

\$1,719; E. Stapleford, \$1,712; W. H. Drysdale, \$1,700 (accepted).

LONDON, ONT.—Contracts for the new Higgins block on Dundas street have been let as follows: brickwork, Everett & Sing; carpentering, Jones Bros.; plumbing, Smith Bros.; plastering, Mr. Gash; painting, George Howe; iron work, W. Steveley & Son. Estimated cost \$10,000.

HALIFAX, N. S.—J. C. Dumaresq, architect, has awarded the following contracts: W. H. Mosher's building, Windsor, Jas. H. Taylor, Falmouth, contractor, \$7,000; School for Blind, Samuel A. Marshall, contractor, \$17,600; W. E. Crowe's dwelling, this city, Nickerson Bros., contractors, \$4,186.

MONTON, N. B.—A contract has been awarded to Mr. McManus, of this place, for building a memorial hall at Memramcook, in honor of Father Lefebvre. The plans were prepared by J. C. Dumaresq, architect, of Halifax, and are in the Italian style. The building will be built of free stone, rock faced, with dressed trimmings, and is to cost about \$20,000.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Gamelin & Huot, architects, have awarded contracts as follows: One two and a half storey cottage, solid brick front, on Windsor avenue, Westmount, for Augusta Singer, Esq., all trades, Messrs. Joly & Gaucher.—J. B. Resther & Sons, architects, have awarded contracts as follows: two three storey tenement buildings on Quiklier street for Estate Marson—Masonry, Boucher & Huberdeau; carpenter and joiner's work, Lambert & Sons; roofing, plumbing and heating, Pelletier & Brosseau; brick, M. Beland.

QUEBEC, QUE.—Tanguay & Vallee, architects, have awarded contracts as follows for Marise chapel. Carpenter and joiner's work, Elz. St. Pierre; plastering, L. Larose; ornamental plastering, M. Rigali; painting and gilding, Jos. Gauthier & Frere.—Simon Peters has been awarded a contract by Mr. Menier, proprietor of Anticosti Island, for the erection of buildings and other works. The contract includes the erection of single dwelling houses, boarding houses for colonists, farm houses, general stores, saw and pulp mills, creameries, wharves and piers, etc., and the construction of a narrow-gauge railway. It is expected that the cost of the work will reach the sum of \$200,000.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The contract for the construction of the second section of the Peterborough and Trent Valley canal has been awarded to ex-alderman Corry, of this city. The contract price is in the vicinity of \$600,000. The section to be constructed extends from the village of Nassau to Little lake, a distance of 4 miles.—A. M. Calderon, architect, has awarded contracts as follows for an addition to the Ottawa Amateur Athletic Club's building: carpentering, J. J. Wallace; steam fitting, Butterworth & Co.; iron founding and smithing, The Canadian Bridge Co; plastering, J. F. Mander; electrical work, O'Rielly & Murphy; painting and glazing, Geo. Howe. The wing will be two stories, with basement, containing six bowling alleys, cost \$16,000. On the first story will be the secretary's room, directors' room, coat room and billiard room for twelve tables, with seats for spectators. The third story will give a stage to be added to the present gymnasium, locker rooms with 160 lockers, a large bath room and boxing room.

## BUSINESS NOTES.

John Carver, contractor, Kingston, Ont., has assigned to J. Ferguson.

C. D. Steinhoff, painter, Owen Sound, Ont., has assigned to George S. Kilbourn.

H. V. Pay, plumber, St. Catharines, Ont., is said to have assigned to William Thompson.

Eugene Navigne, of St. Gertrude, Que., a contractor for ties, telegraph poles, etc., is reported to have assigned. Assets, \$4,000; liabilities, \$11,000.

Clendenning's foundry at Montreal was offered for sale by auction last week. The highest bid received was \$12,000, consequently the property was withdrawn.

The Court of Review at Montreal has rendered judgment in the case of Antoine Rousseau vs. Thomas Robertson & Co. This was a dispute over a sum of about \$9,000 in connection with certain works done for the City of Kingston. The court confirmed the judgment of the Superior court, dismissing Rousseau's action and maintaining that of Thomas Robertson & Co. to the extent of \$7,788.

## BRICKS FOR TALL CHIMNEYS.

An interesting paper was recently read by Mr. F. J. Bancroft, B. Sc., before the British Institution of Junior Engineers. He pointed out how little reliance should be placed on the tenacity of the mortar in constructing tall brick chimneys, since the erection might have to withstand a gale whilst the work was yet new; pressure should therefore be present over the whole of the bed joint, and in no case be less than zero, so as to become a tensile stress. The oscillation during a high wind necessitates the use of exceedingly strong bricks, since pressure is liable to be focussed on certain points. The heavier the material with which a shaft is constructed the better, in Mr. Bancroft's view. In the discussion, the question of lime versus cement for tall chimney construction was raised, and the conclusion arrived at was that lime should be used, as cement would not stand excessive heat. Now, all this is very true. There seems to be an opinion abroad that light bricks are the best for chimney construction, but we do not agree with that. Light bricks are, as a rule, very absorbent, whilst they

do not often exhibit phenomenal strength. The heaviest bricks imaginable—solid, fine-grained, non-absorbent blocks—are unquestionably the best for the purpose. But here lies the difficulty, and this is where the value of practice comes in, as distinguished from theory; your non-absorbent smooth bricks will not take kindly to lime mortar; whilst cement, as observed, is not suitable for the purpose. Mr. Bancroft's suggestion, therefore, is pregnant with interest for brick-builders, as indicating a type of chimney construction in which the value of the mortar used is placed at the lowest estimate, or practically ignored. That means greater diameter and less height for the chimney, but, above all things, heavy bricks.

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