

**CONTRACTS OPEN.**

**ARTHUR, ONT.**—The Methodists are preparing to erect a new church.

**NORTH BAY, ONT.**—The ratepayers have carried the waterworks by-law.

**ST. LAMBERT, QUE.**—A site is being secured for a new Presbyterian church.

**BELLEVILLE, ONT.**—The G. T. R. intend erecting a new freight office here.

**NANAIMO, B. C.**—The foundation of a new church will be laid at an early date.

**SIMCOE, ONT.**—Mr. Thos McCaull will erect two 2-story brick residences on Brock street.

**MOOSEJAW, MAN.**—Mr. L. B. Baker is making arrangements for the erection of a grain elevator.

**CAMPBELLTON, N.B.**—Mr. David Richards is shortly to commence the erection of a shingle mill.

**WESTPORT, ONT.**—McNally Bros. are overhauling their mill and will put in plate glass windows.

**GUELPH, ONT.**—The Elliott property opposite the Exhibition Park has been sold for building purposes.

**MANITOU, MAN.**—A memorial church is to be erected here in commemoration of the late William Winram.

**PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MAN.**—Interested parties are endeavoring to secure the erection of a union station.

**WOODSTOCK, ONT.**—The James Stewart Manufacturing Co. are inviting tenders for the construction of their foundry.

**KEEWATIN, MAN.**—Mr. J. B. Davies has secured a lot adjoining the Clark survey for the erection of a new store.

**STRATFORD, ONT.**—A by-law will shortly be submitted to the ratepayers to raise \$5,000 for the erection of a new fire hall.

**NORMAN, MAN.**—A company is about to take over the Ross, Hall and Brown water power and erect a mammoth paper mill.

**RAT PORTAGE, MAN.**—A government engineer is expected here shortly to examine the proposed improvements on Rainy river.

**AMHERSTBURG, ONT.**—A by-law will be voted on shortly to raise \$3,000 for the purpose of purchasing an electric plant and engine.

**KINGSTON, ONT.**—The Baptists have purchased a site on the corner of Barrie and Queen streets for the erection of a new church.

**HALIFAX, N. S.**—The board of Health has decided to request the city council to have the Lorne Terrace sewer constructed this fall.

**HARRISTON, ONT.**—Mr. Davies intends asking the Council for a loan to enable him to rebuild his woollen mills recently destroyed by fire.

**WINNIPEG, MAN.**—The city council is advertising for propositions from parties willing to construct and operate a system of electric street railway.

**ST. THOMAS, ONT.**—Workmen are now engaged in tearing down a small brick store on East Talbot street to make room for a new brick dwelling.

**VICTORIA B. C.**—The members of the Board of Trade have organized a joint stock building association for the purpose of erecting a new building. The cost of the proposed structure is \$100,000.

**VANCOUVER, B. C.**—The Bank of British North America have accepted the plans of Mr. C. O. Wickenden, architect, for the erection of their new building.

**QUEBEC, QUE.**—The Brousseau property on St. Foye road has been purchased by the Jesuits for \$6,000. It is to be converted into a home for aged priests.

**TRENTON, ONT.**—A new bridge will be erected over the North Channel of the River Trent at "the Narrows" to replace the one carried away by ice last winter.

**ST. JOHN, N. B.**—A number of building sites

situated near Harts rolling mill were sold on Saturday last.—The Intercolonial Railway will shortly be extended from the Intercolonial pier to Reed's Point.

**CHATHAM, ONT.**—A by-law will be submitted to the ratepayers to provide the sum of \$6,000 for the construction of a new steel pile trestle bridge across Jeanette's Creek.—The corner stone of a new hospital was laid on Wednesday last.

**TORONTO JUNCTION, ONT.**—Robt. J. Leigh, Town Clerk, will receive proposals until the 28th day of November for commercial and interior lighting of the town. Particulars may be obtained from the Chairman of the Committee on Fire, Light and Police.

**FORT WILLIAM, ONT.**—The Bank of Montreal intend erecting a block of stores here next season, part of which will be used as a branch bank.—Work is shortly to be commenced on the Canadian Pacific elevator annex. The building is to have a capacity of 1,300,000 bushels.

**HAMILTON, ONT.**—The corner stone of a new Unitarian church to be erected on the corner of James and Bold streets, was laid on the 27th inst. The cost of the building will be about \$4,000.—Mr. C. Carroll is about to erect a residence on Hess street.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Bush & Henry, four 2-story bk. dwellings, Euclid Ave., between Barton and Copeland Sts., cost \$4,000; Sawyer Massey Company, bk. and frame addition to factory, Wellington St., between South and Simcoe Sts., cost \$4,000.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—The city council have adopted the report of the Permanent Improvement Committee that work be commenced at once on the Berri street street subway, the opening of Rouille street, and the widening of Lagachetiere street.—A number of lots have been purchased on Sherbrooke street, the intention of the purchasers being to erect buildings thereon.—The Market Committee has been granted \$2,730 for repairs to St. Antoine market.—It is reported that the C.P.R. will replace all wooden trestles and bridges between Montreal and Vancouver with steel. The cost will be \$2,000,000.—W. H. Hodson is preparing plans for the erection of two cut stone dwellings for Mr. John Hays. Tenders will be called in a few days.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—Messrs. Dick & Wickson, architects, are preparing plans for a new business building to be erected at the north-west corner of Yonge street and College avenue. The lower stories will be devoted to stores and offices, with Oddfellows' Hall above.—The village of East Toronto has carried a by-law to raise \$2,000, of which \$1,500 is to be expended in the extension of sidewalks, watermains and general street improvements.—Building permits have been granted as follows: H. S. Thompson, pr. s. d. 2-story and attic bk. dwellings, 69-93 Ontario St., cost \$5,600; Salvation Army, alterations, cost \$1,300; Central Presbyterian Church, bk. addition to rear of mission, Elizabeth St., cost \$1,800; M. Jones, bk. addition 69-71 Jarvis St., cost \$1,000; John Brown, det. 2-story and attic bk. dwelling, 84 Czar St., cost \$3,000; Sir David Macpherson, det. 2-story and attic bk. dwelling, n. side North Drive, opp. Rosedale Rd., cost \$6,000; C. Hudson, one det. and pr. s. d. 2-story and attic bk. dwellings, w. side Major St., n. of Sussex Ave., cost \$6,000; F. Durke, pr. 2-story and attic bk. dwellings, 71-73 Bleeker St., cost \$6,000.—Alex. McLean, Victoria St., has sold a lot on the corner of Ann and Mutual streets to Mr. Potter. There will be erected on it one pair of solid brick houses.

**FIRES.**

The Deaf and Dumb Institute at Winnipeg, Man., recently erected by the Government, was badly damaged by fire on Wednesday last.—The engine house and fire apparatus of the town of Berlin were burned recently. Loss \$7,000.—On the 28th inst. fire at Virden, Man., destroyed the Ottawa hotel and stables; Ramsay & Clingan, general store; Frame & Miller, hardware; Hustop's stables; dwelling of Mr. McLelland, and a

number of buildings on Nelson street. The loss will be in the neighborhood of \$50,000.—Fire at Paris, Ont., on the 27th inst. destroyed the wood and coal sheds and elevators belonging to Gillies Bros. and the freight sheds and water tank of the Grand Trunk Railway.—The planing mills and wood-working factory of James Dempster & Co. at Halifax, N. S., were burned on the 27th inst. Loss, \$20,000; insurance, \$5,000.—A dwelling house at London, Ont., owned by Mr. G. T. Scott, was burned on the 19th inst.—The interior of Mrs. Grimason's hotel on Princess street, Kingston, was completely destroyed by fire on the 26th inst.—Foster & Allen's planing factory at Amherst, N. S., was burned on the 21st inst. Considerable machinery was destroyed.—On the 29th inst. fire destroyed the following buildings at Ridgeway, Ont.: W. W. Wilson's dwelling; carriage works owned by Geo. Teal and occupied by John Swartz; G. L. Bowen's harness shop; and a wooden building owned by E. Cutler. Loss, \$5,000; insurance, \$2,000.

**BIDS.**

**TORONTO, ONT.**—The Board of Works have received the following bids for covering the pavement on Toronto street with 2 inches of asphalt: Toronto Paving Company, \$3,003, with a guarantee provided the city would guarantee the present pavement, which will serve as a foundation for the asphalt; The Warren-Scharf Co., \$3,345, with an unconditional guarantee of five years.

**CONTRACTS AWARDED.**

**HALIFAX, N. S.**—Mr. Causey has the contract for erecting Mr. Moir's new building.

**KINGSTON, ONT.**—The Peterboro' Bridge Works have the contract for roofing the pumping house at the dry dock.

**BROCKVILLE, ONT.**—Mr. R. H. Smart has the contract for the tinning and heating apparatus for the new Separate school.

**SIMCOE, ONT.**—Mr. Jas. Rattenbury, Simcoe, and Mr. Snider, of Port Ryerse, have been given the contract for mason and carpenter work for two houses of the four houses which Mr. Thos. McCaull intends to erect.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—The following tenders have been accepted for the erection of the Girls' Industrial School, East Toronto, the plans for which have been prepared by Mr. Henry Simpson, architect: carpentering, H. Martin, \$5,200; brickwork, Davidge & Lunn, \$4,325; plastering, Hoidge & Sons, \$770; plumbing, John Sim, \$1,190; painting, Charles Davis, \$800; galvanized iron work, Tucker & Dillon, \$240; slating, Mr. Hudson, \$553; heating and ventilating, Smead, Dowd & Co., \$850.

To get a good polish on mahogany easily: Mix one part of boiled linseed oil with two parts of alcoholic shellac varnish. Skake well before using. Apply small quantities with a cloth, and rub the work vigorously until the desired polish is secured.

De la Rive in 1830 pointed out that chemically pure zinc is nearly insoluble in dilute sulphuric acid, although, as is well known, "scrap," or impure zinc, readily dissolves in it, with evolution of hydrogen. A German chemist, Dr. Weeren, has recently investigated the matter, and he finds that chemically pure zinc, and many other pure metals, are only slightly soluble in dilute acid, because at the moment of their introduction into the acid they become surrounded with an atmosphere of condensed hydrogen, which protects the metal from further attack. When impurities exist in metal, this couch of gas is absent.