

QUEBEC.

(Correspondence of the CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.)

Mr. J. F. PEACHY, architect, has been authorized to prepare plans for the proposed new city hall, appropriating any good points he may find in the designs submitted in the late competition, in which Mr. Peachy was also a prize winner. The owners of designs not awarded prizes have allowed the city to retain their plans, the latter paying each competitor \$300. Mr. Charest, who was awarded 1st prize, has since then been appointed architect in the Public Works Department; Mr. P. Cousin of that Department has resigned, and entered upon private practice.

Work on the skating rink, the re-construction of which has been delayed for nearly two years owing to some misunderstanding between the directors and the Federal Government, is to be started as soon as the weather permits. It is to be of the same size as the former rink, the roof arches of which are to be used again. The general plan is being entirely changed, some new features, including a curling rink, being introduced. The contract has been awarded for \$10,000 to Geo. Boteau; H. Staveley, architect.

Mr. Raymond, architect, has given out contracts for a wholesale store on St. Paul street for Messrs. Dupuis, probable cost \$15,000.

Several private residences and some stores are talked of for St. John street, but at the time of writing the elections are so absorbing that nothing else receives much attention.

The "Fortress Hotel" Co. received tenders for their proposed new building on 19th ult. The lowest tenders are Quebecers. Several Montreal and one Brockville contractor also made bids. The plans upon which tenders were called were those made by Messrs. Rotch & Tilden, Boston. The cost of building, when entirely completed, will probably reach \$250,000. No tender has so far been accepted.

The Roberval Hotel at Roberval, Lake St. John, is being largely increased in capacity by the addition of two new wings, besides another building containing billiard room and bowling alley; the hotel, with the additions, will comprise about 150 bed rooms. The new dining hall, to be finished in spruce, will have seating capacity for 160 persons. The building is being constructed by day work, with Mr. Leggs as superintendent, from plans prepared by H. Staveley, architect.

The Florence proprietor is also increasing his accommodation by the addition of a 5th storey to the north wing of his establishment. Mr. Trudel, we believe, always acts as his own architect.

PERSONAL.

Mr. F. H. Berlinguet, architect, Quebec, left that city for Europe, on the 11th inst.

Ald. Hanley, a leading contractor of Belleville, Ont., paid the ARCHITECT AND BUILDER a visit a few days ago.

Mr. Henry J. Powell, architect, of Tilbury Centre, has succeeded to the practice of the late Mr. J. R. Kilburn, of Stratford.

Mr. M. Demers, a popular contractor of Montreal, was prevented by his friends a few evenings ago with a gold watch and chain.

Mr. D. B. Dick, architect, Toronto, will give an annual prize for proficiency in the first year to students in the architectural course at the School of Practical Science.

The CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER was recently favored with a visit from two of the oldest and most esteemed contractors of Hamilton, Ont., Mr. John Webb and Alderman Hancock.

The CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER desires to extend to Mr. Theo. Daoust, architect, Montreal, hearty congratulations in view of the matrimonial contract into which he recently entered.

Messrs. Darling & Curry, architects, Toronto, have recently taken into partnership Messrs. Sprout & Pearson, also of that city. The firm name has been changed to Darling, Curry, Sprout & Pearson. Extensive additions, alterations and improvements are being made to Darling & Curry's offices in the Mail Building, to meet the requirements of the new firm. Every modern contrivance calculated to systematize and facilitate operations will be utilized in the new offices, which, when completed, will be second to none in the Dominion.

TORONTO ARCHITECTURAL SKETCH CLUB.

The members listened to a paper of unusual interest on Tuesday, 24th inst., given by Mr. G. A. Reid, R.C.A. The subject was "Architecture from an Artist's Standpoint." Mr. Reid showed his appreciation of architecture by the many clever points made during the course of the evening, his numerous sketches in oils and pastel bringing the subject before his audience in a very lucid and pleasing way. It is intended to publish the paper in full in the CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER for April, illustrated by pen and ink drawings by Mr. F. S. Challenger from the original sketches.

An interesting discussion followed the paper, in which Messrs. Darling, Sam Jones, Curry, Simpson, Gregg and others took part.

The competitive drawings for "A Stone Mantel" were then criticized by Mr. Frank Darling in his usual facile manner, Mr. E. B. Jarvis being awarded first place in the senior division, and Mr. Ernest Rolph first place in the junior division.

It is a fact for congratulation to the Club that it has to a large extent the co-operation of the architects in its work, and especially so that a number of the younger architects enter the competitions. It is hoped in time that more will be induced to join

for them, as it is one of the primary objects of the Club that this should be so. The impression that the competitions ought to be restricted to draughtsmen and students is entirely erroneous and utterly incompatible with the feeling of the constitution.

At this meeting it was resolved by a majority vote of those present that the regular meetings should be held on Monday instead of Tuesday as heretofore, and in accordance with this, the next meeting was held on Monday, 9th inst. Mr. W. A. Langton gave a clever paper on "Richardson and His Works," which was listened to attentively by all present. At the close quite a lively discussion took place. As Mr. Langton spent a number of years in Mr. Richardson's office in Boston, he was well prepared to speak on the subject, and did so in a most interesting manner, receiving a hearty vote of thanks for his trouble.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

"CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER" COMPETITION FOR A CITY HOUSE—DESIGN SUBMITTED BY "HIS ASPIRANT" (MR. MURRAY WHITE.)

The basement walls to be carried up to ground line in good rubble masonry, composed of the best quality of an approved stone, well bonded, laid in the best prepared mortar, and the joints, both inside and outside, to be struck with the trowel. The stonework above ground line to be of the best approved local stone, built in courses, to be neatly pointed and well bonded. The sill and head courses to be neatly tooth chiselled. Brick walls in basement to be built of hard clinker bricks. The walls from the stonework up to the first floor joists to be built of the best selected red bricks of a uniform color, laid English bond in mortar, stained in dark brown. Above ground floor the exterior walls are to be composed of 4 in. studding, shaded both sides with matched sheathing, and lined on inside before battering with a double thickness of sheathing paper. When parts are to be tiled, the best approved tiles are to be used, of a rich, dark red color; the gables to be lathed and plastered, one coat to go entirely over surface before strips are nailed on; plaster to be stained a dark brown color. The lumber throughout to be of good clear pine, and flooring to be selected free from knots, etc. The hall, dining room and parlor to be finished in black ash, oiled and varnished; the rest of interior finish to be of clear pine, stained and oiled.

TORONTO ARCHITECTURAL SKETCH CLUB COMPETITION FOR STONE MANTEL—DESIGN BY MR. EDGAR B. JARVIS, AWARDED FIRST POSITION.

SCHOOL HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY HALL AT THE BOYS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, MIMICO—HENRY SIMPSON, ARCHITECT, TORONTO.

PLANS, ETC., IN CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER COMPETITION FOR BILL OF QUANTITIES.

THE R. C. A. EXHIBITION.

The Royal Canadian Academy exhibition has attracted considerable attention, and copious comments and criticisms have appeared in the daily papers with atrocious attempts at illustration. The anticipations formed by the reading of some of these criticisms are rudely shocked in many cases when the spectator finally reaches the gallery and sees for himself. One cannot help feeling that their remarks are in some cases tempered by personal or other interests. It would be refreshing to have an estimate of the exhibition as a whole and a critique of the individual efforts from some authority, unbiased and competent.

The architectural exhibit is snugly ensconced in the Secretary's den, and modestly greets the persistent seeker after architectural art. It is well that it is thus enshrined, as the baker's dozen representing our glorious art would be hopelessly lost were it placed in one of the larger rooms.

We must confess to a feeling of real disappointment when we finally reached the sanctum. The sketches of a residence on St. George street by Mr. Townsend, two designs for churches by Messrs. Strickland & Symons, and a view in Glent, Belgium, by Mr. Andrew Taylor, were the only numbers which could be singled out as even fairly rendered. Mr. Taylor's design for a residence had the fault of being stiffly inked in before being colored; his Branch Bank of Montreal did not err in this respect, but lacked all attempts at light and shade. Mr. Storm's perspective of the new Victoria College is somewhat effective when viewed at a distance, but coarse and rough when studied near enough to take in the design. The rendering of two houses by Messrs. Gordon & Helliwell and Mr. Taylor's Technical College Building is scratchy and devoid of light and shade. On the whole one cannot help feeling that there is a want of imagination betrayed by the majority of the exhibitors, and that many old friends are still playing on the same string as of yore—their trees, their rocks, waves and beaches, their homely human beings are the same old acquaintances.

The finer kind of coal ashes from domestic fires make excellent cement when used with common lime, the cement being four or five times as strong as common mortar. Those from steam boilers seem to be of sand in ordinary lime mortar made at too high a temperature for this, but can be used in ware.