

would be granted, and arrangements will now be made to commence operations.

**HAMILTON, ONT.**—W. A. Edwards, architect, is receiving tenders this week for the erection of a brick residence. Thomas Fuller, chief architect of the Public Works Department, Ottawa, recently examined the custom house and post office in this city with a view to making repairs—Messrs Briggs & Lewis, of Toronto, have made application to the Ontario Government for an act to incorporate the Hamilton and Lake Erie Power Company, for the purpose of constructing a canal from some point on Lake Erie near Drummondville, to this city. The canal will be 100 feet wide and 8 feet deep, and the total cost of the scheme is placed at three million dollars. A survey of the proposed route has been made. E. A. C. Pew is one of the projectors.—Messrs Alex. Henderson and F. J. Rastrick have completed the plans of a scheme for the improvement of the water front from the foot of Strachan street to Wentworth street, embodying an esplanade, wharves, a roadway, with space for railway tracks, together with considerable filling in. The plan is thought to be quite feasible, but is considered too expensive to be undertaken by the city at present.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—Hon. J. A. Ouimet, Minister of Public Works for the Dominion, has recommended to the Cabinet that steps be taken to provide better harbor facilities for Montreal. At a meeting of the City Council held on Friday last, the reports of the Finance and Road Committees for paving, grading and macadamizing were adopted, and the following work will be carried out: permanent sidewalks on St. Denis street from Mount Royal avenue to Carrière street, cost \$7,027.20; between Rachael street and Mount Royal avenue, cost \$13,999.48; grading and macadamizing of Bourgeois street, from Leber street to Favard street, \$3,000; grading and macadamizing of Lafontaine street, from Delormier avenue to Papineau avenue, \$3,000; the completion of Logan's park boulevard on Sherbrooke street and Papineau avenue, \$15,000; grading and macadamizing Prince Arthur street, from Park avenue to University street, \$5,500; grading and macadamizing of Sanguinet street, from Ontario to Sherbrooke street, \$900; grading and macadamizing Bourgeois street, from Wellington street to the G. T. R. track, \$2,000; grading and macadamizing Darling, Davidson and Cuvillier streets, \$5,600; grading and macadamizing Poupart street, from St. Catherine street to St. Roch street, \$1,550; grading and macadamizing Berri street, from Mount Royal avenue southwards, \$5,500; grading and macadamizing Chambord street, from Mount Royal avenue, and construction of a wooden sidewalk on Rachel street, from Chambord street to Lasalle street, \$7,900; pavement on Berri street, from Craig street to the subway, cost \$8,000.—Bishop Bond, Messrs. J. B. Forsyth, of Quebec; A. F. Gault and F. W. Thomas, of Montreal, the trustees and executors of the late Mr. Henry Ogden Andrews, Q. C., will make application at the next session of the provincial Legislature for an act incorporating them and others for the purpose of erecting in this city a charitable institution to be known as the Andrews home. It will be used as an asylum or home for immigrants, strangers and other persons belonging to the Church of England. W. E. Doran, architect, is preparing plans for additions to a residence at Longue Pointe, Que., for W. H. Houghton. J. B. Resther & Son, architects, are preparing plans for a wooden cottage at Sault-au-Récollet, for Mrs. J. C. Robert, for a cottage at Boucherville for M. Germain and for cottage at Ste. Agathe for L. J. Lajoie.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—The Property Committee of the Public School Board has recommended that the sum of \$1,753 be expended on improvements to Fern avenue school.—The scheme for the erection of a mammoth hotel in Toronto is assuming tangible form, and indications

point to the fact that the undertaking will be carried out at an early date. Efforts are being made to form a joint stock company, with some of the leading business men of the city as provisional directors, Mr. David Walker, the well-known hotel keeper, being the prime mover. Associated with him are Mr. McKenzie, Sir Frank Smith and Sir John Carling. The site proposed is the north-west corner of Front and York streets. Plans for a building to cost upwards of \$1,000,000 have been prepared by Messrs. Strickland & Symons, architects, which provide for a structure of seven storeys. The material to be used will be Berea stone for the first two storeys, and buff pressed brick and terra cotta, with stone facings, for the remainder. It is proposed to make it absolutely fireproof, the partitions to have steel girders with terra cotta brick, plastered.—A petition has been presented to the City Clerk, signed by a majority of the ratepayers on McCaul street, asking that the whole street be paved with asphalt.—Messrs. Darling, Sproatt & Pearson, architects, are inviting tenders until 4 p.m. on the 5th inst. for the erection of a residence on Elmsley place. Plans may be seen at their office in the Mail building.—Tenders are invited by Mr. John Hallam, Chairman Parks and Gardens Committee, until noon on Thursday, the 8th inst., for dredging and filling and for bridge foundations at Island Park. Plans may be seen at the office of the Park Commissioner, St. Lawrence Hall.

#### FIRES.

Fire at Gananoque, Ont., on the 29th ultimo destroyed the following buildings: D. J. Lloyd's livery stable, loss \$2,500; J. W. Bennett & Son's building, loss \$10,000; E. Stunden's building, loss \$7,000; Turner and Gibson tannery, loss, \$1,500.—Martin, Mitchell & Co.'s grain elevator at Portage la Prairie, Man., was destroyed by fire recently. The loss is estimated at \$20,000 to \$25,000, which is mostly covered by insurance.—A house on Little Champlain street, Quebec, owned by Mr. Beauchamp, has been burned. Loss, \$1,500.—B. H. Rammage's evaporating factory at Waterford, Ont., was consumed by fire on Monday last. Loss, \$1,200; no insurance.—The planing and wood-working shops of Garson, Purser & Co., contractors for the new asylum buildings at Brockville, Ont., together with valuable machinery, were destroyed by fire a few days ago. Loss, \$7,000; insurance \$2,000.—A four-storey building on Foundling street, Montreal, owned by the Grey Nuns, was damaged by fire last week to the extent of \$3,000.—The Ottawa dairy buildings, situated about four miles north of the city of Winnipeg, were burned to the ground on the 27th ultimo. The loss is \$12,000.—The residence of C. Douglas, at Comber, Ont., has been destroyed by fire.—Knight & Lowe's saw mill at Fourth Chute, Ont., about six miles north of Eganville, was burned on the 30th of October. New machinery had lately been placed in the mill. Loss \$11,000; insurance \$4,000.—Hugh Ryan & Co.'s power house at Sault Ste Marie, Ont., has been destroyed by fire. Loss \$25,000.—Withrow & Hillock's planing mill, George and Queen streets, Toronto, was damaged by fire on Monday to the extent of \$7,000.—A large planing mill at Shubenacadia, N. S., owned by John Layton and valued at \$25,000 was destroyed by fire last week.

#### CONTRACTS AWARDED.

**HAMILTON, ONT.**—The contract for a sewer on John street north has been awarded to E. C. Murton, at 68 cents per foot.

**LOUISBURG, C. B.**—Ronald Gillies has been awarded the contract for constructing the Dominion Coal Company's pier here. Contract price, about \$70,000.

**LONDON, ONT.**—The contract for electric and gas fixtures for the Huron and Erie Bank has been awarded to Rogers & Doss, electrical contractors, of this city.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—John Phillips Bros., of Bellevue avenue, are the successful tenderers for alterations to St. Lawrence market, at the following figures: east wing, \$910, west wing, \$2009, contingencies \$150, total, \$3069. Five tenders were sent in, the next lowest figure being \$3238, and the highest \$4,843.

**OTTAWA, ONT.**—The contract for the new post-office to be erected at Victoria, B. C., has been let by the Public Works department to Fred. Toms, of this city, the lowest tenderer. The cost of the building will be in the neighborhood of \$200,000.—T. C. Gordon, of this city, representing the Cockerill iron syndicate of Belgium, has been notified that his company have secured the contract from the Department of Railways and Canals for supplying 4,300 tons of steel rails. The price is about \$20 per ton.

**ST. CATHARINES, ONT.**—The Battle Estate, of Thorold, and Newman Bros., of St. Catharines, have been notified by the Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, that their tenders for the following government works have been accepted: namely, the construction of a culvert at the junction on the Welland canal, near Welland, Ont., cost about \$3,000, and the construction in concrete of the pier at Port Dalhousie, Ont., cost about \$30,000. Both works will not be commenced until next spring. The culvert to be completed by June 15, 1895, and the pier work by June 15, 1896.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—W. E. Doran, architect, has awarded the contract for the painting and decorating of St. Patrick's church to Arnold & Lock, of Brooklyn, N. Y.—Roy & Gauthier, architects, have awarded the contract en bloc for the erection of an orphan asylum at Sorel, Que., to W. Boivin.—W. McLean Walbank, architect, has awarded contracts as follows, for the foundation of a coal oil reservoir for the Bushnell Oil Co.: Wighton & Morrison; for a residence on Sherbrooke street for S. Davis, carpenter and joiner's work, W. Swan; roofing, Geo. W. Reed; plumbing and heating, Jos. Thibault; plastering, Decary, Decary & Beaudoin; tuckpointing, R. G. Farr.

#### BUSINESS NOTES.

J. Benson, builder, Aylmer, Ont., has sold out.

T. R. Earl, builder, Toronto, is reported to have assigned.

L. Ponton, painter, Montreal, is in financial difficulties.

J. H. Warner & Co. have commenced business as plumbers at Victoria, B. C.

The Pennington & Baker Co., manufacturers of school and church seats, Dundas, Ont., have been succeeded by the Valley City Seating Co.

Paquet & Powers, contractors, Levis, Que., have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued under the same name by James Paquet.

A writ has been issued on behalf of J. J. Price, against James Patton, of Hamilton, to wind up the business of the Hamilton Stone Company, and for the appointment of a receiver.

#### USEFUL HINTS.

A French innovation in interior decoration is called "peinture expresse." The process is thus described: A paper covered with a smooth ground, apparently made of some sort of gum, is printed with designs, after the manner of wallpaper, but in oil colors instead of the ordinary color. To apply the decoration, the back of the paper is moistened, and the rolls are then glued back upward on the wall to be decorated, with strong glue. The back of the paper is well worked over with a rubber "squeegee," to press out the superfluous glue and insure adherence, and the whole left to itself to dry. After it is thoroughly dry, ordinary paste is spread over the paper, which, of course, has the back outward, and the work again left for an hour. At the end of this time

the paper will be softened, and nothing remains but to strip it off, beginning at one corner and pulling gradually, when the oil painted pattern will be firmly adhering to the wall or ceiling. The marks of glue can then be washed away from the decoration, and the whole varnished if desired.

In slating or shingling a roof, great care should be taken at the hips, ridges and valleys. Where the roof is shingled, two or three courses should be left off at the ridge until two sides are brought up, then the courses left off should be laid on together, and in such a manner as to have them "lap" over each other alternately. This can be easily done if the workman uses a little judgment in the matter; and a roof shingled in this manner will be perfectly rain-tight, without the ridge-boards or cresting. In valleys, the tin laid in should be sufficiently wide to run up the adjacent sides to prevent "back-flow" from running over it. Ample space should also be left in the gutter to permit the water to flow off freely.

### MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

#### CLAY CURBING.

For the manufacture of clay curb stone, gutters, drains, etc., there is employed in Germany a mixture which consists of 91½ parts of clay, 3 of iron filings, 2 of common salt, 1½ of potash and 2 of ash of elder or willow wood. Gutters, curbs, drains, etc., made of this mass are said to be very resistant and entirely impermeable. For coloring the mass the following directions are given: Two parts of pyrolusite added to 100 parts of the mass give a violet-brown color, while violet is obtained by the addition of 1 part of pyrolusite. With the addition of 1 part of copper scales the mass becomes green; of 1 part of oxide of cobalt, blue, and 2 parts of oxide of antimony, yellow.

An accident to a waste weir is described in a recent paper by Mr. F. A. Creighton on the Dartmouth, N. S., water and sewerage systems read before the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers. The waste weir of the dam was 12 feet wide and built of timber bedded in clay, with a rubble apron at the foot. During the past winter, as the frost worked down through the clay it was expanded and the timbers of the weir were pulled apart. As the frost worked down there was a space between the frozen ground on top and the unfrozen earth below. As soon as the frost had worked below the water line the water began to percolate through the seam and there was a fine opportunity for a small washout to take place. Fortunately the condition of the dam was soon detected and the leak stopped by temporary planking and earth filling.

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