

CONTRACTS OPEN.

HALIFAX, N. S.—The Board of Health has decided to erect a garbage crematory.

ENDERBY, ONT.—The Episcopalians are making arrangements for erecting a new church.

VICTORIA, B. C.—A prominent citizen has offered to donate five acres as a site for the proposed House of Refuge.

AMHERSTBURG, ONT.—The Council want tenders immediately for the construction of a water works system.

W. TORONTO JUNCTION.—The Council will seek power from the Legislature to borrow \$75,000 to complete the subway, and other works.

WINDSOR, ONT.—The congregation of St. John's Church, Belle River, will erect a new building.—The charters of the Windsor and Sandwich Street Railway have been sold to Detroit capitalists, whose intention is said to be to extend the line, and substitute electricity for horses.

ALLANDALE, ONT.—Mr. L. G. Sargeant, General Manager G.T.R., Montreal, invites tenders until the 28th inst., for masonry in connection with the renewal of bridges and culverts on the northern and northwestern division of the G.T.R. Plans and specifications to be seen at the office of Mr. Holgate, engineer, at this place.

BRANTFORD, ONT.—The Council has instructed the City Clerk to notify the Minister of Militia that the present site of the dilapidated drill shed is required by the city for park purposes, consequently they desire the old building removed within three months, and the proposed new drill shed be erected with reasonable despatch.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.—The Dominion Government is said to have granted permission for the construction of a bridge across the North Arm of the Fraser river at Lulu Island. This important work will now be pushed forward with all possible vigor.—Application is being made by the Ckanagan Land and Development Company to the Provincial Legislature for permission to divert all the available water near the town site of Vernon and to erect water works, etc.

KINGSTON, ONT.—The Congregationalists whose church was destroyed by fire a week ago, will make arrangements to rebuild.—Subscriptions are coming in rapidly for the proposed Y.M.C.A. building, the construction of which will probably be commenced in the spring.—It is believed the construction of the Kingston and Ottawa Railway will be commenced shortly.—The University authorities will erect buildings for the accommodation of female medical students.

GUELPH, ONT.—Tenders addressed to the City Clerk will be received up to Friday, 27 inst., for the following materials: 60,000 feet or more of 2-inch pine plank—8, 10 and 12 inches wide, 12 feet long; 20,000 feet or more of 3 x 4 and 4 x 4 cedar scantling; 8,000 feet or more of 3-inch tamarac plank—12, 14 or 16 feet long; 12 cords or more of cedar blocks; nails per 100 lbs. The Board of Education has appointed a deputation to visit Toronto and obtain information to be utilized in the erection of a new school in St. George's ward.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Mr. John James Brown, architect, of Montreal, has prepared plans for two stores on Sparks street, with offices on 1st and 2nd floors, for Messrs. Seghold & Gilson, to be completed by 1st of May next; also store on Sparks street with large plate glass windows, having also a frontage on Queen street, for Dr. O'Connor.—The Government's approval has been given to the recommendation of the Chief Engineer of Canals that a new canal be constructed on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, extending from the Cascades to McDonald's Point. Parliament will be asked to make an appropriation for commencing the work.

SEAFORTH, ONT.—The Council has appointed a special committee, composed of the Mayor, Reeve, Deputy-Reeve, and Councillors John A. Wilson, Geo. Good and Jas. Gillespie, to ascertain, 1st. The probable cost of having tiles placed in all the existing open drains and having them

properly covered in; also the cost of constructing a sufficient number of tile drains to secure the thorough drainage of the town. 2nd. The probable cost of stone paving Main street, from Goderich street to the railway station. 3rd. The probable cost of erecting a town building on Main street, with a hose tower, said building to be sufficiently large to provide a suitable place on the first floor for a fireman's Hall and store room, and on the second flat a division court and council room and clerk's office. 4th. The probable cost of replacing the present water mains with 10-inch pipe and extending the water-pipes so that all parts of the town can have the protection and benefit of the water works. 5th. The probable cost of procuring a new steam pump for the water works.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Mr. Larin, of this city, has purchased a site at St. Lambert, on which he proposes to erect in the spring a hotel capable of accommodating 100 guests.—The Council of St. Henri will ask the approval of the ratepayers to a by-law authorizing a loan of \$100,000 for public improvements.—Mr. J. A. P. Bulman, architect, is preparing plans for a new church on the corner of St. Catharines and St. Constant Streets, for the congregation of St. John's church (French Presbyterian). Plans ready next week.—Tenders will be received by the City Engineer until March 11th, for the supply and delivery of 800,000 feet, board measure, of 3 inch yellow pine deals (fourth quality); also for 50,000 lineal feet tamarac floats, 100,000 feet, board measure, of 3 inch plank and 10,000 lineal feet of tamarac floats to be delivered before the first of May, 1891, the balance as ordered.—The Water Department is asking the Council for an appropriation of \$60,000, in order to place mains in Sherbrooke street west, and in the continuation of Atwater avenue.—The St. Jean Baptiste Society has signed the promise of sale made to it by the Wurtele estate of the property facing the market on St. Lawrence street and measuring 18,000 feet. The purchase price is \$44,000, and the national monument will be commenced on this site early in the spring.

TORONTO, ONT.—A Committee of the Board of Management of the House of Industry recommend the expenditure of \$15,000 to put a new roof on the present buildings and erect a couple of new wings.—The congregation of Trinity Methodist Church have resolved to proceed at once with the erection of an additional building for Sunday School and lecture room purposes. The estimated cost is from \$18,000 to \$20,000.—The Weston, High Park and Toronto Street Railway Company, state that they are prepared to commence the construction of an electric street railway, immediately right of way is granted by the city.—The School Management Committee of the Public School Board recommends: That additional school accommodation be provided in order to relieve the following schools: Parkdale, Gladstone avenue and Rose avenue, that a small school be erected near the eastern limit of St. Lawrence Ward; that a school be erected in St. Matthew's Ward, north and east of Bolton avenue school, that additional accommodation be provided to relieve Lansdowne and Palmerston avenue schools; that proper accommodation be provided for the pupils attending Howard street school.—The City Council has approved of the erection of bridges crossing the railway tracks at Dundas St.—The City Engineer has been asked to prepare conditions and specifications upon which tenders will be invited for the reclamation of Asht ridge's bay.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

BRUSSELS, ONT.—Contracts for the new American hotel have been let as follows. D. Lowery, Brussels, stone and brick work, \$3,000; George Hughes, Mount Forest, carpenter work, roofing, painting and plumbing, \$3,000.

Messrs. Leitch & Turbull, of Hamilton, have recently been awarded the following contracts. Electric elevator for G. E. Prior, Victoria, B.C.; hydraulic passenger elevator for the Geo. J. Schie-

Co., Belleville; two hydraulic freight elevators for John Proctor, Hamilton; one belt power elevator for each of the following: McKinnon, Dash and Hardware Co., St. Catharines; Allen Mfg. Co., Toronto; W. A. Freeman, Hamilton; A. Harris & Co., Brantford.

BIDS.

SPRINGHILL, N. S.—The following tenders have been received by the Council for the construction of water works: Wm. Sutherland, Pictou, \$58,220; Wm. Sutherland, Pictou, \$18,000; Wm. Sutherland, Pictou, \$50,556; Jas. Brown & Co., Amherst, \$64,000; Thomas Campbell, St. John, \$59,240; Pickett & Yorston, New Glasgow, \$70,119; Forbes & Fitzsimmons, Moncton, \$68,800; J. D. Ronald, Brussels, Ont., \$65,000; P. A. McGinley, Springhill, \$45,000; Jas. K. McDonald & Co., \$52,550; W. E. Gilmore, \$47,000; W. E. Gilmore, gravitation scheme, \$65,000. The Council has deferred action until the 16th inst.

FROST-RESISTING POWER OF STONES.

Experiments on the frost-resisting power of natural and artificial building stones have been made by Mr. Bauschinger, as stated in the *Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry*, with twenty-one different kinds of natural building stones, three to six pieces of each being used. The tensile strength, dry and wet, their capacity for absorbing water, their alteration in volume, tensile strength and behavior toward water after freezing and thawing twenty-five times, and their specific gravity were determined. Out of this number of samples, ranging from limestone to sandstone, only six were found to resist repeated freezing—viz, one of dolomite, one of diorite and four sandstones. Four other samples were found to resist freezing fairly, but not absolutely; but of forty-one samples of artificial stone similarly tested, only three were found thoroughly unaffected, while eight proved fairly resistant.

In a recent issue of the *London Times*, reference is made to a new ventilating system worked out by Mr. D. G. Hoey. The main features of the system are stated to be the admission of fresh air without draughts, and the carrying away of the vitiated air with certainty. At Messrs. Barclay's bank in Lombard Street the inlet ventilation is effected by means of fresh-air reservoirs, in which are enclosed the ranges of hot-water pipes all round the walls, and the hot-water coils in the centre of the bank. By this means a constant and regular supply of fresh, warmed air is brought into the bank. The vitiated air passes away through an opening in the wall at the ceiling level, a wire gauze moveable screen or shutter being used to regulate the outflow of the air. From this opening the air passes up a vertical shaft having a sectional area of 20 square feet and rising to an altitude of 90 feet above ground-level. It is surmounted by a large revolving cowl, and is fitted internally with vertical division plates of iron, which can be heated by Bunsen burners, if necessary, to promote the up-draught. The velocity of exit of impure air up the shaft is under immediate control by simple means, and it is claimed that it causes the unintermittent and automatic renewal of the entire atmosphere of the bank twice every hour. This can be increased or diminished at will to any desired extent, the whole atmosphere being renewed, it is said, without draught or felt current.

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