

CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.

VOL. XII.—No. 9.

SEPTEMBER, 1899

(PRICE 20 CENTS.
\$2.00 PER YEAR.)

—THE—
CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER,

A Monthly Journal of Modern Constructive Methods.

(With a Weekly Intermediate Edition—The CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD).

PUBLISHED ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY IN EACH MONTH IN THE INTEREST OF ARCHITECTS, CIVIL AND SANITARY ENGINEERS, PLUMBERS, DECORATORS, BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN BUILDING MATERIALS AND APPLIANCES.

The C. H. MORTIMER PUBLISHING CO. of Toronto, Limited,
Publishers,

Confederation Life Building, - TORONTO, CANADA.
Telephone 2362.

Branch Office: NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE BUILDING, MONTREAL.
Bell Telephone 2299.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER will be mailed to any address in Canada or the United States for \$2.00 per year. The price to foreign subscribers is \$2.50. Subscriptions are payable in advance. The Journal will be discontinued at expiration of term paid for, if so stipulated by the subscriber; but where no such understanding exists, will be continued until instructions to discontinue are received and all arrears of subscription paid.

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Method of Testing the Color of Building Stones.

In order to ascertain the permanence of color of building stones, Prof. W. B. Clark, Chief of the Geological Survey of Maryland, tested rectangular specimens from 1 to 1½ inch in diameter, by first drying out all the contained moisture by means of a water bath at a temperature of 212° Fahr. After being allowed to cool the specimens were weighed. They were then placed upon a set of glass shelves standing in a porcelain pan containing strong hydrochloric acid. An open bottle containing nitric acid and one containing hydrochloric acid and black oxide of manganese were placed close by, and the whole covered by a bell glass, forming an air-tight chamber. After a period of seven weeks the stones were removed and washed, and the change in color, if any, was noted.

Architectural Excursion.

THE members of the Architectural Association of London make a yearly excursion in a body to places of architectural interest and bring home sketches and photographs of buildings, bits of detail and other objects which appear to them to possess merit and value. The idea has much to recommend it. Members of the profession meet each other in an informal way, talk over matters of mutual interest and compare notes. At the same time a record is being established of the most interesting works of architecture existing in Great