

of \$7,000 city of Chatham consolidated debt bonds, as well as \$3,500 town of Petrolia school bonds, both of which they secured by public tender.—The tender of Park Commissioner Chambers, for the erection of a caretaker's cottage at Island Park, at \$1,175, has been accepted.—Mr. J. W. Siddall, architect, has accepted the following tenders for additions to the Grand Union Hotel, cor. Front and Simcoe streets: Mason work, John Webb; carpenter work, Henry Martin; plumbing, J. Ritchie Co.; plastering, Duckworth Bros.; galvanized iron, A. B. Ormsby & Co.; painting, Hughes & Co.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Pierre Dansereau, plasterer, Montreal, is announced to have assigned to Olivier Lemoges. Liabilities, \$18,000.

The Peter Smith Granite Co., Montreal, has been dissolved, and is succeeded by the Smith Brothers Granite Co.

MARKET CONDITIONS.

According to information received in Toronto, the manufacturers have reduced prices in certain sizes of black iron pipe, which has led to a material modification in the jobbing price of sizes running from ½ to 2-inch, the drop ranging from 2½ to 5 per cent. Alterations in the conditions governing these sizes in the United States was the ruling cause with makers for the change. The new and old jobbing range on the sizes on which the alterations have been made are:

Size.	New Price.	Old Price.
½-inch.....	\$2.40	\$2.45
¾-inch.....	2.85	2.90
1-inch.....	4.00	4.20
1¼-inch.....	5.15	5.35
1½-inch.....	6.65	6.90
2-inch.....	9.00	9.35

At a meeting of window glass jobbers held in Montreal last week, an advance in the price of glass was decided upon of 5 cents on first and second breaks and 10 to 20 cents on third and further breaks.

In cut and wire nails trade at Montreal and Toronto is quiet. This is also the case in heavy metals.

Business continues brisk in cement, notwithstanding the rise in price. Firebricks are firm, but no large volume of business is doing. Prices at Montreal range from \$17 to \$21 per thousand.

TESTS OF FLOORING MATERIAL.

The Boston Journal of Commerce gives the following interesting results of a thorough and careful investigation recently carried out as to the comparative durability of different flooring materials. In the tests an ordinary iron rubbing wheel was used, like that employed by stone workers for rubbing a smooth surface on marble or sand stone, and the samples to be tested were fastened to blocks of sandstone, laid face downward on the rubber wheel, which revolved at the rate of 75 revolutions a minute, being supplied with sand and water. The blocks to which the floorings were cemented were of equal weight, so that the rubbing was effected under nearly the same pressure in all cases. Curiously enough, the material which resisted best this severe trial was india-rubber tiling, which, after an hour's rubbing, lost only 1-64-inch of its thickness, and next to this, English encaustic tile gave the best results, losing only ½-inch in an hour's

treatment. The artificial stone, known as "granolithic," was third, losing ¼-inch, while North River bluestone lost 9-16-inch. All the marbles wore away very rapidly. A piece of marble mosaic disappeared entirely in 35 minutes, while solid white Vermont marble lost ¾-inch in an hour. Most of the wood floorings resisted abrasion better than the marble; thus white pine lost only 7-16-inch under treatment that removed nearly twice as much from solid marble, yellow pine about like white, and oak lost more than either of the pines.

USEFUL HINTS.

The following two cements are of considerable value in caulking hot water pipes: 1. Two parts of ordinary well-dried powdered loam and one part of borax are kneaded with sufficient water to a smooth dough, which must at once be applied to the joints. After exposure to heat, the cement adheres even to smooth surfaces so firmly that it can only be removed with a chisel. 2. Mix 430 parts by weight of white lead, 520 of powdered slate, five of chopped hemp, and forty-five of linseed oil. The two powders and the hemp, cut into lengths of about ¼ in., are mixed intimately, the linseed oil gradually added, and the mass is then kneaded until it has attained a uniform consistency. It is claimed that this preparation keeps better than ordinary red lead cement.

STAINS FOR WOODS.—A solution of 50 parts of commercial alizarin in 1,000 parts of water, to which a solution of ammonia has been added, drop by drop, until a perceptible ammonia odor is developed, will give to fir and oak a yellow-brown color,

and to maple a red brown. If the wood is then treated with a 1 per cent. aqueous barium chloride solution, the first named becomes brown, and the latter a dark brown. If calcium chloride be used instead of barium chloride, the fir becomes brown, and the oak red brown, and the maple a dark brown. If a 2 per cent. aqueous solution of magnesium sulphate be used, the fir and oak become dark brown, and the maple a dark violet brown. Alum and aluminum sulphate produce on the fir a high red, and on oak and maple a blood red; chrome alum colors maple and fir reddish brown, and oak Havana brown. Manganese sulphate renders fir and maple a beautiful dark violet brown, and oak a dark walnut.

A new process introduced in Paris for giving pottery, wood, glass, metal and paper the tints of the soap bubble is thus described. The colors of soap bubbles are due to the film of water causing some of the waves of light reflected from its inner and outer surface to cancel each other and produce tints. The same effect is seen in films of oil or tar on water, in scales of old glass and in pearls. Hitherto the process of coloring in the same way has been applied only to paper, but it is to be extended to many other substances. A thin plate of transparent liquid, consisting of turpentine or rectified benzine containing a little gum damar, if the paper is white, and Judean bitumen if it is black, is shed over the wetted paper. When dried on the surface this film gives a rainbow or iridescent appearance to the paper. The above can be used as a stain over light, delicate tints in decorating and enameling; also in a glaze prepared by varnish and color tints.

“ASBESTIC”

—The King of Wall Plasters

FIREPROOF, being purely Asbestos, which is incombustible.
NON-CONDUCTOR OF HEAT - **NO CRUMBLING OR CRACKING**.
WEIGHS LESS and is **INTRINSICALLY CHEAPER** than any other Plaster.

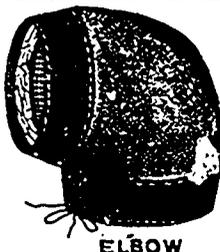
- A few of the principal Buildings **PLASTERED WITH ASBESTIC**—
- THE McDONALD BUILDING, Victoria Square, Montreal.
 - THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING, Montreal.
 - THE ROYAL VICTORIA COLLEGE, Montreal.
 - THE PROTESTANT INSANE ASYLUM, Verdun, near Montreal.
 - THE GRAND HOTEL, St. Hyacinthe, Que.
 - THE NEW CUSTOMS-APPRAISERS STORES, NEW YORK, now building, which will consume 5,000 tons.
 - THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA, portion of which was recently destroyed by fire and rebuilt.

Write for Pamphlet and full Information.

The American Asbestic Co.

100 William Street - NEW YORK

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF “ASBESTIC” for United States and Canada.



ELBOW

MICA BOILER AND STEAM PIPE COVERINGS

The Highest Non-Conductor and the Cheapest Covering on the Market.

Full Particulars from

The Mica Boiler Covering Co. - 9 Jordan St., Toronto
 MONTREAL WINNIPEG