

coln, has the contract for supplying the stone for the abutments.

BROCKVILLE, ONT.—J. H. Loftus has the contract for applying his patent fire and water-proof cement roofing to the roofs of the Malleable Iron Works, Smith's Falls, and the Asylum, Toronto.

PETROLEA, ONT.—The second lot of tenders for pumps and machinery for the water works system were opened on Monday last. The tender of Messrs. Hughes, at \$14,289, was accepted, including \$500 for a special condenser.

HAMILTON, ONT.—Carpenter & Ramsay have been given the contract for supplying the steel rails, bolts, spikes, and fish plates for the H. G. & B. extension from Grimsby to Beamsville. The amount of the tender is about \$30,000.

QUEBEC, QUE.—The contracts for the Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix depot have been awarded as follows: Masonry and brickwork, F. Fackney; painting, J. M. Tardivel; heating, plumbing and roofing, P. P. Giguere. S. Peters is general contractor.

LINTOWEL, ONT.—W. E. Binning, architect, has awarded contracts as follows for a residence for William Forest: masonry, brick and plastering, Hay & Purcell; plumbing, heating, glass, etc., Mr. Rogers, of Atwood; slating, Mr. Buxall, of Sutherland; painting, Mr. Marshall, of Atwood. The building will be encased with Milton pressed brick, with terra cotta panels, stone sills, circular tower and verandah, tile gables, slate roof, and plate and leaded glass windows. Improved plumbing and heating appliances will also be used. Cost \$4,000.

TORONTO, ONT.—Worthington, Garrett & Armstrong have been awarded the contract for heating, plumbing and gas fitting of the John Eaton Co.'s store on Yonge street.—Alternate tenders for a swing bridge with steel or wooden superstructure across the Don at Cherry street were opened on Friday last. The lowest for steel was \$6,055, and for wood \$5,134. A. G. Boon gets the contract at \$6,055 for a steel bridge.—The sub-committee of the Public School Property Committee have accepted tenders as follows for the erection of the Givens street school caretaker's cottage: Carpentry, A. Grant, \$433; masonry, Wickett Bros., \$143; plastering, E. Warren, \$78; plumbing, Joseph Sherlock, \$75; painting, George Peacock, \$38; tinsmithing, G. Ringham, \$13. Total \$780.—The Gutta Percha and Rubber Manufacturing Company will supply 1,200 feet 2½ inch "Maltese Cross" fire hose, without couplings, at \$1; 1000 feet 2½ inch "Eureka" at \$1; 500 feet 3 inch "Eureka" at \$1.30, and 1,150 feet 2½ inch "Paragon" at 85c. The Canadian Rubber Company will supply 500 feet 2½ inch "Maple Leaf" at 75c.—The Board of Works last week awarded contracts for pavements as follows: Brunswick avenue, north side, asphalt, David Chalmers, \$9,250; Wellesley place, vitrified brick, D. L. Van Vlack, \$2,038; Queen's Park crescent, west side, concrete walk, A. W. Godson, 91c. per lineal foot.—Ormsby & Co. have been awarded the contract for metal ceilings in the T. Eaton Co.'s new store addition.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Brown, MacVicar & Heriot, architects, Canada Life Building, have awarded contracts as follows for a Protestant Diss. school, St. Louis de Mile End: Masonry, J. B. St. Louis; brickwork, Tidman, McKinnie & Hadfield; carpentry, Thos. Forde; painting, Castle & Son; roofing, Montreal Roofing Co.; plastering, Thos. Wand; plumbing and heating, Garth & Co.; electric wiring, Montreal Electric Co. For a residence for R. J. Inglis, Westmount: Masonry and cut stone work, Heggie & Stewart; brickwork, Thos. Wand; carpentry, L. Paton & Son; other trades not let yet.

For alterations to warehouse for Jas. Johnson & Co., Notre Dame street: Brickwork, plastering, ironwork and carpentry, L. Paton & Son; painting, Alex. Craig; roofing and floors, Geo. W. Reed; plumbing and heating, Gordon & Egan; electric elevator, Miller Bros. For fitting up barber shop at Windsor hotel: Carpentry, Simpson & Peel; painting, Castle & Son; plumbing, Mount & Co., marble work, R. Forsyth & Co. For new stone steps and general repairs to Presbyterian College building: Masonry, Heggie & Stewart; ironwork, Chanteloup Mfg. Co.; carpentry, Thos. Forde; roofing, Geo. W. Reed. Plastering of house for S. C. Oxton, to Knott & Gardiner. Plastering of house for S. C. Davidson, to Knott & Gardiner.—J. H. McDuff, architect, has awarded contracts as follows for one house, stone and brick, on Silky street, Westmount, for P. Lalonde: Masonry, Gagnon & Charette; carpenter and joiner's work, P. Lalonde; brickwork, J. Deslauriers; plastering, S. Goslin; painting, F. Brisebois; plumbing, not let; roofing, Bernier Bros.—W. McLea Walbank, architect, has awarded the following contracts for additions to the engine house of the Citizens Light & Power Co.: Masonry, M. Lynch; brickwork, carpenter and joiner's work, roofing and painting, Boucher & Jacob. For alterations and repairs to a house on Sherbrooke street, for E. K. Green: Masonry, carpenter and joiner's work, R. Neville; painting and glazing, L. Z. Mathieu; plumbing, T. O'Connell; roofing, G. Powell; plastering, Knott & Gardiner.—Chs. Lafond & Bros., architects, have awarded the following contracts for two cottages at Westmount for Antoine Belanger: Masonry, Adolphe Huot; iron work, Dominion Bridge Co. For two houses on Berri street for Mde. L. X. Carrere: Masonry, Latrelle & Bros.; carpenter and joiner's work, E. Robert.—A. C. Hutchison, architect, 181 St. James street, has let the contracts for doors and windows for the Montreal exhibition building to Jas. Shearer. Other trades to be done by day work.—W. E. Doran, architect, has let the contract for two houses on St. Chs. Borromeo street for John Clifford, all trades to Bulmer & Kelly.

BIDS.

TORONTO, ONT.—Tenders for the widening of Queen street subway were made in two forms, one for widening the whole subway and the other leaving out the southwest corner. The bids were as follows:

	Whole work.	Exclusive of s. w. corner.
Tender No. 1.....	\$63,300 and	\$60,560
Tender No. 2.....	63,997 and	61,344
Tender No. 3.....	63,375 and	59,335
Tender No. 4.....	80,900 and	76,130
Tender No. 5.....	66,600 and	62,074
Tender No. 6.....	79,579 and	79,000
Tender No. 7.....	71,719 and	68,500
Tender No. 8.....	65,600 and	62,000

The Board of Control has deferred the awarding of the contract until the City Engineer reports on the cost of the railway superstructure.

STAINS AND STAINING.

Finishing wood by staining requires to be finely done, otherwise it were better not to attempt the work at all. This fact should cause the novice to hesitate before gaily waltzing into a field which only the artist is qualified to occupy. To do fine staining the workman should be intimately acquainted with the different woods, their fibres, natural characteristics, etc.


All first class authorities assert that woods have a peculiar quality, termed reflection. A piece of hard wood—oak or ash, for instance—will reflect a different appearance from different positions. The skilled wood stainer seeks to retain this quality in the wood after the stain is applied. He doesn't always accomplish his purpose; but the fact that he not infrequently meets with success is of itself gratifying.

Staining should not be attempted upon wood streaked with soft, sappy places, or flecked with knots. Sandpapering a surface that is to be stained ought to be strictly prohibited. The necessary surfacing must necessarily be done with the plane in order to insure the reflective, satiny finish sought for.

Coarse-grained surfaces really ought not to be stained at all; but if they are so treated, a coat of paste-filler should first be applied. This fills up the grain of the wood and prevents the stain from penetrating so deeply as to darken the wood more than it ought.

There is a limit to the woods which can be successfully imitated by staining. This limit includes rosewood, mahogany, walnut, and cherry; but it is exceeding doubtful whether cherry should be included. Certain it is that cherry is a very difficult wood to imitate. Men capable and experienced in the art of staining exclude oak entirely.

In the art of staining a great deal depends upon the quality of the ingredients used in making the stain. Use only the best. Then if the work is not a success, it is easy to find wherein failure is encountered. The office of a stain is to colour the wood without marring the neutral transparent richness of the grain.



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