Building Committee of the Separate School Board have asked authority to have the building on Cher Howell street, recently purchased by the Board, fitted up for school purposes. The architects will be asked to report on the proposal.—A meeting of the Public School Board was held last week at which the following recommendations were passed: That the four unfinished rooms in Leslie street school be completed, that four rooms be added to Bolton avenue school; that four rooms be added to Borden street school; that an eight roomed school be erected on the Fern avenue site; that six rooms be added to Givens street school; that a twelve-roomed school be erected in the vicinity of Bathurst street. The recommendation that a twelve roomed school be erected on the site of the present Winchester street school, was defeated.—It is reported, on what appears to be good authority, that a syndicate, in which Mr. Robert Simpson, dry goods merchant, is large interested, are endeavoring to purchase all the properties between Queen and Richmond streets, facing on Yonge street, with the object of erecting an opera house on the Richmond street corner and an immense dry goods establishment on the Queen street corner and extending southward on Yonge street. There are said to be some difficulties in the way of the purchase of the Richmond street properties, but efforts are being made to remove them. Whether or not the syndicate's scheme be carried out, it is said to be Mr. Simpson's intention to proceed as soon as possible with the erection of new buildings for the purposes of his business.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The Canada Life Insurance Company has purchased the David property on St. James street, extending from the Temple Building to St. Peter street on the west and to Fortification Lane on the north. It is proposed to tear down the present structure and erect a large new building on the site thereof, the lower story of which will, it is said, be occupied by the Canadian Bank of Commerce.—The Committee appointed by the Board of Harbor Commissioners to report as to the practicability of the construction of the guard pier, has recommended the purchase of the following additional plant: 4 standard 10-ton derricks, cost, \$23,200; 350 dumping boxes and chains, \$12,000; 4 large flat-deck scows, \$10,000; 50 construction cars,

with chilled wheels, \$5,000. The probable cost of altering the existing floating and land derricks is estimated as follows: 3 floating derricks, \$6,750; 1 double land derrick, \$5,750. A deputation from the municipality of Father Point recently waited on the Dominion Government urging the construction of a pier at that place.—The Montreal Cotton Company will apply to Parliament for power to increase its capital stock to \$2,000,000. The company propose to build a large addition to their mills at Valleyfield.—Mr. St. George, City Surveyor, has prepared plans for a new bridge to be constructed over the Grand Trunk railway tracks on Mountain street, extending from Torrance street to Rolland lane, work on which will be proceeded with during the present year. The cost is estimated at \$75,000.—Mr. J. Brown, of Toronto, has purchased a lot on the northeast corner of St. Catharine and Metcalfe streets, and will erect thereon a brown stone building, five stories high for Mr. D. Walker, confectioner.—The Montreal Street Railway Co. has purchased the site for their new power house, and tenders will be asked for in a few days. J. Alcide Chausse, architect, is preparing plans for five stores and dwellings to be erected at the corner St. James and des Seigneurs streets for P. Varnier, cost \$13,000; four dwellings on St. Andre street for A. Brunet, cost \$5,000; a store and five dwellings at corner of Mignonne and Panet streets for G. Dufresne, a residence on Plessis street for J. Lanzon, two stores and dwellings at corner of Ontario and Galt streets for Dr. R. B. Wheeler, cost \$6,000; a residence at Montreal Junction

### FIRES.

A rough cast house at Belleville, Ont., owned by Thomas Smith, was destroyed by fire on the 14th inst. The building was insured for \$1,000.—A large two-story frame dwelling at Lindsay, Ont., owned and occupied by Wm. Walters, was totally destroyed by fire last week. The insurance on the building was \$1,200.—Mr. Conrad Crowley's residence near Stratford, Ont., was entirely consumed by fire recently, insurance only \$300.—The Crossen Car Company's dry kiln at Cobourg, Ont., was destroyed by fire on the 17th inst. Loss \$5,000; partly covered by insurance.—A large building at Port Elgin, N. B., owned by Thos. Hewson and used as a tannery, was burned to the ground last week.—The residence of M. D. Ward, on West Bridge street, Belleville, was completely gutted by fire on Monday last. The building was insured for \$3,000 and the contents for \$1500, which will nearly cover the loss.—The two story frame store and dwelling at Brussels, Ont., occupied by William Nightingale, was burned on Saturday night last. Loss on furniture, \$2,000; on stock, \$11,000, which is covered by insurance.—A disastrous fire occurred in Montreal on Monday last, commencing in Mullin & Smardon's block and completely destroying the buildings. The following are the losses and insurances: J. E. Mullin & Co. loss on machinery, \$31,000, stock and manufactured goods, \$50,000. Their insurances are \$14,000 on the machinery, \$17,000 on building and \$25,000 on stock. The building was owned by J. E. Mullin, and was valued at \$50,000, R. Smardon, boots and shoes, insurance, \$2,000 on the stock, and \$6,000 on the building, Keegan, Milne & Co., electric supplies, estimated loss \$10,000, partly covered by insurance. The minor losers are H. A. Manley, printer, Carling Brewing Co., B. J. Peltener, Walkerville Brewing Co., W. King & Co., furniture, Doyle & Anderson. The total estimated damage is between \$250,000 and \$300,000. Mr. P. O. Byram's shingle and grist mill near Grand Falls, N. B. was totally consumed by fire recently.

### CONTRACTS AWARDED.

BRANTFORD, ONT.—Messrs. Havill & Whitham, of this city, have been awarded the contract for the erection of the new drill hall.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The contract for the carpenter work of the "Monument National" has been awarded to Messrs. Lambert & Fils, at the price of \$17,000.

CALGARY, N. W. T.—The contract for building the new post office at this place has been awarded to Major Stewart, of Ottawa, Ont. It will cost about \$40,000.

KINGSTON, ONT.—Contracts have been awarded as follows for four new store fronts on the corner of Princess and Barrie streets for Mr. R. J. Carson: carpentry, B. Asselstine; painting and glazing, Robinson Bros.

FORREST, ONT.—The contract for the erection of a new R. C. church in this village has been awarded to John McPherson, of Strathroy, at the price of \$3,885. Work will be commenced as soon as the weather will permit.

PORT COLBORNE, ONT.—The Eric Glass Company have awarded contracts as follows for the rebuilding of their works recently destroyed by fire: Main building, Dickson & Suss; Marcus Vanderburgh, Weldand; old warehouse, Augustine & Son; new warehouses, John Snider.

TORONTO, ONT.—The St. Lawrence Foundry Company has finally been awarded the contract for supplying the necessary cast iron pipe for the construction of a 36 inch main from the pumping house on Front street, at \$34.75 per ton.—The Scoria Block Paving Company have secured the contract for the supply of scoria blocks, at \$55 per thousand.

## MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

### DECISION ON THE LETTING OF MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS.

A recent decision of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, involving the right of a municipality to let contracts to other than the lowest bidder may be of general interest to municipalities. The suit was that of Kilvington vs. City of Superior, and the points of the decision are:

1. Power given a municipality, by the terms of its incorporation, "to prevent or abate" nuisances will authorize a contract for the erection of a crematory for the consumption of manure, garbage, dead animals, etc.

2. Such a contract for a crematory, the mode of building which is patented, is not void on the ground that the work was not let to the lowest bidder, as required by the charter, where the contract for material and building was let to the lowest bidder.

The text of the decision by Justice Pinney is quoted from the *Central Law Journal*:

"This action was brought upon a contract made between one McCann, and village of Superior, organized under chapter 30 of the Revised Statutes, and acts amendatory thereof, for the erection of a crematory according to the Kilvington patent for the destruction of garbage, dead animals, etc. The work was let to the lowest bidder, but prior thereto Kilvington, the owner of the patent for building the crematory, appeared before the village Board while in session, and agreed he would allow it and its legal successor the use of his patent and improvements as long as it should be operated by it for a total sum of \$1,500 and he would superintend the construction if they would pay his expenses to Superior and while there superintending the work; also that any contractor who took the contract of erecting the crematory could have his said patent and services at the same rate; that such facts were generally known and publicly stated both before the Board and throughout the village, and were generally known among contractors in that kind of work. McCann, having been the successful bidder, entered into contract to build the crematory according to said patent and improvements for \$4,500; upon premises to be designated by the village. On the day of making the contract Kilvington entered into a contract with McCann to furnish the patent, render services and superintend the erection of the crematory for the sum of \$1,500, as he had promised. A place for erecting it was designated and the work was commenced. The city of Superior was organized in the 1889, and succeeded to all the liabilities and rights of the village. McCann continued the work until the 22nd of April, 1889, and was willing to go on with it, but the Board of Public Works refused to permit him to proceed to complete the contract; and he had expended and become liable for \$2,091.39, and his profits on the completion of it would have been \$900. He assigned over his claim against the city on said contracts to the respondents, Kilvington and Paden, and they presented it to the Common Council, when it was disallowed, and the respondents appealed to the Circuit Court, where they filed formal complaint on the said contract, and claimed damages, as above stated. The defendant demurred to the complaint. The court overruled the demurrer, and the city appealed to this court, and claimed (1) that the contract was void, on the ground that the village Board had no power, express or implied, to contract for the erection of a garbage crematory; (2) that, if it had such power, then the work of building it according to the Kilvington patent could not be let to the lowest bidder in the mode prescribed by law, because it was a patented method, and could not be the subject of competition in bidding for the work.

"The village of Superior was a public corporation created for purposes of local civil government. All its powers 'not