

Company, artificial stone, 12½ cents per foot; P. L. Marden & Co., artificial stone, 17½ cents; Barber Asphalt Company, asphalt sidewalks, 14 cents.

TORONTO, ONT.—Mr. F. H. Herbert, architect, 9 Toronto st., has awarded contracts as follows for remodelling buildings on Jarvis st. for the Trust & Loan Company of Canada: Bricklaying, R. Chalkley; carpentry, Andrew Nelson; plastering, C. B. Simpson; painting, Faircloth & Co.; plumbing, Purdy, Mansell & Mashinter; galvanized iron, W. D. Hutson & Son; roofing, Geo. Duthie & Son. Same architect has also awarded contracts as follows for a new residence on Walmer road for John A. McKee: Bricklaying, Davidge & Lunn; carpentry, Geo. Rathbone; galvanized iron, A. B. Ormsby & Co.; roofers, R. Rennie & Son; plumbing and heating, Bennett & Wright; painting, H. W. Johnston; plastering, C. B. Simpson.

QUEBEC, QUE.—Building permits have been granted as follows. Restoration of building, corner Palace and Charlevoix streets, for B. Trudel, estimated cost \$5,000; reparation of a house on Ste. Marguerite street for Mde. Langtin—contractor, A. Laberge.—The contract for the steeple and alterations at Berthier church (Montmagny) has been awarded to Jos. Gosselin, contractor, of Levis. David Ouellet, architect.—Contracts have been awarded as follows for the restoration of St. Francois de Beauce convent: Carpentry, Jos. Gosselin, of Levis, masonry, Wm. Couture, Levis; plumbing, Charles Vezina, Quebec. Tanguay & Vallee, architects.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—The following tenders were received for the construction of the city engine house: Robert Maxwell and W. L. Prince, \$11,595; Geo. McArthur, \$11,200; B. Mooney & Sons, \$11,108; Jos. McArthur, \$11,256; John Flood, \$10,850; Isaiah W. Holder, \$12,000; Sproul & Corbett, \$10,675 (accepted); Chas. F. Tilley, \$11,200; John R. B. Wilson, \$10,000. For plumbing and heating apparatus the tenders were: J. H. Doady, \$1,650; F. E. McManus, \$1,850; Thos. Campbell, \$1,645 (accepted); G. & E. Blake, \$1,900; J. E. Fitzgerald, \$1,961; Doyle & Lambert (plumbing only), \$540.—The contract for C. T. Nevin's building has been let to John Duffy, at the price of \$4,500. H. H. Mott, architect.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The contract for the woodwork of the addition to the Longue Pointe asylum has been let to W. Baril, of this city.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Manufacturing, lined in brick, for J. H. Larochelle; contractor, P. Plamondon. Reparations to a house on Ferland street for J. Dery; contractor, P. A. Lamonde.—Contracts have been awarded as follows: A. Prefontaine, architect, one building, two tenements, four stories, on Sherbrooke street, for Elzear Cote—roofing, plumbing and heating, Pelletier & Brosseau; plastering, Jeremie Lefebvre; painting and glazing, M. Lefebvre. One cottage at Pointe aux Trembles, for Andre Brisset—plumbing, Blouin, Desforges & Latourelle; masonry, carpentry and joiner's work, Beaudry & Bros.; plastering not let. L. R. Montbriand, architect, one house on St. Catherine street, three stories, including two tenements and two stores, for Lord & Bros.—roofing, Pelletier & Brosseau; plumbing, M. Thibault; plastering, T. Leclair.

BIDS.

DARTMOUTH, N. S.—Tenders for electric lighting the town are now under consideration.

QUEBEC, QUE.—A tender has been received from F. Parent for paving St. Louis street, at \$3.24 a square yard, or a total of \$19,469.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Brosseau & Bernard, builders, Montreal, have dissolved partnership.

J. Towle & Co., roofers, Montreal, have assigned to Lamarche & Benoit

C. Schack & Co., manufacturers of show cases, Toronto, have assigned.

David Wright, contractor, Emerson, Man., has retired from business.

Jos. Bourcier & Rosanna Bourcier, plumbers, Montreal, have formed a partnership.

The Compagnie Canadienne de Construction is being incorporated at Montreal. Capital stock, \$100,000.

Sanderson, Percy & Co., manufacturers and dealers in paints and window glass, Toronto, are in financial difficulties. An offer of 60 cents on the dollar has been made to their creditors.

STEPS.

"These," says Kidder in his Building Construction, "should always be built of some hard stone, preferably granite, and should have a solid bearing." Outside steps generally rest on a wall at each end, and if more than 6 feet long should have a support in the center. Each step should rest on the back of the one below at least 1½ inches. Steps to outside entrances should pitch outward about ¼ inch. Steps are much more comfortable when cut with a nosing, but owing to the increased expense this is only done in costly buildings. Stone stairs may be built with only one end supported. In European buildings, and many of our government buildings, the stairs are made to lap over each other with a sort of an angle joint, which throws the weight of the stairs mostly on the bottom step.

Railing to steps is generally of iron, drilled into the end of the steps and oftentimes leaded. Circular stairs built of stone demand a very considerable knowledge of geometry on the part of the builder, to insure good work and a graceful appearance.

IMITATION MARBLES.

Good Portland cement and colors that take on that material are mixed dry and made into a paste with the least quantity of water added. One paste has to be made for each color. The different pastes are placed on top of one another in layers of different thickness, the mass is pressed from all sides and beaten so that the colors of the different parts impress themselves on each other without uniformity. The result is that more or less deep veins penetrate the mass; this is then sawed into plates, which are pressed in a mould for 12 days, during which time it is necessary to keep them moist as long as they are not entirely hardened. The plates are polished in the same way as marble.

A small bar or rod of iron, flat at the end, if reddened in the fire and applied for two or three minutes to the head of a rusty screw, will, as soon as it heats the screw, render its withdrawal easy by the screw-driver.

Carpenters' apprentices should always remember that to drive a nail the entire length into hardwood is no easy task. If the point is dipped in lard, oil or tallow it can be done with a little care and a square blow of the hammer.

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THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING, Montreal.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA COLLEGE, Montreal.

THE PROTESTANT INSANE ASYLUM, Verdun, near Montreal.

THE GRAND HOTEL, St. Hyacinthe, Que.

THE NEW CUSTOMS-APPRAISERS STORES, NEW YORK, now building, which will consume 5,000 tons.

THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA, portion of which was recently destroyed by fire and rebuilt.

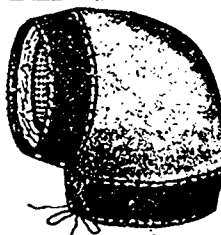
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