

Demers.—Jos. Sawyer, architect, has let contracts as below for a house on Ernest street for Dame A. Duperrault: Masonry Durocher & Bros.; carpentry, G. Baril.—Alex. C. Hutchison, architect, has accepted tenders as follows for a foundry on Juror street for Warden King & Son: Masonry, M. Doran; carpentry, Jas. Shearer; bricklaying, O. Deguise.—Wm. Tremblay has let the masonry contract of two houses on Gain street, for L. Gariepy, to A. Belanger. The carpenter work is not yet let.

HAMILTON, ONT.—The following offers were received by the city council for \$25,000 of debentures: Merchants Bank, \$25,481; Geo. A. Stimson & Co., \$25,905; Ontario Mutual Life, \$25,582; Traders Bank, \$25,562.50; Bank of Hamilton, \$25,767.50; Hanson Bros., \$25,640; J. D. Drummond, \$25,660; O'Hara & Co., \$25,915; Lazier & Lazier, \$25,562.50; J. A. Meldrum, \$25,957; Hamilton Provident & Loan Co., \$25,590; Wyatt & Co., \$25,803; Western Loan & Savings Company, \$25,000; A. E. Jarvis, \$25,720. The tender of J. A. Meldrum, of Toronto, has been accepted.

#### BIDS.

HAMILTON, ONT.—Tenders were received as follows for an aerial truck: John Martin, Son & Co., Montreal, \$4,100; M. Ritchie, Hamilton, \$3,240; Waterous Co, Brantford, \$2,750; Ronald Engine Co, Brussels, \$1,950. No award has as yet been made.

#### BUSINESS NOTES.

Noble & Barber, electrical contractors, Montreal, have commenced business.

Etienne Boucher and Joseph Osias Boucher, plumbers, Sherbrooke, Que., have formed a partnership.

The Shallow Lake Woodwork Manufacturing Company has been incorporated at Shallow Lake, Ont., with a capital of \$5,000, to manufacture, lumber, shingles and woodenware.

The William Buck Stove Company has been incorporated, for the purpose of acquiring the business at Brantford, Ont., carried on by the late William Buck as stove manufacturer.

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#### MARKET CONDITIONS.

Owing to increased cost of raw materials, manufacturers of wire nails have advanced the price by from 5 to 10 cents per keg. The minimum price at the mills is now \$1.80, the base price \$1.85, and small lots \$1.90.

The cement market is very strong. The arrivals at Montreal last week were 2,435 barrels English and 7,521 Belgian, as against 2,204 English and no Belgian for the previous week, making a total to date of 36,439 English and 122,090 Belgian. The weather has interfered with business, but as stocks on hand are light, dealers are holding firm to prices.

The receipts of firebricks for the past week were 198,325, making a total to date of 1,550,762. The demand is good and prices are unchanged at \$16.00 \$21 per 1,000 as to brand.

A brisk trade is doing in glass, and owing to scarcity of stock, there is every prospect of higher prices ruling. The terms to dealers are: First break in 50-foot boxes, \$1.35, and in 100-foot boxes, \$2.60; double diamond, under 25 united inches, \$3.80, Toronto, Hamilton and London; terms, 4 months or 3 per cent 30 days. There is also quite a boom in the paint trade.

#### DRILLING BRICK WALLS.

When holes have to be made through brick walls for the passage of pipes, bolts, etc., a clean hole of any desired size may

be made by using a piece of common steam pipe for a drill. Select a piece about eighteen inches long and file four or five notches in the end of the pipe. The notches are to be made like saw teeth, and form the end of the pipe into a sort of rose, or burr. Start the hole to be drilled with an ordinary stone drill, and after it is an inch deep put in the pipe drill and strike light blows with a hammer on the outer end of the hollow pipe. Light blows must be struck, or the pipe will be all broomed up in a very short time and the teeth will be knocked all to pieces. As it is, the teeth soon wear off and the pipe has to be filed up again, but with one filing the pipe can be driven ten or twelve inches into a moderately hard wall, after which filing will be necessary.

About twelve inches is as far as can be drilled with the short piece of pipe, and a longer one does not work as well as the short one for starting holes with, as the spring of a long piece of pipe is considerable, even when struck square on end. For a 36-inch three pipe drills of different lengths are necessary, and a hole may be put through in one or two hours, according to the hardness of the brick.

When coming through a wall, in order not to break out an unsightly looking hole where the drill comes through, have a man hold a piece of iron or a block of wood against the wall at the point where the drill is to emerge. This will absorb the vibrations and take up the power of the blows which are transmitted to the wall through the drill, and enable the brickwork to be pierced entirely through without knocking out even a small piece of the brickwork on the other side.

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