

we selected the tenders of the following parties to execute the work in their several departments, as herinafter named :

Masonry, J. H. Bray	\$13,420 00
Carpenters Work, Stewart & Gilmour	9,949 00
Plastering, J. H. Bray	1,945 00
Iron Work, J. H. Bray	1,071 00
Galvanized Iron Work, Blyth & Kerr	496 00
Painting, A. W. Lang	620 00
Glazing, J. McCausland	1,000 00

Making a Total of.....\$28,501 00

At a meeting held on the 26th of February last, Mr. Hodgson was appointed Clerk of Works. On the 12th of March the Committee resolved that all the Contractors for the erection of the new Church, before proceeding further with their respective portions of the work, be requestad to sign the specifications, plans and contracts in accordance with the amounts specified in their tenders, and subject to all the detailed furnished or to be furnished by the Architect, declaring that in case of any difference of interpretation arising upon said contracts, plans and specifications, the matter in dispute shall be referred to Mr. Langley, whose decision shall be binding upon all parties.

Mr. W. A. Ross, who has throughout acted acted as Solicitor for the Building Committee, was authorized to draw out contracts in accordance with the terms of the above resolution.

The contracts having been prepared, we met with Mr. Ross, who explained the meaning and bearing of each clause of the contract, when it was resolved that the contract as thus explained be signed.

From this time the work was advancing favourably, until a dispute arose between the contractor for the stone work and the Clerk of Works, as to the nature of some of the work to be put on the building, and also in reference to the amount to which up to date the Contractor was entitled for work actually done. It was deemed wise, in the circumstances of the case, to fall back upon the clause in the contract already alluded to, giving the Architect, in case of dispute, a final and binding decision. Mr. Langley was accordingly sent for, and after investigation into the case, consulting with both Contractor and Clerk of Works, he submitted a written report, by the decisions and suggestions contained in which we were guided in the matter. By this report it appears that the interpretation put upon the style of the work under dispute by the Clerk of Works was correct, but that the Contractor had not received up to that time all the money to which, in the estimation of the Architect, Mr. Langley, he was entitled. Although the difference between the amount granted by the Clerk of Works to Mr. Bray, and that to which, according to Mr. Langley's estimate, he was entitled, is not large, yet the Committee were assured by our Solicitor that we had violated the contract, and that in the event of any legal proceedings, a jury's decision would undoubtedly be given against us.

On the 17th of June, the committee received a communication from the Clerk of Works, in which he stated, "that owing to the unsatisfactory progress of the work on the Church, he deemed it his duty to inform the Committee that unless some immediate steps were taken in the matter by them, he would stop the works altogether."