

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

CARLETON PLACE, ONT.—Mr. Munro, of Pembroke, has secured the contract for erecting the new C. P. R. shops here. The building will be 300 x 60 feet.

GODERICH, ONT.—Luke Madigan, of Mount Forest, has received the contract from the Dominion Government for the construction of harbor works at this place.

GUELPH, ONT.—Contracts for a brick residence for William Hall have been let as follows: Carpentering, D. Young; plastering, H. Henry; other trades, S. Rundle.

L'ASSOMPTION, QUE.—Mr. Edmond Piche, of this place, has been awarded the contract for the presbytery to be built here. J. Alcide Chausse, of Montreal, is the architect.

TORONTO, ONT.—Winslow Bros., of Chicago, have been awarded the contract for the iron staircase work required in the Temple building on Bay street. Geo. W. Gouinlock, architect.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—Foundations are now being laid for a large brick and freestone dwelling-house and offices for Dr. Neagle, cor. Carleton and Wellington roads, from plans by C. L. McKean, architect; cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

BROCKVILLE, ONT.—The corporation have awarded the contract for 500 feet of "Baker Fabric" hose to the Gutta Percha & Rubber Mfg. Co., of Toronto. This brings the fire department up to the standard required and keeps them in class "A."

OTTAWA, ONT.—The Dominion government has given a contract for 1,000 tons of steel rails to the Maryland Steel Rail Company. It is provided by the contract that 700 tons are to be delivered at Halifax, and 300 tons at Summerside, P. E. I.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—S. Frank Peters, architect, has let the contract to Kelly Bros. for the erection of a building for Joseph Maw & Co., to be 50 x 100 feet, three stories, solid stone and brick, with plate glass front and large plate glass corner window; office to be finished throughout with British Columbia cedar; estimated cost \$15,000.

KINGSTON, ONT.—The tender of the Canadian Locomotive & Engine Co. has been accepted for the construction of two steel barges for the Montreal Transportation Company.—The tender of W. A. Mitchell has been accepted by the Board of Works for the following supplies: five-inch cut nails, \$2.15 per 100 pounds; blasting powder, \$2.25 per 25 pounds; fuse coils per 100 feet, 45 cents; shovels, per dozen, \$6.50; steel pointed picks, each weighing five pounds, 40 cents; sledge hammers, 90 cents a pound; pick axe and sledge handles, 90 cents a dozen; three, four, five and six inch nails, 2½ cents per pound; Portland cement, \$2.20 per barrel; machine oil, 15 cents a gallon. The Rathbun Company were awarded the contract for lumber, at the following prices, 1½, 2 and 3 inch, \$13.70 per M.; 2 inch cedar sleepers, per lineal foot, \$1.75.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Two additional stories and other repairs will be made to the Stanley Hotel, Windsor street; J. Alcide Chausse, architect. The contract has been awarded to Myre & Lalonde, of St. Henri.—A. C. Hutchison, architect, has let contracts as follows for modifications of a house for the Bell Telephone Company: Carpenter and joiner's work, R. Sharpe; roofing, Geo. W. Reid & Co.; plumbing, Garth & Co.; bricklaying, Amos Cowen; painting and glazing, R. Sharpe; ironwork, Dominion Bridge Co.—W. McLea Walbank has awarded the following contracts for modifications and reparations of a 3-story house on Seigneurs street for Andre Moore: Masonry and carpenter and joiner's work, Beckham & Scott; plumbing and heating, P. O'Connell; bricklaying, plastering, painting and

glazing, Beckham & Scott.—W. C. Doran, architect, has accepted the tender of J. B. Precourt for reparations of a house and one store on St. Lawrence street for Messrs. S. Cuddy & Co. Same architect has let contracts for two stores, corner Sherbrooke and Victoria streets, for Thos. Lamb, as follows: Masonry, Ouimet & Labelle; carpenter and joiner's work, J. O. Leary; roofing, Montreal-Roofing Co.; plumbing and heating, James Ballantyne; plastering, Jeremie Lefebvre; painting and glazing, Geo. E. Blackwell; electric apparatus, J. E. Scott.

BIDS.

LONDON, ONT.—The accepted tenders for the new Baptist church in South London will probably be known before the end of the week.

QUEBEC, Que.—Tenders were received as follows by the city council for the construction of a bridge over the River St. Charles: Dominion Bridge Company, as per city engineer's plan, \$5,892, and for their own plans, \$4,443; A. Rosseau & Company, as per city engineer's plan, \$8,879, or \$13,190 for the whole work. No award has yet been made.

A RECORD ESTABLISHED.

The Champ de Mars on Saturday morning was the scene of a very interesting exhibit, the object of which was to illustrate the "fire proof" and other remarkable qualities of the new wall plaster, known as "Asbestic." Quite a large number of influential and representative people were present, among whom were most of the important architects and insurance underwriters, besides many gentlemen in high standing connected with other businesses and professions.

A small frame building was erected, plastered inside with this material, and raised about a foot from the ground to allow of a strong draught. This was then more than half filled with dry kindling wood, shavings, saturated with coal oil, etc., sufficient to make a fierce blaze, and ignited. The fire inside was kept supplied with similar combustible

materials for nearly three-quarters of an hour, and was then extinguished by the means of an ordinary fire hose, in the hands of Captain Dolan, of St. Gabriel street station. When the interior was cool enough to examine it was found that the plaster, although a little discolored, was otherwise uninjured, and the building itself showed absolutely no signs of any contact with the flames, not being even singed. A more thorough test it is hard to conceive of, and there is no doubt that, wherever this material is used, a fire will be confined for a long time, if not entirely, to the apartment in which it takes place.

A similar test was made in Washington, under the supervision of the principal officials of the supervising architect's office, amongst whom were Mr. Raymond, in charge of the testing and experimental work, Mr. Adams, chief of the heating and ventilating department; Chief Engineer Watts, General Steinmetz, and Mr. H. G. Balkham, inspector and surveyor of risks for the Association of Fire Underwriters.

Similar tests have been arranged for in Ottawa, and in both London and Birmingham, England, whilst the principal architects in the United States and Montreal are proving their appreciation by specifying it. For example, in Montreal, such buildings as the Young Women's Christian Association, on Dorchester street; the McDonald & McIntyre building, on Victoria Square; the Royal Victoria College, Verdun Insane Asylum, and many smaller structures have been, or are in process of being, plastered with "Asbestic."—From Montreal Star, Jan. 25th, 1897.

Since the publication of the above article in the Star, the Authorities at Ottawa have decided on and contracted for "Asbestic" Wall Plaster to be used in the reconstruction of the Parliament Buildings, as the best material of its kind attainable, 100 tons having been shipped for that purpose to Ottawa last week.

At a meeting of the creditors of The Young & Bro. Company, of Hamilton, it was decided to wind up the business. The assets were stated to be \$17,650 and the liabilities \$63,594.

THE Authorities at Ottawa have been investigating the merits of the new Wall Plaster, known as

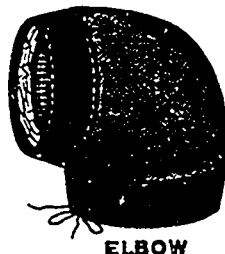
"ASBESTIC"

which is nearly the pure product of Asbestos, and possesses all the remarkable qualities of that mineral, being Absolutely Fire-Proof, and as a Plaster, Cohesive and Elastic, besides allowing a Perfect Surface Finish. The result of such examination and investigation, from actual work done in Ottawa, and the opinions of eminent Architects, is to prove that it is all that it is claimed to be. A large order has been given for this material, which is to be used in the reconstruction of the Parliament Buildings, lately destroyed by fire.

The Authorities have shown great wisdom in their choice, as the cost over ordinary plaster is very trifling, and the advantages so manifest to every Architect who has given this remarkable production careful attention, that it cannot fail to commend itself as a positive assurance of safety against fire risk, entailing the minimum of cost for such an object.

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