

is a very difficult matter for an Architect to get him to understand the working plans for decorative work, &c., and this frequently leads to differences between them in carrying out the design. In such cases when there is an intelligent and practical superintendent on the spot, he is enabled to assist the builder by explaining the detail drawings as the work progresses.

The public will inquire by whom are these architectural superintendents to be paid? Are they to pay the architect for his plans and specifications, and also pay a superintendent as well? Certainly, such is the rule; a clerk of works is paid by the day, by the proprietor, so long as his services are necessary; and the proprietor is always the gainer, by not only securing better workmanship and materials, but in avoiding all those irritating causes of annoyance which arise from extra charges, from misunderstandings, and from errors, often to a great extent, that are constantly taking place during a few hours' absence of the architect.

Let such of the public who have had experience in building call to mind the mortification experienced from inferior workmanship in their buildings, and how often matters that should have been closely watched, have been forgotten or passed over; or work that had to be pulled down from the want of having a practical person always on the spot. It may be said that in the erection of small buildings the cost of a superintendent would be too great; but in such cases he could take charge of more than one building, and if found to neglect his duties, he would be dismissed. The situation of an architectural superintendent should be an honorable one, and only those properly qualified allowed to practice.

Another branch of the architectural profession for which there is also a necessity, particularly in Montreal, is that of an Architectural Surveyor, one on whom builders, particularly, could depend to take out quantities with care and truthfulness, and to make up measurements of work, estimates, &c. We particularly want some rule, established by law, for the measurement of builders' work. Sometimes the grossest errors occur, and no two parties will take their measurements alike. His duties should assimilate to those of his profession in England, and one or two in each city should be specially appointed by a Board of Architects for that duty. In concluding these remarks, which are made simply with the view of raising the standard of the architectural profession in Canada, and placing its members in a right position in the eyes of their clients, as to their duties towards the public, and their own proper rights and privileges, we have not intended that they should be considered as in the slightest degree having any personal application to any member or members of the profession; on the contrary, we hope that they will lead to some movement among all its members in the Dominion to unanimously unite in obtaining from Parliament an Act defining their legal rights, responsibilities, and privileges, and making it imperative that all architectural students shall be articulated, and pass an examination before a Board of Examiners before entering upon the responsible duties of the profession.

We purpose continuing this subject in our next in relation to the responsibilities and duties of Builders.

FRENCH POLISH REVIVER.—Half pint linseed oil, 1 oz. of spirits of camphor, 2 ozs. vinegar, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of butter of antimony, $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. of spirits of hartshorn.

FORT CHAMBLY OR PONTCHARTRAIN.

(See page 167.)

WE have been favored by Charles Walkem, Esq., C. E., formerly of the Royal Engineer Staff in Canada, with a sketch and description of this very interesting and historical relic (the only one of the kind in North America), erected in the days of its earliest settlers to protect them from the constant attacks of the aborigines of the country, as well as for offensive operations in later stages of its history. Could its old and crumbling walls speak of the scenes of horror and tragedy that have taken place before them under the continued assaults of an implacable foe—the crafty and revengeful Iroquois—they would furnish material for a romance equal to (and perhaps truer to life) than has ever been pictured to us in the most vivid lights by America's greatest novelist in his best romances of Indian life. Such relics of a bygone and eventful era certainly should not be allowed to go to ruin. Five hundred years hence, if in existence, this old fort will be a hallowed spot to all tourists and antiquarians when this Dominion will have become one of the powerful countries of the world.

THE *Times* observes that a piece of intelligence published last week would two centuries ago have excited a greater sensation than the outbreak of a most formidable war or even than the news of a crushing defeat. The plague, it seems clear, is once more threatening the confines of Europe. The progress of the pestilence last year in the valley of the Lower Euphrates aroused some alarm, and the contagion some weeks ago began to spread in Mesopotamia, and since the beginning of March it has reached Bagdad. The new outbreak shows much of the old and mysterious fierceness before which medical science for many centuries recoiled in despair. There is no reason to expect that its ravages will be limited to Turkey in Asia. Both in Egypt and in European Turkey the conditions in which the plague breeds and spreads are still prevailing, with little mitigation since the time when Cairo and Constantinople were almost annually decimated by its attacks. Happily, there is not the least ground for believing that the essential conditions for its reproduction in Western Europe any longer exist.

THE PATENT BILL.

THE following is a concise summary of the main provisions of Lord Chancellor's Patent Bill as it leaves the House of Lords.

APPLICATION: PROCEEDINGS THEREON.—The first step is the filing of an application and declaration, together with "a specification describing the nature of the invention." The fee will be 5*l*. Notice of the application will be advertised, and any person having an interest in opposing the grant may do so on leaving particulars of his objection and paying a fee of 2*l*. During six months from the date of application the applicant will be allowed to use and publish his invention without prejudice to the patent. This is called "provisional protection," and the period may be extended for another six months, but not more, by a petition to the Lord Chancellor. After the expiration of a certain period, to be fixed by the Rules, the inventor must give notice to proceed, and his application will be referred to the examiner, who will report (a) whether the invention is a proper subject for a patent under the Statute of Monopolies; (b) whether the specification is sufficient; (c) whether the invention is new; and (d) whether it is useful. The examiners' report it would appear will be communicated to the applicant, who will then have to give another "notice to proceed." The Commissioners will on this transmit the whole of the documents to the law officer, who may, if he thinks fit, hear the applicant and any opponent. The law officer has full powers to award cost and to enforce payment of the same. He will then report to the Commissioners whether he thinks a patent ought to be granted or not, and this step will be accompanied by the publication of "the application, specification, and relative documents and reports." The reports will be annexed to and always go with the specification. Within a certain time (not yet fixed) the applicant must give a third "notice to proceed." If the report is favourable a warrant and letters patent will be prepared and submitted to the Lord Chancellor. If the report is unfavourable the applicant may nevertheless, after "notice to proceed," petition the Lord Chancellor for a grant and sealing of a patent. There will be no appeal from his decision, but a rehearing of the case may be granted. Section 14 provides that "any person may petition the Lord Chancellor against the sealing of a patent," but Section 35 says "any petition may be dismissed on the ground of the petitioner having no interest, or no sufficient interest in the matter." Particulars of objections must