### MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS AND MATERIALS

execute the work by day labor, and have accepted the following tenders for supplies: sewer pipe, cement and brick, W. F. Diblee & Son; from for manholes, Connell Bros. and Small & Fisher Co., at \$2 per hundred pounds. Hazlehurst, of St. John, also tendered for mon at \$2 per hundred, and W. H. Allan at \$1 64

QUEBEC, QUI.—Work has been commenced on the foundation of a three-story house, in dressed stone, for Mr. Smith, on the Grande Allee It is to be 25×40 feet and will cost \$6,000. The architect is Mr. Staveley, and the contractors are Messrs. Fackney for masonry, and Peters for the interior. -- Contracts have been let as follows for the construc-tion of warehouses for the Chounard estate: masonry, A. Fackney; roofing, Mr. Lenghen; painting, Gauthier & Frere; interior work, Onesime Poitras. Messrs. Tanguay & Vallier are architects, and the building will cost \$14,000.— Peachy & Dussault, architects, have let the contract for a tabernacle for Chicoutimi church to Mr. Villeneuve, sculptor, of St. Romnald.

#### TESTING STAINED GLASS.

I have discovered a simple mode, writes C. Winston, of testing whether, on the one hand, glass is sufficiently opaque so as not to appear flimsy or watery when put up in a window, unassisted by shading, according to the practice of the flat style of glass painting; on the other, whether it is sufficiently clear to produce as brilliant an effect as the old door-as follows: If the glass, when held at arm's length from the eye, and at the distance of more than a yard from an object, does not permit of that object being distinctly seen through it, the glass will be sufficiently opaque; and if, when held at the same distance from the eye, and at the distance of not more than a yard from the object, permits of its being distinctly seen through the glass, it will be sufficiently clear and transparent.

I have found this to be the case with a great many pieces of glass of the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, which had been rendered clear by polishing the surface, or which were already quite clear; for it is a great mistake to suppose that all old glass has been rendered dull on the surface by exposure to the atmosphere. I have seen a good deal of glass of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries that is as clear now as when it was first made, its surface not having been corroded in the least. But the glass of which these imitative works are made is either smooth on the surface and so pellucid or watery as, when held at arm's length, to permit of any object being perfectly seen through it which is at the distance of 100 or even 1,000 yards or more; or else is artificially roughened on the surface, a practice which reduces the condition of the glass nearly to that of ground glass; for when held at arm's length, it will not permit of any object being seen distinctly through it which is distant more than an inch from the glass.

The practice, not unfrequently resorted to by the imitators of old glass, of anti-quating smooth-surfaced glass—that is, dulling it with the enamel colour used for painting the outlines—renders it, when held at arm's length, nearly, if not quite, as opaque as rough-surfaced glass. In deed, almost the only perceptible difference in this respect between rough-surfaced class and emostly surfaced class faced glass and smooth-surfaced glass that has been antiquated is that the former is free from the tint necessarily imparted to the latter by the enamel colour with which it is antiquated. Thus we find that

imitations of glass of the twelfth, thirteenth, or fourteenth century, if executed in smooth-surfaced glass that has not been antiquated, are very poor and watery in comparison with original work of the period, and that if executed in glass that has been antiquated, or rough-surfaced glass, they are much too opaque. In the one case, to speak popularly, the vision passes too uninterruptedly through the glass; in the other it is stopped at the surface of the glass instead of passing about a yard through it, as in the case of ancient work.

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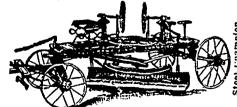
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