

\$912: roofing and slating, Allen & McKenzie, \$928.

**FERNIE, B.C.**—Harry Oldland of this city has obtained the contract for the construction of the new septic tank at \$5,510. Other bidders: Campbell & Gray, Fernie, B.C., \$6,375; M. Kerr & Co., Fernie, B.C., \$6,960; Hugh MacDonald, Victoria, B.C., \$8,950; Wrigglesworth & Todd, Fernie, B.C., \$9,030.

**LONDON, ONT.**—The contract for bricking in the new boilers at Spring Bank has been awarded to J. Garrett at \$405. Other bidders were: Sing & Beer, \$450 H. Hammett, \$479, and H. Hayman, \$483. Two tenders were received for the dredging of the river below the dam: L. A. Boss, \$2,000; D. Oliver, \$2,100. The work was given to Contractor Boss.

#### FIRES.

Dunn's mill and wharf at Grand Bay, N. B., loss \$25,000.—Buildings of Prince Albert Co. and Union Trading Co., Prince Albert, Sask., total loss \$10,000.—Farm buildings of William Hooper, Chelsea, Que., loss, including stock, \$15,000.—Waldorf hotel, Winnipeg Beach, Man., estimated loss \$10,000.—Hotel building of William Sutherland, Elskino House, Stoney Creek, Ont., loss \$3,000.—Bakery of C. Docile, Ladysmith, B.C., loss \$1,200.

#### CORROSION OF STEEL RAILS.

There seems little possibility at first sight of this being an important consideration, because of the wear and tear imposed on rails by the constant traffic; but in tunnels, and sometimes in the open, gases so affect the steel in rails as to make the question of protection a matter of much urgency. In the case of tunnels, protection has been afforded by brushing the rails with a thick lime-wash periodically, this preparation being found to neutralize the sulphuric acid gas with which tunnels are saturated after a number of years. With regard to the question of metallic sleepers, they are generally coated with Angus Smith's solution. When prepared in this way they answer very well except in salt soil. Mr. Elliott Cooper, at the discussion above referred to, said he once visited one of the colonies in order to report on the state of the railways, and found a very serious condition of affairs. On one side of the island the rails and the steel structure generally, painted in the ordinary way—the steel rails, of course, not coated at all—were wonderfully preserved. But on the other side of the island, 30 or 40 miles away, the corrosion was remarkable. The webs and flanges of the rails had deteriorated very seriously, and the loss of weight

from corrosion was much more than from wear. All rails for this particular place are now coated with a black varnish.—Engineering Times, London.

#### NEW CONCRETE SEWER.

A new style reinforced concrete sewer is expected to be on the market in a short time. It is proposed to construct pipe of 24-inch diameter and up by this method, the sections having a length of four feet and being reinforced by hoops of T-iron and longitudinal rods of one and one-quarter inch and three-sixteenths inch twisted steel bars, the latter being so placed in the cement shell that the ends in each section come opposite the lap over those of adjacent ones to which they are fastened by keys driven through slots, thereby making the longitudinals practically continuous.

The joints are so constructed that the lower half, which is not readily accessible from the outside, is filled with cement from the inside, and the upper half is cemented from the outside, thus permitting the making of a perfect joint.

The maker claims that this pipe can be used for water transportation as well as for sewers, and that a water pressure of 40 pounds has been applied to a pipe 36 inches in diameter to demonstrate this fact. The pipe is made on wooden forms so treated as to prevent any concrete sticking to them.

Wm. D. Clark, contractor, of Chesley, Ont., has assigned to Wm. H. Slee.

Lachevitier & Robert, engineers, Montreal; Dussault & Co., contractors, Levis, Que., and Kelly Bros. & Co., contractors, of Winnipeg, have dissolved.

#### NOTES.

Building permits were issued in Montreal during the month of August to the amount of \$507,555.

Thos. C. Lidstone, contractor, of Montreal has assigned; creditors meet October 7. Caisse & Lapointe, contractors, same city have dissolved. J. Grant & Co., builders, Montreal, have registered; Dussault, Etienne & Co. contractors, of Levis, Que.; have registered; also the White River Lumber Co. of St. Casimir, Que.; also Gincherear & Lamonde, contractors, and Jobidon & Guavel, contractors, both of the city of Quebec. Joseph Garneau & Co., builders &c., of North Ham, Que., have dissolved.

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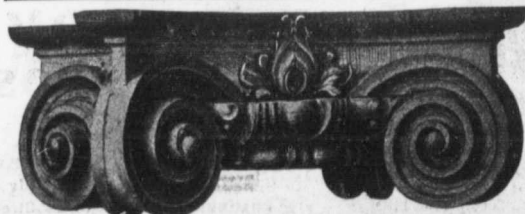
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