

Menan's buildings, together with the roller rink, at Halifax, N. S. Loss about \$10,000.—Fire at Ottawa on the 20th inst. destroyed the following dwellings, together with the St. Jean Baptiste School: Mr. Dewar, Mrs. Woods, James Shannon, J. Dupont, George Forde and Patrick Gaynard on Bridge street, Narcisse Larocque, Eugene Ladoeur, Thomas Hill and Mrs. Henry on Sherwood street.

**CONTRACTS AWARDED.**

**OIL SPRINGS, ONT.**—The contract for pews and other furniture for the new Methodist church has been given to the Globe Furniture Co., of Walkerville, Ont.

**HILLSBURG, ONT.**—J. H. Hughes has been awarded the contract for the brick and D. McDonald the carpenter work for the erection of a new English Church.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—Mr. E. J. Lennox, architect, has awarded the contract for electric wiring for the Freehold Loan Co.'s new building to the Toronto Incandescent Electric Light Co., at the sum of \$5,000.—The contract for improvements to the Methodist Church at Eglinton has been awarded. Messrs. Teagle & Darwent, of 340 Clinton street, have the mason's work, and F. A. Obedirk the carpentering.

**STRATHORD, ONT.**—Wm. Easson and J. D. Smith have been awarded the contract for a brick residence for Mr. Lang; A. Hepburn, architect.—St. James Church is erecting a building to cost \$3,000; Mr. Powell, architect, D. Scrimgeour, contractor.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—Mr R. Findlay, architect, has let contracts as follows: Residence on Dorchester St., mason, P. Lyall, brickwork, W. H. Boon; carpenter, Geo. Roberts; roofer, E. Chanteloup; plumbing, R. Mitchell, painter, Geo. Kimber.—E. Chanteloup has the contract for the tower clock for the Sun Life Assurance building.

**PLASTER TESTS.**

Various tests have been made with a view of ascertaining the advantage to be derived from the use of manilla fibres, as compared with other substances, in plastering work. One of the most conclusive of these tests was made of four plates of equal size, one containing manilla hemp, second sisal hemp, a third jute, and the fourth with goat's hair of the finest quality, and the operation consisted in suspending weights in the middle of each plate, the ends of which were properly supported. The result showed the plaster mixed with goat's hair broke at 144 1/2 pounds weight, the jute at 145 pounds, and the sisal at 150, and the manilla at 195—in the latter case the hemp not breaking but cracking, and though cracked in the centre, the lower half of this plate, when it was suspended, held on to the upper half, the manilla securing it fast. The three other plates were broken; that is, the two parts of each plate had severed entirely, in contrast with the manilla plastering. Another experiment consisted in mixing two barrels of mortar, each containing equal portions, by measure, of sharp sand and Thomaston lime, one of the barrels, however, being mixed with the proper quantity, by measure, of manilla hemp cut in lengths of one and one-half to two inches, and the other of best goat's hair. On being thoroughly mixed with the usual quantity of water, the respective mixtures were put in the barrels and stored away in a dry cellar, remaining unopened for nine months, when, on examination, the hair mortar crumbled and broke apart, very little of the hair being visible, showing that it has been consumed by the lime; but the other, containing the hemp, showed great cohesion, it being quite an effort to pull it apart, the hemp fibres permeating the mortar and showing little or no evidence of any injury done to it by the lime.

**VELOCITY OF ELEVATORS.**

Few persons have any idea of the speed of an elevator. Probably an ordinary guess would not come within half a mile a minute of being right. Some elevators run as slowly as 30 feet a minute. The average speed of elevators is 225 feet a minute. This includes ordinary stoppages. The elevators in the Equitable Building, New York, have a run of 135 feet from the basement to the top of the building, and it takes 20 seconds to make that run without stops. In a day of nine hours these elevators run over 10 miles. The elevators of the Western Union Telegraph Building, New York, are exceedingly lively. They have developed a speed of 300 feet a minute.

**TO BUILDERS.**

**ALEX. MACLEAN,**

9 Victoria Street, Toronto,

Offers to builders, on advantageous terms, lots on Elizabeth St., Westmoreland Ave., Spencer Ave., Shaw St., Wellesley St. and Spadina road.

**To Builders, Investors and Speculators.**

Offers are invited to purchase that magnificent business site at the intersection of Dundas and Arthur streets and Ossington Ave. The lot has a frontage of 100 feet on Dundas and 120 feet on Arthur St., and is undoubtedly the best business corner west of Yonge St. Offers to be sent to F. J. Smith & Co., Estate Agents, 90 Church St.

**J. A. NESBITT,**

**ESTATE AND FINANCIAL AGENT AND ARBITRATOR.**

Office: 9 Adelaide St. East, - TORONTO. Office Telephone 1631. House Telephone 3692. Money advanced on mortgage. Fire insurance at lowest rates. Values carefully estimated.

**Prices of Building Materials.**

**LUMBER.**

CAN OR CARGO LOTS.

1 1/2 inch and thicker clear picks, Am. ins.	\$30 00	32 00
1 1/2 inch and thicker, three uppers, Am ins.		37 00
1 1/2 inch and thicker, pickings, Am ins.		27 00
1 x 10 and 12 dressing and better.	18 00	20 00
1 x 10 and 12 mill run.	13 00	14 00
1 x 10 and 12 dressing.	14 00	16 00
1 x 10 and 12 common.	12 00	13 00
1 x 10 and 12 spruce culls.	10 00	11 00
1 x 10 and 12 maple culls.		9 00
1 inch clear and picks.	28 00	30 00
1 inch dressing and better.	18 00	20 00
1 inch siding, mill run.	14 00	16 00
1 inch siding, common.	11 00	12 00
1 inch siding, ship culls.	\$10 00	\$11 00
1 inch siding, mill culls.	8 00	9 00
Cull scantling.	8 00	9 00
1 1/2 inch and thicker cutting up plank	22 00	25 00
1 inch strips, 4 in. to 8 in. mill run.	14 00	15 00
1 inch strips, common.	11 00	12 00
1 1/2 inch flooring.	14 00	15 00
1 1/2 inch flooring.	14 00	16 00
XXX shingles, sawn.	2 30	2 35
XX shingles, sawn.	1 30	1 35

Metallic Roofing Co. of Canada:

Eastlake steel shingles (galvanized),	\$2 25 to \$5 75
Eastlake steel shingles (painted),	3 75 4 00
Improved Broad Rib Roofing, (galvanized),	5 00 5 75
Improved Broad Rib Roofing (painted),	3 50 4 00
North Western steel siding (painted),	3 25 3 50
Manitoba steel siding (painted),	3 25 3 50
Metallic Finished Brck.	3 25 3 50
Tower or Mansard shingles, (galvanized),	6 25
Tower or Mansard shingles (painted),	4 50
Metallic Terra Cotta Tiles	7 00
Price of Copper shingles according to weight, and "Hayes" Patent Metallic Lathing according to quantity.	

Canada Galvanizing & Steel Roofing Co.:

Corrugated Iron, galvanized, 26 W.G., per lb.	5 ct.
Corrugated Iron, galvanized, 28 W.G., per square.	4 00
Corrugated Iron, painted, 26 W.G., per square.	3 50
Corrugated Iron, painted, 28 W.G., per square.	5 50
Broad Rib Roofing, galvanized, per square.	4 00
Broad Rib Roofing, painted.	5 00
Westlake shingles, steel, galvanized, per square.	5 00
Westlake shingles, steel, painted.	3 50
Standard shingles, "Walter's patent," galvanized, per square.	5 50
Standard shingles, "Walter's patent," painted.	4 00
Northwestern steel siding, patented, per square.	3 50
Metallic Finish Brck. per square.	3 25
Metallic Finish Clapboard, per square.	3 10

**YARD QUOTATIONS.**

Mill cull boards and scantling.	10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths.	11 00
Shipping cull boards, stocks.	18 00
Hemlock cantling and joist up to 16 ft.	11 00 18 00 13 00
" " " " 18 " "	14 00
" " " " 20 " "	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	15 00
" " " " 18 ft.	17 00
" " " " 20 ft.	19 00
" " " " 22 ft.	21 00
" " " " 24 ft.	23 00
" " " " 26 ft.	25 00
" " " " 28 ft.	27 00
" " " " 30 ft.	29 00
" " " " 32 ft.	31 00
" " " " 34 ft.	33 00
" " " " 36 ft.	35 00
" " " " 38 ft.	37 00
" " " " 40 to 44 ft.	39 00
Cutting up planks, 1/4 and thicker, dry board.	25 00 26 00 28 00
Cedar for block paving, per cord.	5 00
Cedar for Kerbing, 4 x 14, per M.	14 00

**B. M.**

1 1/2 inch flooring, dressed, F. M.	28 00	31 00
1 1/2 inch flooring rough, B. M.	18 00	22 00
1 1/2 " " " " dressed, F. M.	25 00	28 00
1 1/2 " " " " undressed, B. M.	18 00	19 00
" " " " " " dressed	18 00	22 00
" " " " " " undressed	12 00	15 00
Beaded sheeting, dressed	22 00	35 00
Clapboarding, dressed		12 00
XXX sawn shingles, per M, 16 in.	2 65	2 75
Sawn lath.	2 00	2 10
Red oak.	30 00	40 00
White.	35 00	45 00
Basswood, No. 1 and 2.	18 00	20 00
Cherry, No. 1 and 2.	70 00	70 00
White ash, No. 1 and 2.	25 00	25 00
Black ash, No. 1 and 2.	30 00	30 00
Dressing stocks.	16 00	27 00
Picks, American inspection.		40 00
Three uppers, American inspection.		50 00

**BRICK—M**

Common Walling.	\$7 50
Good Facing.	9 00
Sewer.	8 50 9 00

**Pressed Brick**

Plain brick, f. o. b. at Milton, per M.	\$18 00
" " " and quality, per M.	14 00
" " " 3rd	10 00
Hard Building.	8 00
Moulded and Ornamental, per 100.	\$3 to 10 00
Roof Tiles.	24 00
Diamond locking tile.	16 00
First quality, f. o. b. at Campbellville, per M.	18 00
and " " " "	14 00
3rd " " " "	11 00
Ornamental, per 100.	\$3 to 10 00
Tiles.	24 00

**Stone.**

Common Rubble, Per Tonne, delivered.	14 00
Large flat " "	18 00
Foundation Blocks, " Cubic Foot.	50

**Slate: Roofing (per square).**

" red.	18 00
" purple.	9 00
" untanned green.	9 50
" black slate.	7 75
Terra Cotta Tile, per sq.	25 00
Ornamental Black Slate Roofing.	8 25

**Sand:**

Per Load of 1 1/2 Cubic Yards.	1 25
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**PAINTS. (In oil, per lb.)**

White lead, Can.	6 25	6 50
" zinc, Can.	6 50	7 50
Red lead, Eng.	5 75	6 75
" venetian.	1 60	1 75
" vermilion.	90	1 00
" Indian, Eng.	10	12
Yellow ochre.	5	10
Yellow chrome.	15	20
Green, chrome.	7	12
" Paris.	25	40
Black, lamp.	25	25
Blue, ultramarine.	15	20
Oil, linseed, raw (per Imp. gallon).	65	68
" " " boiled.	68	71
" " " refined.	78	85
Putty.	2 1/2	3 1/2
Whiting, dry.	75	1 00
Paris white Eng., dry.	90	1 25
Litharge, Am.	6 1/2	8
Siena, burnt.	15	20
Umber.	8 1/2	12

**CEMENT, LIME, etc.**

Lime, Per Barrel of 2 bushels, Grey.	40
" " " " White.	55
Plaster, Calcined, Nova Brunswick.	2 00
" " " " Nova Scotia.	2 00
Hair, Plasterers', per bag.	1 00
Cement, Portland, per barrel.	3 00 3 50
" Thorold.	1 50
" Queenston.	1 50
" Napanee.	1 50
" Hull.	1 50

**HARDWARE.**

**Cut Nails:**

American Pattern, 1 1/4 inch, per keg.	3 90
" " " 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch, per keg.	3 10
Canadian Pattern, 1 1/4 inch, per keg.	3 40
" " " 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch, per keg.	3 95
" " " 2 to 2 1/2 inch, " "	2 90
" " " 2 1/2 to 3 1/4 inch, " "	1 65
" " " 3 inch and larger.	2 40
Steel nails 10c. per keg extra.	
Finishing nails, 1 inch, per keg.	5 40
" " " 1 1/2 inch, " "	4 65
" " " 2 inch, " "	4 75
" " " 2 1/2 inch, " "	3 90
" " " 3 inch and larger.	3 90