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CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD

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This paper reaches every week the Town and City Clerks, Town and City Engineers, County Clerks and County Engineers, Purchasers of Municipal Debentures and leading Contractors in all lines throughout Canada.

Vol. 8.

AUGUST 12, 1897

No. 28.

THE CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD,

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

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Architect seeking location can secure a good city and country practice, cheap. Apply to Box 250, CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.

TENDERS

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up till noon of FRIDAY, AUGUST 20th, for the various trades required in connection with the erection of a building for the Toronto Railway Co., north west corner of King and Church Streets.

DARLING & PEARSON, Architects,
Mail Building, Toronto.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TENDERS FOR PLASTERING

Addressed to the undersigned, will be received until 6 p.m., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1897, for Lath and Plastering Work required in Central Methodist Church, in the city of St. Thomas.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the undersigned.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

NEIL R. DARRACH, Architect,
352 Talbot street, St. Thomas, Ont.

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Two Derricks, with horse powers complete and endless chain. All in good working order. Apply to
JOS. M. TIERMAN, C.E.,
Tilbury, Ont.



NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Tenders will be received, by registered post only addressed to the Chairman of the Board of Control, City Hall, Toronto, up to

noon on Wednesday, the 18th Inst.,

for the construction of the following works.—

GRAVEL ROADWAYS

On Macdonald Avenue, from Queen Street 2,826 feet northerly.
On Aston Avenue, from Lisgar Street to Northcote Avenue.

BRICK PAVEMENTS

On Bellevue Avenue, from College Street to Oxford Street.
On St. Joseph Street, from Queen's Park to west end of existing pavement.

CEDAR BLOCK PAVEMENTS

On Euclid Avenue, from Arthur Street to College Street.

TRACK ALLOWANCES (BRICK)

On Queen Street, from Don River to Pape Avenue.
On Spadina Avenue, from Queen Street to College Street.

CONCRETE SIDEWALK

On Front Street, south side, from Yonge Street to Scott Street (except 85 feet fronting Nos 5 and 7).

Specifications may be seen and forms of tender obtained at the office of the City Engineer, City Hall, Toronto.

A deposit, in the form of a marked cheque, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, for the sum of 2½ per cent. on the value of the work tendered for, must accompany each and every tender, otherwise they will not be entertained. Tenders must bear the bona fide signatures of the contractor and his sureties, or they will be ruled out as informal.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

R. J. FLEMING, (Mayor)
Chairman Board of Control.

City Hall, Toronto, Aug. 4th, 1897.

When varnishing in very warm weather it is the habit of many painters to well sprinkle the floors with water in order to keep down the dust. This is, however, a very dangerous proceeding, and is likely to give rise to pitting. A dry, warm atmosphere is the best for varnish, and the dust should be got rid of before the varnish is applied.

A duplicate of the plant in use in the reclamation work on the island, opposite Toronto, has been purchased by a South African syndicate for the purpose of deepening Delagoa Bay, the famous port of the Transvaal, which England and Germany are credited with being after. The plant, which is worth \$25,000, is being made in Toronto, and Toronto men will go out to the Cape to fit it up.

CONTRACTS OPEN.

KOMOKA, ONT.—T. H. Turnbull will erect a new building.

GUELPH, ONT. A new school will be erected in school section No. 7.

GRAVENHURST, ONT.—The Orangemen purpose erecting a large hall.

BADDFORTON, ONT.—New tenders are asked for erecting the new school.

DOAKTOWN, N.B.—Messrs. Swin will immediately rebuild their saw mill.

SIAPLES, ONT.—The erection of a new Methodist church has been decided upon.

ST. AUGINE, QUE.—Alderman Prefontaine purposes enlarging his electric light plant.

REVELSTOKE, B.C.—It is reported that the C.P.R. will establish a large hospital here.

LEVIS, QUE.—No award has yet been made in the lighting and aqueduct contracts.

BURKS FALLS, ONT.—The Presbyterians have selected a site for their new church.

RALEIGH, ONT. Ditching estimated to cost \$3,270.50 will be let this week by A. H. White.

FORT WILLIAM, ONT.—It is rumored that the C.P.R. will erect a large steel elevator here.

PORTSMOUTH, ONT.—The citizens are determined to secure the erection of a grain elevator.

BARRIE, ONT.—It is probable that the new House of Refuge will be located at Penetanguishene.

WATERLOO, ONT.—The Board of Education have purchased a site on which to erect a new school.

WAB GOON, ONT.—The Imperial Development Company will spend \$10,000 on buildings this fall.

COLLINGWOOD, ONT.—The town will construct a cement sidewalk on Simcoe street, at a cost of \$643.

HINTONBURG, ONT.—A scheme is on foot to supply the village with a system of waterworks and drainage.

MINNEDOSA, MAN.—School debentures to the amount of \$3,500 are offered for sale. Address, E. W. Pearson.

DOVER, ONT.—Proposals are wanted for 3½ miles of dredge work. Address, King & Cavotte, commissioners.

AMHERSTBURG, ONT.—The ratepayers have voted down the by-law to promote the Windsor, Amherstburg and Lake Erie Railway.

FAIRVIEW, B.C. Dier, Davidson & Russell have had plans drawn for an office building, 20 x 30 feet, and for a store, 24 x 60 feet.

LEAMINGTON, ONT.—Mersea council has passed a by law providing for the construction of the Colleson drain, at a cost of \$1,389.

ELGIN, N.B.—Tenders will be called

for constructing a trotting track. O. C. Goggin is secretary of a company formed for the purpose.

VICTORIA, B.C.—A by-law is now before the city council to raise \$75,000 for macadamising streets and \$25,000 for permanent sidewalks.

SHAWVILLE, QUE.—Provincial government engineers are surveying the route of the proposed railway from Portage du Fort to this place, a distance of 12 miles.

HULL, QUE.—The city solicitor has been instructed to prepare a by-law to be submitted to the ratepayers to raise the sum of \$50,000 for waterworks extension.

WOODSTOCK, ONT.—The fire-hall and market improvement by-laws were defeated on August 6th.—Plans have been prepared for a skating rink to be erected this fall.

ST. JOHN, N.B.—Messrs. Mooney have purchased property at Mispic, and will, it is rumored, erect a pulp mill there.—The city is being urged to erect a public abattoir.

LISTOWEL, ONT.—A by-law to provide for electric lighting and waterworks was defeated recently.—The High School Board wants tenders for constructing 800 feet of granolithic walk.

CHATHAM, ONT.—The Essex Standard Gas Co. and the Chatham Natural Gas Co. each desire a franchise from the city to furnish natural gas. The former propose to pipe the city from Kingsville.

KINGSTON, ONT.—The Queen City Oil Company are making arrangements to erect a large oil storehouse.—Steps are being taken by the Board of Trade to secure the erection of a summer hotel.

MCADAM JUNCTION, N.B.—The civil engineer of the C.P.R. is laying out and drawing plans of lots for a number of new cottages soon to be erected for railway employees.—J. Gardiner contemplates erecting a dwelling house and store.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—The builders of the Crow's Nest Pass railway will have twenty-seven bridges to construct over the Old Man's river within thirty-five miles of Lethbridge.—Blackwood Bros. will not erect their new brewery until next spring.

LINDSAY, ONT.—T. Matchett, Clerk of Victoria county, wants tenders by August 13th for bridge and approaches at Pigeon creek, including steel superstructure. Length of approaches, to be stone filled, is, approximately, 590 feet; length of bridge, 50 feet.

SIMCOE, ONT.—Oliver Austin will receive tenders until the 14th inst. for plumbing and heating of the Industrial School and for carpenter and mason work of proposed improvements. Plans may be seen at the office of C. C. Fairchild, County Engineer.

KASLO, B.C.—A petition will be presented to council requesting that a by-law be submitted to raise \$12,000 for grading streets, laying sidewalks and building a bridge across Kaslo creek. It is also urged that further expenditure be made to provide a sewerage system.

PERIH, ONT.—A company has been formed, with a capital of \$50,000, to construct waterworks in this town. In the company are Hon. John Haggart, Sandford Fleming, jr., W. A. Allan, R. G. Cole and A. Charlebois. The contract to put in the system will likely be awarded in a few days.

PEMBROKE, ONT. The Provincial board of Health have approved of the plans prepared by Mr. W. C. Brough for a sewerage system. Wm. Russell, C.E., has begun the survey of the proposed Pembroke Southern Railway. The company hope to have the road in operation in one year.

QUEBEC, QUE.—The Academy of Music will probably be remodelled.—Ber-

linguet & Lemay, architects, are preparing plans for a small chapel to be erected for the Rev. Dr. Doyle at Vernon river, Prince Edward Island. Same architects have also prepared plans for the Fifteen Point church.

FERGUS, ONT.—Plans have been adopted for the new Melville church, which will have seating accommodation for 800 persons. The building is to be faced with Credit Valley brown stone, with light colored cut stone at the corners and around the doors and windows; estimated cost, \$10,000.

RAT PORTAGE, ONT.—Colonel Engle-due, manager of the Ontario Gold Mining Company, will shortly erect a residence.—J. K. Brydon, town clerk, will receive offers until Monday, 23rd inst., for constructing about 4,600 feet of pipe sewers in this town.—The by-law to raise funds for a waterworks system is being advertised. The cost of the work is placed at \$75,000.

STRATFORD, ONT.—The city council have passed the following resolution: "That a system of sewage disposal combining precipitation of the solids in the sewage, supplemented by prepared filter beds, will best answer the conditions existing in this city; and it is hereby recommended that the engineer be instructed to prepare plans and estimates of the cost of a system of sufficient capacity on the above lines."

LONDON, ONT.—Moore & Henry, architects, are taking tenders this week for erecting a frame cottage for the Water Commissioners. Same architects have prepared plans for an addition to the hospital.—Herbert Matthews, architect, is taking tenders for the erection of the new York street Methodist church.—J. A. Matthews has been granted a building permit for a 1½-story brick veneered residence on William street, to cost \$1,200.—The proposal to construct an electric railway to Pottersburg is said to have collapsed.—The Verity Plow Company will probably erect a building to cost \$40,000.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Turgeon & Lafreniere are preparing plans for a house to be erected on Sherbrooke street. Tenders will be invited shortly.—Wright & Son, architects, have called for tenders for a warehouse to be built for Messrs. Warden King & Son.—L. R. Monbriant, architect, is taking tenders for a store and two dwellings to be erected on Amherst street, near Marie Anne, for Ald. L. Oumet.—Turgeon & Lafreniere are receiving tenders for nine tenements to be built on Marie Anne street.—S. Frappier, architect, is calling for tenders for two cottages to be built on St. George street, Montreal Annex, for J. O. R. & S. Frappier.—Sealed tenders will be received for the various trades required in restorations and additions to St. John Baptist church. Mr. Jos. Venne is the architect.

OTTAWA, ONT.—A largely signed petition has been presented to council for an asphalt pavement on Elgin street, from Wellington to Albert streets.—A movement is on foot to erect a hospital for incurables. Nearly \$4,000 has been subscribed.—The hospital board of St. Luke's Hospital have found that the tenders for the work on their new building are too high. The plans will be altered and new tenders called for.—A company is seeking incorporation to manufacture calcium carbide, the capital stock being \$11,000,000. Hon. A. G. Blair and Rufus Pope, M.P., are interested.—The Dominion Electric Heating and Supply Co. will probably build a factory in the near future.—Tenders for the erection of a fire station are wanted by the city clerk by Wednesday next, 13th inst. Plans at office of M. C. Edey, architect.—E. F. E. Roy, secretary Department of Public Works, will receive tenders until Tuesday, 24th inst., for a

steel roof on the west block of the Parliament buildings.

TORONTO, ONT.—E. J. Lennox, architect, has completed specifications for the hydraulic elevators, electric and gas fittings, electric clock work for tower and buildings, and a pneumatic system for the new City Hall building, and tenders for the work will shortly be taken.—Sufficiently signed petitions have been received by the city clerk against the following proposed local improvements: Cowan avenue, gravel roadway; Arthur street, macadam roadway; Front st., Yonge to Bay streets, sidewalk; Gwynne ave., gravel roadway; Fuller street, Queen street to Pearson avenue, gravel roadway.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Mulock, Miller & Crowther, alterations 279-283 Yonge st., cost \$2,000; E. F. Blake, addition to dwelling, 449 Jarvis st., cost \$3,000; R. M. & F. W. Gullett, pr. s.d. 2-story and attic bk. dwellings on Walker ave., cost \$3,000; T. Horton, 54 McDonald ave., one st. bk. cottage, east side Roncesvalles ave., cost \$1,800; D. M. Defoe, alterations 46 King st. e., cost \$1,600.

PETERBORO', ONT.—It is announced that a company of eastern capitalists are negotiating for the purchase of the Chemung and Lakefield lines of the Grand Trunk Railway, with the view of converting the roads into electric systems.—The Board of Directors of the Central Exhibition will take steps at once to erect new buildings on the Exhibition grounds.—A by-law has been introduced in council authorizing the construction of sewers as follows: Section No. 1—4,030 feet of 15-inch pipe and 1,960 feet of 12-inch pipe on Aylmer street, 253 feet of 9-inch pipe on Charlotte street, 475 feet of 9-inch pipe on Simcoe, 220 feet of 9-inch pipe on Hunter street, 426 feet of 9-inch pipe on Brock street, 370 feet of 9-inch pipe on Murray street, and 370 feet of 9-inch pipe on McDonnell street. Section No. 2—4,132 feet of 12-inch pipe on Stewart street, 910 feet of 15-inch pipe on George street, 910 feet of 12-inch pipe on Water street, and 370 feet of 9-inch pipe on Murray street east.—Tenders are asked for a terrace of houses to be built on the new avenue.

HAMILTON, ONT.—The Board of Fire Underwriters recently notified the city authorities of their intention to increase the insurance rates 25 per cent., owing to lack of water pressure and insufficiency of ladders and hose. After consultation between the Board of Fire Underwriters and the city Board of Trade, the council has been recommended to purchase another fire engine, an ample supply of hose, an additional 65 foot ladder, increase the height of the stand-pipe, and do away with dead ends in water mains. The matter is now under consideration by the council.—The City Engineer has decided to recommend to the Sewers Committee that an incinerator to burn rubbish be placed in the sewage disposal works at the foot of Ferguson avenue. The cost will be about \$2,500.—The City Engineer favors the use of brick for street pavements.—E. B. Patterson has taken out a permit for a store and dwelling on Cannon street, to cost \$2,250.—Manager Stair and architect Mills will visit American cities to get pointers on improvements for the Grand opera house.

FIRES.

The convent at Longueuil, Que., belonging to the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, has been damaged by fire to the extent of \$3,000.—Wm. Schofield's residence at Port Colborne, Ont., was burned last week.—The Park Theatre at Springbank, Ont., was recently destroyed by fire.—The tannery of Frank Moseley at St. Hyacinthe, Que., was destroyed by fire on August 4th, at a loss of

\$100,000.—The saw mill of John Hurley at St. Gabriel de Rimouski, Que., was recently destroyed by fire, together with 42,000 logs.—The sash and door factory of H. & F. Swim at Doaktown, N.B., was burned last week. Much of the machinery was new, and the loss will be about \$15,000.—A saw mill at Eden Grove, Ont., on the G. T. R., was consumed by fire last week, at a loss of \$4,000. Two brick stores at Woodstock, Ont., owned by W. H. Walbourn, were burned on Monday last. Loss, \$1,800; insurance, \$1,200.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

WINDSOR, ONT.—Debentures amounting to \$61,632 have been sold to G. E. Gault, at a premium of \$2,363.

GUELPH, ONT.—The heating of the Registry office has been let to Fick & Phillips, at the price of \$1,467.50.

ROSSLAND, B. C.—The contract for the construction of a sewerage system has been awarded to W. B. Davey, at the price of \$32,744.

BRANTFORD, ONT.—The heating and ventilation of improvements to the Collegiate Institute have been awarded to Buck's Stove Works, at the price of \$247.

ST. JOHN, N.B.—The tender of Sproul & Corbett for erecting the North End fire station, at the price of \$10,675, has been accepted, Thos. Campbell securing the heating at \$1,645.

PETERBORO, ONT.—The council have accepted the tender of Kennedy & Wade for sewer construction, at the price of \$9,916, the town to supply the pipe, cement, brick and gasket.

CORNWALL, ONT.—The contract for a seven-span steel bridge across the St. Lawrence river at this place has been secured by the Phoenixville Bridge Co., of Phoenixville, Pa. The cost will be about \$1,000,000.

KINCARDINE, ONT.—Hunter Bros. have secured contracts for new bridges at Chesley and Paisley. This firm were also contractors for the stand-pipe lately finished at Goderich for the works of that town.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The tender of the Canadian Rubber Co. has been accepted for supplying 3,000 feet of hose.—The Dominion government have let the contract for the Edmonton bridge to F. Lemoine, of Montreal, at the price of \$36,500.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—The following tenders have been accepted by the city: Granolithic walk on Princess street, Scott & Co., \$1,752.70; sewer pipe, W. F. Lee, \$1,941.30; sewers on Osborne and Pembina streets, F. W. Lee, \$3,754; sewers on Park and Sherbrooke streets, F. W. Lee, \$1,107.

KINGSTON, ONT.—The successful tenderers for additions to a house on Johnston street for J. McKay & Son are: Litton & Free, masonry and bricklaying; George Hunter, carpentering; Joseph Jamieson, plumbing, metal work and hot water fittings; Robinson Bros., painting; architect, A. Ellis.

TORONTO, ONT.—The contract for laying new water pipes for fire protection in the central parts of the city has been awarded to Thomas McQuillan, at \$1,930.20.—Purdy, Mansell & Mashinter have been awarded the contract for heating the House of Industry at Fergus by hot water, with three Daisy boilers and Safford radiators.

CHATHAM, ONT.—The tender of H. O'Hara, Toronto, for \$15,000 electric light debentures, has been accepted; price, \$16,145.—Tenders were submitted as follows for heating the Central school: Record Foundry & Machine Co., \$975; Jas. Watt & Sons, \$2,300; Smead-Dowd Co., Toronto, \$2,400, \$2,500 and \$2,

275; McClary Manufacturing Co., London, \$1,050; J. F. Pease Furnace Co., Toronto, \$1,545. The tender of the Smead-Dowd Co. has been accepted.

MONTREAL, QUE.—The contract for building the East Richelieu Valley Railway from Iberville to the Lacolle bridge, a distance of 23 miles, has been awarded to Mr. J. L. Comte, of this city.—Robert Findlay, architect, has awarded the following contracts for a residence for Henry Fry, to be built on Dorchester street, Westmount: Masonry, H. Hutchison; carpenter and joiner's work, Thos. Forde; plastering, Thos. Brethour; painting, John Murphy; other trades not let. Estimated cost, \$7,000.

QUEBEC, QUE.—The contract for M. Hatch's residence to be built on Maple avenue has been let to Damase Vezina.—A. J. Pageau, architect, has awarded contracts for Mr. Zisk's residence to be built on St. Joachim street.—Building permits have been granted as follows: Repairs of a house for Ch. Helins; contractor, S. Trudel. Repairs on Massue street for Mr. Flavien Huot; contractor, C. Paradis. Repairs on Du Roi street for M. Noel; contractor, A. Dugat. Repairs corner of Dauphin and St. Stanislas streets; M. Eug. Falardeau, contractor.

BIDS.

PETROLEA, ONT.—The following tenders were received for the construction of a new school building: R. Corrick, Sarnia, complete, \$5,690; Scott & Cruikshank, Sarnia, mason work, \$2,681; Louis Zells, Port Huron, complete, \$5,060; J. J. Pennebaker & Co., Sarnia, \$5,185; Kelly & Parkinson, Petrolea, \$5,333; Thos. H. Cumeron, Port Huron, \$5,080; Farlin & Simpson, Sarnia, mason, excavation, etc., \$2,521; R. Clark & Sons Petrolea, drainage, excavation, masonry, brickwork and cement floors, \$3,600; Geo. A. Proctor,

Sarnia, carpenter and joiner's work, painting, etc., \$2,560; J. & J. Jackson, Petrolea, complete, \$5,320; H. Fisher, St. Clair, complete, \$5,283; Wm. E. Jones, Sarnia, complete \$4,998.53; John Crooklander, Thedford, complete, \$5,276. No award has yet been made.

BRICKWORK IN ENGLAND.

In the Middle Ages we find the *hidoron* (12 inches by 6), the *quadrelli* and *tavelle* (7 inches long, 3½ inches broad), the first of which pretty well answers to the modern English, the latter to the small Dutch brick. Inferior sorts, called *biscotti* and *biscotta*, which from the word appear to have been twice baked, were fraudulently sold instead. The Jews used to inscribe magical and other characters upon their bricks, a circumstance unknown to Hearne, who has engraved one with the story of Samson burning the corn by foxes with firebrands. The Anglo-Saxons styled brickwork *Tigel-geweorc*, and they and their Norman successors, under the name of *wali-tiles*, continued to make and use them in the same manner as the Romans (for whose tiles they are mistaken, till the time of Henry II. During the wars in France and Flanders, temp. Edward I. and II., the Flemish manner of making them was introduced, and with it their manner of building with high gable ends, arising with steps, and finished with something like a chimney, ornamented with bricks moulded in various forms and sometimes curiously put together. The walls of this era have foundations of rag-stones and mere facings of brick, others were chequered in patterns

(Concluded on Page 5.)

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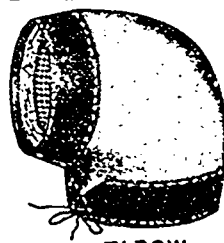
- THE McDONALD BUILDING, Victoria Square, Montreal.
- THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING, Montreal.
- THE ROYAL VICTORIA COLLEGE, Montreal.
- THE PROTESTANT INSANE ASYLUM, Verdun, near Montreal.
- THE GRAND HOTEL, St. Hyacinthe, Que.
- THE NEW CUSTOMS-APPRAISERS STORES, NEW YORK, new building, which will consume 5,000 tons.
- THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA, portion of which was recently destroyed by fire and rebuilt.

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with black flints, as may be seen in several towers of churches. This irregular manner remained until bricks came into general use, when they began to use the Flemish manner of bonding them. Towards the latter end of the reign of Henry VII. and beginning of that of Henry VIII. the mansions began to lose their real castellated character, though still retaining many of its peculiarities. Small windows, thick walls, base courts, turrets and a sort of embattled parapet still continued. Layer Marney Hall, in Essex (built temp. Henry VIII.), appears to be of this description. Chequered compartments of flint and diagonal lines of dark glazed brick were frequently introduced into the fronts of buildings about this period. There was a large court in the centre and a towered gateway. About the year 1530 Hans Holbein built a beautiful gate opposite the Banqueting House, Whitehall, in the chequered style of brick and stone and black flints, and ornamented the fronts with busts in circular recesses, with mouldings around them of baked clay, in proper colours, and glazed in the manner of delft ware. Buildings of deep red bricks, chequered with others glazed and darker, window frames of stones, or bricks covered with plaster are of this age; and during the reigns of Mary and Elizabeth the ornaments of Grecian architecture were frequently imitated in burnt clay, and laced the fronts of houses, and covered the shafts of chimneys. For this purpose fantastical figures were introduced and continued till the reign of James I., when they began to make plainer chimneys (because, perhaps, no longer erected for memorials), and these moulded bricks were laid aside. In this and the preceding reign the walling was very bad, being mere rubbish, or even turf or peat, between two thin shells of brick. Inigo Jones introduced a better method, and Sir Richard Crispe, the patriotic friend of Charles I., is said to have been the inventor of the art of making them as now practised.

Rogers & Hamilton, plumbers, Hamilton, Ont., have dissolved partnership.

A case is reported in La Semaine des Constructeurs of several cases of poisoning on board a ship which followed the use of water contained in a tank, the in-

terior of which was painted with red lead. The municipal laborator of Paris warned the ship owners that in order to avoid similar danger in future they must paint the interior of the tank with coal tar or mineral pitch dissolved in turpentine or benzene.

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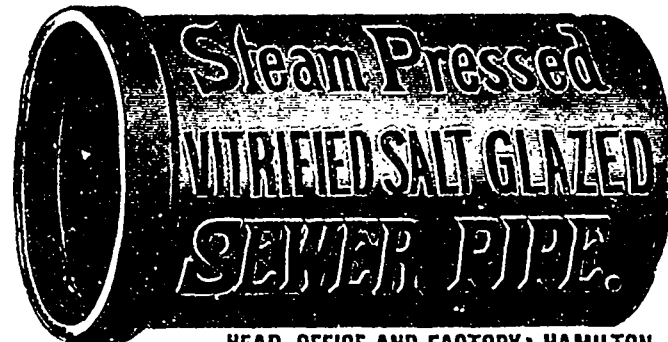
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SEDIMENTATION BASIN AT CHATHAM.

A sedimentation basin in connection with the waterworks system of Chatham, Ont., has recently been completed, some particulars of which may prove interesting.

The extreme length of the basin over embankments, from outside to outside, is 900 feet, and the extreme width 180 feet. The depth of the excavation, below datum, at the south end is 12 feet 10 inches and at the north end 10 feet 2 inches. Width of excavation at datum level is 112 feet. Width of basin at bottom, south end 37 ft. 6 in., at north end 81 ft. 6 in. Length of excavation at datum level, 332 feet. Length of basin at bottom, 797 ft. 6 in. Width of basin at top of embankment 130 feet. Length of basin at top of embankment, 850 feet. Width of embankment at datum level, 34 ft., and at top 16 ft. Height of embankment above datum level 6 ft.

The entire inner face is rammed with clay to a depth of about two feet, and this is coated with six inches of blue clay. The sides are lined at the top to a width of four feet with small cobble stones, and the corners are rounded off into quarter circles.

In the basin stand three brick towers, from the embankment to the top of which are bridges. The induction tower, through which the water from the river enters the basin, is located in the centre of the far end of the excavation. The pipe is a strong concrete and stone foundation to prevent wearing away by action of the water which enters near the bottom of the basin. At the opposite or near end of the basin is the tower by which the water is received from the basin and through the filters into the stand pipe and thence to the mains. This tower has three openings at regular intervals. The lower ones are provided with valves by means of which they can be opened or closed as the depth of the water requires, the object being to take the supply from the surface, this part having been most exposed to the action of the air. The water is conducted to its filters by means of pipes which are laid in the bed of the basin in its entire length. In the south-westerly corner of the reservoir is a third tower to be used for drainage purposes—to let off the water in case of necessity.

The amount of earth excavated was 31,750 cubic yards. Of this, 11,245 cubic yards were required for the embankment, and 20,505 yards were removed. The mean depth of the water will be sixteen feet, and the capacity of the basin, the water one foot below the top of the bank, is 8,454,900 Imperial gallons.

According to the specifications the basin is to be subjected to a two weeks' test before being accepted by the city.

In the summer time the water from the river can be oxygenized by being thrown into the air before falling into the basin. This is supposed to greatly improve it. It is said that as a consequence of going over Niagara Falls the waters of Lake Ontario are the purest and best of any in the great lakes.

A CASE OF INTEREST TO MUNICI- PALITIES.

For several years the street railway, telephone, gas and electric light companies in the city and in the province generally have been conducting a campaign against the assessment of rails, wires, poles, gas mains and other property belonging to these companies and situated upon the public highways, on the ground that the plant on a public street could not be legally assessed. Various cases were begun and went from court to court, until this spring the Supreme Court gave judgment that gas mains were assessable.

In delivering judgment the Chief Justice expressed his opinion very strongly that all property on a highway was assessable, just as if it were on private land. Last summer a board of county judges decided against the assessment of the Toronto Street Railway Company's rails, poles and wires, and the Court of Revision refused, on the strength of this judgment, to confirm the assessment of the plant of the company in the first, fifth and sixth wards. The City Law Department decided to make a test case and appealed in the name of Controller Lamb and of the Assessment Commissioner against the decision of the Court of Revision in regard to the assessment of \$103,500 in the sixth ward. Mr. Fullerton and Mr. Drayton prosecuted the appeal for the city, and Mr. Laidlaw, for the company, urged lack of jurisdiction.

Judge McDougall delivered a judgment recently, the logical sequence of which will be the assessment by municipal officers all over Ontario of all these rails, poles, wires, mains, etc., which have in many cases up to the present time been exempt. It is estimated that in Toronto alone there is at least a million and a quarter of property on the highways that will in future pay taxes, and the gas company will be assessed for something in the neighborhood of half a million cash.

In delivering judgment Judge McDougall said: "I have considered the objection raised in the appeal by Mr.

Laidlaw, viz., that the right to appeal from the decision of the Court of Revision provided for by section 68 of the assessment act, is conferred only upon the person assessed or sought to be assessed, and is not open to the municipal corporation who assessed or omitted to assess the person or corporation complaining before the Court of Revision. To hold that when the legality of an act done by the municipal corporation has been questioned before the statutory court the decision of that court cannot be reviewed at the instance of the corporation whose act is impeached, but may be questioned by the original complainant only, is repugnant to common sense and justice. It would require express words of limitation to that effect to induce me to construe so narrow a general clause giving a right of appeal against a decision of a Court of Revision. Section 68 says an appeal to the county judge shall lie not only against a decision of the Court of Revision, but also against the omission, refusal or neglect of the said court to hear or direct the appeal. It is right that the limitation contained in section 76, confirming the right of appeal to a board of judges to the person assessed, should be looked at as showing the intention on the part of the legislature to limit the right of the appeal under section 68 to the party assessed.

"The insertion of this limitation in section 76 appears to me to be rather an argument the other way, for without that limitation it is clear that the appeal to the board of judges could be open to either party to the original complaint before the Court of Revision. But this special court for the hearing of particular appeals has no general jurisdiction to hear all appeals. It can be called into existence only, the legislature says, if the person assessed desires it. It is a special right given to assessed persons, but it in no way affects the rights and privileges created by section 68, save where the amount involved is a certain sum and the person assessed feels himself aggrieved. All other cases remain to be dealt with under the provisions of section 68. The board of county judges is, therefore, an alternate court of strictly limited jurisdiction. If not invoked *sub rosa* the county judge possesses sole appellate jurisdiction, but the appeals he is directed to hear and determine are appeals against the decisions of the Court of Revision. The person in whose favor the Court of Revision has decided cannot appeal, but the opposite party, or the person who has been unsuccessful in his contention before the Court of Revision, is entitled to appeal.

Mr. W. G. Merritt has been appointed city clerk of Chatham, Ont.

Goderich, Ont., has added a new stand pipe to its waterworks plant, erected under the supervision of Mr. Walter C. Brough, C.E.

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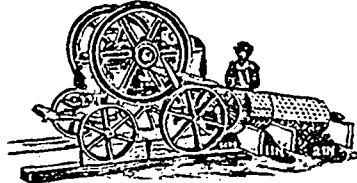
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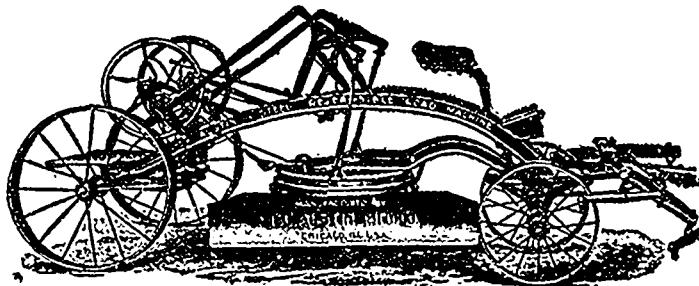


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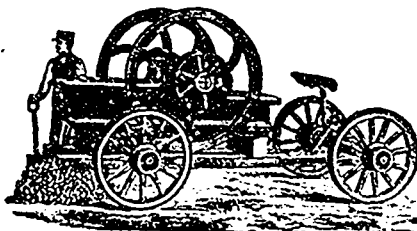
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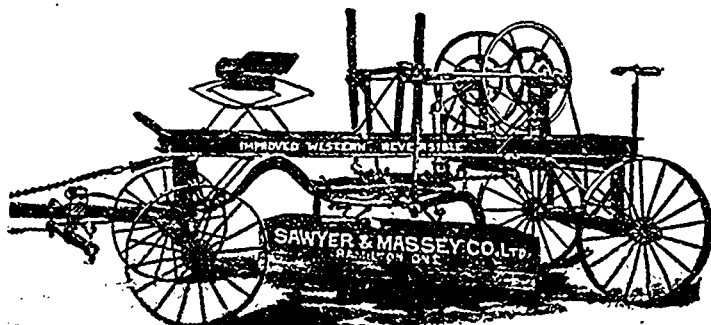
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