

DARTMOUTH, N. S.—A company composed of responsible persons is said to have made a proposition to the Dominion Government to construct a railway ten miles in length from Tuff's Cove, through Waverley gold district, to Windsor Junction, for the usual subsidy of \$3,200 per mile, or \$32,000 in all. It is the intention of this company if the subsidy is forthcoming to proceed at once with construction, and also to provide wharf and pier accommodation and facilities for handling coal and other traffic.

STRATFORD, ONT.—Messrs. Baxter & Binning, architects, are preparing plans for a residence for Mayor Monteith, estimated cost \$2,000. They have also prepared plans for the following work: Presbyterian church, Whitechurch, cost \$4,000; residence for D. B. McKinnon, Blyth, cost \$3,500; Presbyterian church, Belgrave, cost \$3,500; residence for J. B. Terney, Blyth, cost \$2,000; residence for J. A. Farener, Blyth, cost \$1,300; residence for J. Walker, Palmerston, cost \$2,000; residence for Jas. Farr, Goderich, cost \$2,200.—The same architects are calling for tenders for a residence for J. A. Duggan, cost \$7,000, and will shortly ask for tenders for seating the Presbyterian church at Avonton.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The Court of Revision has confirmed the assessments for the construction of sewers on the following streets: on Dufferin street, north of Theodore; Dalnicusie street, north of Murray; Cathcart street, between lot 12 and Sussex street; Lloyd street, between Queen and Ottawa streets.—Artificial stone sidewalks to be constructed on Cathcart street, from Sussex to Dalhousie; Dalhousie street east, York to St. Patrick streets; Sweetland avenue east, Theodore to Osgoode streets; Kent street, Lisgar to Somerset; Dalhousie and McKay streets.—Mr. W. J. Campbell, Chairman Waterworks Committee, invites tenders until Thursday, the 14th inst., for rock excavations required for pipe extensions during the present year. Particulars at the City Engineer's office.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Work has commenced on the preparation of the site for the Canada Life Assurance Company's new building at the corner of St. James and St. Peter streets.—The Dominion Government has decided to guarantee the \$4,000,000 asked for by the Montreal Harbor Commissioners. One and a half millions of this amount will be devoted to refunding the harbour debt at a lower rate of interest, and the balance will be expended on needed improvements to the harbor.—Messrs. Perrault & Lesage, architects, are asking for tenders for stores and dwellings on Notre Dame street west near Seigneurs street for John Kane.—Mr. P. N. Picard, architect, is preparing plans for a house to be erected on St. Louis street for J. D. Cote.—Building permits have been granted as follows: E. Dussault, 2 bk. tenement houses, 2 stories high, on Panet st., near Rachel, cost \$2,000; J. B. Leblanc, brick building, 2½ stories, on Cadieux st., cost \$2,500; J. A. Gillespie, pressed brick residence, 2½ stories, on Upper Stanley street, cost \$12,000; J. P. Tetreault, two brick tenement buildings, 2 stories, Lasalle street, cost \$3,200; Jos. Therieau, brick tenement building, 2 stories, on Maisonneuve st., cost \$850; The Nichols Chemical Co. one story warehouse, solid brick, on St. Etienne street, cost \$1,000; N. Bastien, two brick tenement buildings, 2½ stories, on Logan street, cost \$3,500.—It is said the G. T. R. company will put down 2,000,000 new ties this year.—Debentures for the construction of the Montreal & Sorel railway to the amount of \$250,000 were purchased recently by Mr. Fourville, president of the new syndicate controlling the road. It is the intention of the new company to continue the line from Nicolet to the Chaudiere River, where it will connect with the Intercolonial railway, and to complete this section during the next two years.—The Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, invite tenders until the 12th inst. for the building of the hulls and machinery of one or two dipper

dredges. Specifications may be had from John Kennedy, Chief Engineer.

TORONTO, ONT.—The Mayor of Toronto is said to be the advocate of a new scheme for the construction of a trunk sewer, in connection with which he will propose a plan by which the project can be carried out without becoming financially burdensome to the ratepayers.—The report of the Board of Works, recommending asphalt pavements on Wellesley and Cecil streets and a cedar block pavement on Bloor street, from Dufferin street to Lansdowne ave., was adopted by the Council at its meeting on Monday last.—A deputation from the Board of Trade and the Fire Underwriters' Association will request the City Council to provide additional fire engines.—The York Township Agricultural Society are negotiating for a suitable site for a permanent fair ground, and when the same is secured, will construct a half mile track and the necessary buildings.—Property owners on Leader lane have presented a petition to the Board of Works in favor of constructing an asphalt pavement the whole length of the street. A narrow granolithic sidewalk is also suggested.—At the last meeting of the Property Committee of the Public School Board, it was decided to invite tenders for furnishing a number of single school desks, for which the sum of \$1,000 is to be expended.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Isaac Wardell, alterations at 144 Huron st., cost \$1,200; Thos. Kinnear, 2 story and attic bk. dwelling, 18 Spadina rd., cost \$9,000; Wm. Murray, 34 Wright ave., 2 story and attic bk. dwelling, e. side Dowling ave., just s. of Leopard st., cost \$12,000; G. T. Ry., 2 and 3 story bk. waiting room in connection with new Union Station, cost \$28,000.—Mr. E. B. Jarvis, architect, is receiving tenders for houses in Rosedale.—E. J. Lennox, architect, is preparing plans for a \$10,000 Mausoleum and \$12,000 alterations on Jarvis street.—The Comet Bicycle Manufacturing Co. are preparing to erect a factory building 70 x 100 feet in size, seven stories in height, mill construction. Mr. E. J. Lennox is the architect.

FIRES.

A dwelling house at Durham, Ont., owned by J. H. Brown, was burned last week. Loss, \$1,000; insurance, \$550.—David McKenzie's dwelling at Pembroke, N. B., was burned to the ground on the 1st inst.—A serious fire occurred at St. John, N. B., on the 3rd inst., causing a loss of about \$150,000. The heaviest losers are: Manchester, Robertson and Allen, brick building; Charles Hamilton & Co., steam saw mill; Rev. J. M. Merritt, brick building.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

BLENHEIM, ONT.—The Blenheim cil has accepted the tender of D. Baer & Co., of Doon, for the building of a bridge over Alder Creek.

LONDON, ONT.—The contract for the extension of the Government drains in the County of Grey has been let to Mr. George Oliver, of this place, at \$14,000.

WATFORD, ONT.—Messrs. Jones, McBride & Farmcombe, architects, of London, have awarded a contract to Wm. Hume for the erection of a new brick school house here; cost about \$7,000.

AMHERST, N. S.—Messrs. Rhodes, Curry & Co., of this place, have been awarded a contract by the Dominion Coal Company for the erection of 50 dwelling houses on the company's property at Little Glace Bay, C. B.

KINGSTON, ONT. The Canadian Locomotive and Engine Co., of this city, have been awarded the contract by the Dominion Government for the machinery for operating the gates of the Sault Ste. Marie canal. The company will receive between \$30,000 and \$50,000 for the work.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The contract for the construction of the steel bridge at the Soulanges Canal has been awarded by the

Department of Railways and Canals to the Dominion Bridge Company, Montreal, and the contract for supplying cement for the canal to Hyde & Co. of the same city.

CORNWALL, ONT.—Contracts for St. Columbian's R. C. Church have been awarded, and the work is being proceeded with, although it will not be carried beyond the foundations this year. The dimensions of the church are 160 x 60 feet; nave, 80 feet; tower, 180 feet. The architect is Mr. Tanguay, of Quebec.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—Contracts have been awarded as follows for the erection of a new church for St. Andrew's congregation: brick and stone work, Philip Burnett, \$14,407; carpenter's and joiner's work, W. A. Charlesworth, \$11,000; painting, F. J. Auley, \$775. The contracts for plumbing, heating, etc., have not yet been awarded.—The Board of Directors of the Winnipeg General Hospital have accepted the following tenders for erecting a Nurse's Home: stone, brick and carpenter work, John McLeod; plumbing, heating and ventilating, Manitoba Plumbing Co.

STRATFORD, ONT.—Messrs. Baxter & Binning, architects, have awarded the following contracts:—Presbyterian church, Avonton, contractors, Porteous & McLagan, cost \$7,000; residence for Thos. Trow, Stratford, contractors Orr & Son, cost \$5,400; residence for John Way, contractor Wm. Daly, cost \$1,600; residences for John Brewer and Mrs. Pittrick, contractor, Wm. Daly; residence for John Morris, contractor, John Youngs, cost, \$1,200; residence for R. Chown, Tp. Downie, contractor, D. H. Dubring, cost \$2,400.—Contracts for a new foundry and machine shop for the Stratford Bridge and Iron Works Co. have been awarded as follows: brick and masonry work, J. D. Smith and Jas. Dunn; carpentry, Thos. Orr & Son; tinsmithing, Jeffrey Bros.; architect, R. Banks Barber.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Messrs. Perrault & Lesage, architects, have awarded the contract for the carpenter's and joiner's work of a three story stone front store on St. Lawrence street, for Amiot, Lecours & Lariviere, to John O'Leary, and for an extension of a similar building for the same firm to Phaneuf & Doré.—Messrs. Perrault, Mesnard & Venne, architects, have awarded a contract for the masonry of two stone front buildings on Notre Dame street, to H. Dufort; proprietors, Rodier estate.—Mr. W. McLea Walbank, architect, has awarded contracts for a factory, corner William and Seigneurs sts., for Messrs. Robin & Sadler, as follows: masonry, Peter Lyall; carpenter's and joiner's work, Jos. Shearer; brickwork, A. Cowan; cost, about \$25,000.—Same architect has also awarded contracts for three stone front buildings of three storeys, on Notre Dame street, for Jos. Allen, as follows: masonry, Wighton & Morrison; carpenter's and joiner's work, Wm. Swan; brick work, H. Bomer; cost, about \$19,200.—Mr. C. St. Jean, architect, has awarded the contract for the erection of a church at St. Nazaire of Acton, to Moise Berthiaume, of St. Hyacinthe.

BIDS.

BROOKE, ONT.—The following are the tenders received for the construction of the Black Creek outlet drain: Andrew W. Robinson, \$9,460; Clark & Donaldson, \$10,450; E. B. West, \$10,500; Coad & Robertson, \$10,500; Richard Mills, \$10,800; Elias Bourne, \$11,000; B. Johnston, \$11,175; W. T. Trott, \$11,500; A. Sutherland, \$11,660; Walter Wallis, \$13,000; James Rogers, \$10,325; James M. Tiernan, \$10,500; Thomas Wallace, \$10,500; Isaac Nixon, \$10,700; Alex. Mills, \$11,000; Mitchell & Rourke, \$11,000; Kellein & Gorsline, \$11,482; B. Shults, \$11,525; L. Bourne, \$11,695; George White, \$13,159. The contract will be awarded at the next meeting of the Council.

Messrs J. & H. Sampson have purchased the brick making plant and yard of F. T. Cope, of Brandon, together with 500,000 brick now in stock.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Allan & Cook, contractors, Vancouver, B. C., have dissolved partnership.

Joseph Paquette & Son, bricklayers, Montreal, have assigned, with liabilities of \$4,000.

Alex. McDonald, a well known railway contractor of Winnipeg, Man., died recently.

Arthur Chaput and Chas. Madore, have formed a partnership as plumbers at Granby, Que.

George Coumbe, builder, and a pioneer citizen of Hamilton, is dead, at the age of 85 years.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS AT HALIFAX, N. S.

We have been favored with a copy of the annual reports of the various departments of the city government of Halifax, N. S., for the civic year 1892-3. These reports show improvement to be the order of the day in that city. During the year there were constructed 9,644 lineal feet of sewers, at a cost of \$50,917.94. The cost per lineal foot ranged from \$6.87 to \$3.43. Work of this character is rendered unusually costly in Halifax by reason of the rock excavation, which of itself costs from \$1.94 per yard and upwards. The most important paving work done during the year, was the paving of Upper Water street with granite and porphy blocks on a foundation of broken stone and sand. The cost of the porphy was \$3.50 per square yard, and of the granite \$3.24. At the foot of George street where a concrete foundation was used, the cost was \$4.40 per yard. This work is reported to have withstood the severe winter without any sign of upheaving.

There were laid during the year nearly 500 square yards of concrete sidewalks at an average cost of \$2.26 per square yard. Where it was possible to thoroughly drain the foundation the frost has had no effect upon this work, but where the drainage was imperfect the blocks lift with the frost, falling back again in the spring. The severe frost experienced in this locality, penetrating the ground in some instances to a depth of six feet, tests vigorously work of this character.

Mr. Gilbert Murdoch, C. E., Superintendent of the St. John, N. B., water works, is dead.

The results of a test made in England show that the steam producing power of town and city refuse is one-third that of ordinary coal. With specially built destructors all cities could realize from their refuse a large amount of power for electric lighting, or other purposes. It is estimated that the daily refuse of the town of Leeds, England, would give steam power equal to over 1,500 horse-power for the entire 24 hours.

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