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TO ADVERTISERS.

For the benefit of Advertisers, a copy of this journal is mailed each week to persons mentioned in the **CONTRACT RECORD** reports as intending to build, with a request to consult our advertisement pages and write advertisers for material, machinery, etc.

To the writer, who had occasion recently to visit the Toronto custom house, it seemed incongruous that side by side with iron doors and shutters, and other safeguards against fire, should be seen in active operation that relic of a past era, the coal oil lamp.

JUDGE McDUGALL, of Toronto, has decided, in a county court suit for \$147 for 25 toise of stone, that stones are part of the land upon which they are found and cannot be removed by the tenant. Few land owners, however, will be found to object to having the loose stones removed from their property. Quarrying the stone is another matter.

WE referred in a recent issue to the quality of Canadian cement. Since then we have heard of tests applied in Montreal to a cement made at Vancouver, which it is said show it to be far superior to the English article, the difference in breaking strain being as 150 to 90 in its favor. Mr. Warsap, the manager, has just returned from a two months' visit to England, and the manufacture of the cement is to be carried on with renewed vigour.

APROPOS of the reference in these columns last month to the effect of ivy planting upon architecture, the statement has since been made in the daily press that it is the intention of the Ontario government to plant "creepers" round the Parliament buildings. The proposal has our hearty approval. Something in the nature of a disguise to the outside of these buildings has long been recognized by persons of cultivated taste, to be a necessity, and the announcement that the want is to be provided for will be hailed with pleasure.

SOMETIMES when condemning the extravagance of our governors in expending money on needless public works, we have consoled ourselves with the reflection that after all they paid for themselves. Some figures recently presented to the Montreal city council dispel that idea. They show that while the city debt had, during the past six years, increased 120 per cent., with a corresponding increase in interest charges, the revenue had increased less than 50 per cent. It does not pay a community to have its money squandered upon public works.

THE city of San Francisco has recently passed an ordinance limiting the height to which new buildings may be erected to 125 feet on streets over 100 feet wide, and 100 feet on streets of less width. The California Architect, in discussing the ordinance, prints some of the arguments for and against high buildings, and concludes by saying: "It seems to us that all these conflicting interests would be harmonized by the adoption of the rule that no part of a building on one side of a street should extend beyond a line drawn from the foot of the building on the opposite side of the street, at an angle of forty-five degrees; this gives the public and the adjacent owners of property their share of sunlight and air—and at the same time allows a man to build as high as he likes on the rear portion of his lot, as long as he does not obtrude upon that forty-five degree line."