# Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

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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. 7.

#### DEGEMBER 24, 1896

No. 47.

# THE CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD,

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# **Notice to Contractors**

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# **Notice to Contractors**

# COUNTY OF YORK

Scaled Tenders, endorsed "Tenders for Ab tments of York Mills Bridge," will be received by the under-signed up to 12 O'LLOCK, N. ON, OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 511, 1849, for the construction of

# TWO STONE ABUTMENTS

for a Steel Bridge at York Mills on Yonge Street.
Plans and specifications may be seen and all necessary
information obtained at the office of the undersigned on
and after Monday, Dec. 28th, 1865.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be
accepted.

JAS. McDOUGALL, C.E., County Engineer

CONTRACTS OPEN.

HULL, QUE.-The Hull Electric Co. will put in another dynamo.

GREENWOOD, ONT.-It is probable an electric light plant will shortly be installed here.

SHERBROOKE, QUE.-It is said that the electric railway will not be con-structed until next summer.

VERNON, B. C.—The council propose submitting by-laws for the establishment of water and electric light systems.

PARIS, ONT .-- Tenders for lighting the streets by 25 or 30 arc lights are invited until the 8th of January. Address S. Dadson, Town Clerk.

WOODSTOCK, ONT. - Plans are in course of preparation for a new church building for the congregation of Norwich avenue Methodist church.

BROCKVILLE, ONT.—Mr. A. Davis, C. E., of Montreal, is making an examination of the waterworks puniping plant at this place with a view to increasing the

CHATHAM, ONT.—The question of installing a civic electric light plant is under consideration by the City Council. The present contract for lighting expires in September, 1897.

CARLETON PLACE, ONT .- A by-law has been sanctioned by the ratepayers to grant the sum of \$20,000 to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company towards the erection of workshops here.

WOODSTOCK, N. B .- At the last meeting of the Town Council it was decided to issue debentures for \$1,400 for the construction of an iron bridge carrying the water pipe over ..!enuxnaket.

BEACHBURG, ONT .- Tenders will be received by John Brown, secretary North Renfrew Agricultural Society, until noon on Saturday, January 2nd, for the erection of a frame agricultural hall here.

MONCTON, N. B.-D. Pottinger, general manager Intercolonial Railway, will receive tenders until the 6th of January for the supply of timber, lumber, etc., re-quired at the different stations along the

ST. THOMAS, CHT.—The owners of the Berlin Electric Railway are said to be negotiating with Colonel Stacey for the purchase of the street railway in this city. Should the deal be consummated it is proposed to electrify the road.

PERTH, ONT.—Mr. Fowler, of Arn-prior, representing the Perth and Lanark electric railway, recently placed before the council a proposition in connection with the construction of the road. The matter will be dealt with by the new council.

OWEN SOUND, ONT. -A deputation owen sound, ont - A deputation from this town this week interviewed superintendent Leonard, of the C. P. R., regarding the erection of elevators here. The deputation desire the present flour elevator, which has a capacity of 6,000 barrels, increased to that of 30,000, and the grain elevator from 200,000 bushels to that of 1,000,000 bushels. The C. P. R. asks for a bunus of \$40,000 before undertaking this.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—Kelly Bros. are making preparations for erecting an asphalt plant. The contract for the buildings will be let shortly.—The congrega-tion of which Rev. Samuel Polson is pastor propose to erect a new church building in the western part of the city.

RAT PORTAGE, ONT.—It is reported that the erection of an opera house will be commenced at an early date.—The marine department at Ottawa is inviting tenders for crib work for the superstruc-ture of the Rainy River rapids improvements. The plans are on view in this

HAMILTON, ONT .- A scheme is on foot to amalgamate the electric railways in and around Hamilton, in which case the Hamilton and Dundas railway will be converted into an electric road and extended to Galt, while the Radial railway will be extended to Oakville and later to Mimico.

BERLIN, ON1.—The by-law granting the sum of \$5,000 to Mr. Hibner to assist in rebuilding his factory has been carried by the ratepayers, and work will shortly be commenced.—Two churches will be built here next year, one by the English Baptists and the other by the United Brethern.

CORNWALL, ONT .- A by-law will be submitted to the ratepayers granting the sum of \$35,000 as a bonus to the Ontario and Pacific railway for the construction of a line of railway from Ottawa to Cornwall, the company to build the repair shop in this town and a freight shed and station in the town limits.

QUEBEC, QUE.-David Ouellet, architect, is preparing plans for alterations to the church of Amgui (Metapedia).— Building permits have been granted as follows: Reparations of a house on Palace street for Mr. Taschereau, F. X. Leveille, contractor; reparations on St. John street for G. Raynor, J. R. Kane, contractor.

NIAGARA FALLS, ONT.—The dispute between the directors of the Niagara Central Railway Co. is likely to be satis-factorily settled, when a movement will be made to introduce a suburban service from St. Catharines to Magara Falls. This service will necessitate the re-building of the road and repairing the present rolling stock. Plans for the scheme are already being considered, and the work will probably commence about the beginning of the year.

ST. JOHN, N. B .- The common council will provide \$14,000 by the issue of debentures for water and sewer extensions in Carleton.-The advisory board have recommended to the harbor improvement committee that the two wharves at Sand Point slip, the berth of 320ft. and that of 400ft., be built next season, on the plans submitted

Court House, Torento, Dec. 21st, 1896.

by Engineer Peters. The lower part of the wharves, below low water, will be of birch, and the upper part of hemlock. It was decided to recommend that tenders be asked for, the first of the birch to be delivered by March 15, and a further quantity by May 15, 1897.

LION'S HEAD, ONT.—C. N. Kennedy contemplates building a woollen mill here.

BRANTFORD, ONT.—The Board of Trade are considering the question of constructing radial electric railways. Mayor Elliott states that his company propose building a road from Brantford to Ayr, and another from Brantford to Port Dover.

TORONTO, ONT .- The City Engineer in his last fortnightly report recommended the construction of a macadam pavement, with sione kerbs and brick gutters, on Huntley street, south from Bloor street, at a cost of \$7,400. The cost of making an underground entrance to the lavatory at the head of Toronto street is estimated at \$2,500. The acceptance of the offer of the Weeks Eldred Company to install lones under-feed mechanical stokers at the high level pumping station under two boilers, at a cost of \$2,472, is recommended.—Mr. H. H. Williams, on behalf of a client, has requested a lease of a lot on the island, on which it is pro-posed to erect a residence to cost \$7,000. -The City Engineer has reported on the proposed extension of the street car system to the island by means of a bridge extending across the Bay from Bushurst street. The estimated cost of the swing bridge is 261,000, and of the entire work about \$300,000. A bridge across the tracks at Front and Bathurst streets will cost \$20,000, and a permanent pavement on track allowance on Bathurst street, \$9,200.

MONTREAL, Que.-An agitation is on foot to build two new fire stations in St. Henri.-It is probable that the proposed viaduct from St. Henri to Bonaventure depot will be constructed. The matter has been referred to Mr. Hobson, chief engineer of the Grand Trunk railway, and Mr. Stuart Howard, C. E., of the Road Department, to prepare a report for a subsequent meeting of the City Council. At the last regular meeting of the Board of Health a sub-committee was appointed to memorialize the government to erect a suitable morgue in this city.-The Harbor Commissioners invite tenders until the 5th of January for the construction of the still of pandary for the construction of a steel to good. Plans may be seen at the office of John Kennedy, chief engineer, and tenders are to be addressed to Alexander Robinson, secretary — The Alexander Robinson, secretary. — The Road Committee have decided to ask the City Council for an appropriation of \$8,500 to purchase 250,000 feet of lumber for the construction of sidewalks.—The School Commissioners of St. Henri will shortly commence the erection of a new convent, at a cost of \$120,000, and a parish school, to cost about \$48,000.—The Bell Telephone Company intend erecting a building at the corner of Metcalfe avenue and Sherbrooke street, Westmount, to be used for the purpose of an exchange. The foundations have been built, and in the spring the balance of the work will be Carried out.—It is stated that the Grand Trunk Railway Company have in con-templation the erection of a commodious building at Point St. Charles for the con-venience of rulway men. The building will be equipped with all latest improvements, including a gymnasium. — The Fire Committee will ask the City Council for the following appropriations: \$10,000 to purchase 12,000 feet of hose; \$7,000 for a large steam engine, and \$7,500 for a new water tower .- A. Presontaine, archinew water tower.—A. Preiontaine, architect, is preparing plans for the enlargement of St. Eustache church. Tenders will be invited shortly.—C. St. Jean, aichitect, has invited tenders for St. Sauveur church.— Gamelin & Huot will invite tenders in a few days for two houses to be erected on Quiblier street, Westmount.

OTTAWA, ONT.—The Department of Public Works is preparing estimates for improvement works on the St. Andrew rapids, and a scheme will be laid before the House at the next session.—An agitation has been commenced to secure the removal of the Dominion Meteorological building from Toronto to this city, in which case a new building will probably be erected by the government.—The superintendent of the government telegraph service is preparing for the construction of a government telegraph line from Esquimaux Point towards Belle Isle. Next year it is intended to add about eighty miles of line, which will carry the wires as far as Natishquan, 666 miles be-low Quebec.—The chief of the fire brig, ge has recommended that additional bydran: be provided.—The Calgary & Edmonton Railway Company are making application for an act extending the time for the completion of the unconstructed portions of their railway.—The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York have completed the purchase of the premises at the corner of Metcalf and Queen sis, formerly occupied by the Ottawa Club, and will immediately undertake extensive improvements.—Plans have been prepared for enlarging St. Barnabus church. The work will be carried out next spring.-At a meeting of the building committee of the Protestant hospital held last week, the plans for the proposed addition, prepared by Mr. A. C. Hutchison, of Montreal, were considered and adopted. be presented to the directors at a special meeting to be held at an early date.

The Ottawa, Amprior and Parry Sound Railway Company have purchased property in Ottawa East and will shortly commence the construction of their workshops.—The village council of Ottawa East have been asked by the School Board to provide the sum of \$1,200 for building a new school.—A railway project has been laid before Mr. J. R. Booth by Major Hughes, M. P. The proposal is to build a line from Haliburton to Whitney, a distance of twenty-five miles: Mr. ney, a distance of twenty-five rules: Mr. Booth now has the scheme under consideration.—The City Engineer has stated that the city should provide fire engines for the district bounded by Sussex, Slater Lyon and Wellington streets.—In response to an invitation from the Dominion Rifle Association, eleven sets of plans have been sent in for the proposed Canadian headquarters at Bisley. The building is to be constructed of and finished with Canadian woods.

# FIRES.

On the 17th inst. E. B. Dolloff's sash and door factory at Fitch Bay, Que., with contents and machinery, was destroyed by fire. Estimated loss, \$\$,000; insurance, \$4,000.—The tug Metamora, used by James Playfair & Company, of Midland, Ont., and valued at \$10,000, was burned a few days ago.—The turning factory of Frank Mungar at St. Thomas, Ont., has been consumed by fire.—The residence of Matthias Carpenter, near Cornwall, Ont., has been burned. Loss partially covered by insurance.—The east end school house at Petrolea, Ont., was damaged by fire on the 20th inst., to the extent of \$1,500, covered by insurance.—At Brighton, Ont., on Saturday last Thomas Webb's block of stores, including Neshit's grocery and store house, was badly damaged by fire. The loss is heavy and is partially covered by insurance.—B. McCamby's hotel at Manotick, Ont., was burned to the ground on Saturday last. The total loss is about \$9,000.—Fire at Colborne, Ont., on the 20th inst., destroyed J. S. Yeoman's block, Chase Bros. Co.'s block, and damaged W. J. Bur'eigh's dwelling. The loss in each

case is largely covered by insurance.—
The Toronto Engine Works on Front street, Toronto, were damaged by fire on Tuesday last. The loss is \$8,000, covered by insurance.—The Canada Jute Company's premises at Montreal, Que., have been damaged by fire to the extent of \$6,000.

#### CONTRACTS AWARDED.

BELLEVILLE, ONT.—\$50,000 of 4 per cent; debentures, running forty years, have been sold to C. Ernest Gault, of Montreal, at 104.

STRATFORD, ONT. — The successful tenderer for the purchase of the House of Refuge debentures was G. A. Stimson & Co., of Toronto, at \$15,271.50.

St. JEROME, QUE.—Over fifty tenders were received for the construction of the new church here. The contract has been awarded to Mr. Boileau.

TORONTO, ONT.—The contract for heating the Bay street fire hall has been awarded to the Pease Furnace Company, of this city, the price being \$700.

QUEBEC, QUE.—Joseph Couture, of this city, has been awarded the contract for constructing a church and sacristy in the parish of Montmorency, at the price of \$2,000.

ROSSLAND, B. C.—The contract for the construction of 20 miles of railway, from Trail to opposite Robson, was let yesterday to Parson, Winters and Boomer, of Butte, Montana. The contract price is nearly \$600,000, and the road is to be built by May 1st, 1897.

PAKENHAM, ONT.—The contract for erecting the Presbyterian church here has been awarded to Moffat & Co., of Carleton Place, the figure being in the neighborhood of \$9,000. John McDowal & Son are the sub-contractors for the mason work. The architect is B. Dillon, of Renfrew.

HALIFAX, N.S.—The following tenders were received for the erection of a crematory: Fred P. Wakeley, Samuel McManus and D. Joy, of Finlay, Ohio, offered to construct a Dixon sanitary crematory for the sum of \$15,000. It will be 78 feet long, 10 feet high and 10 feet wide. The building in connection with the same will be 96 feet long and two stories high. They offered to erect a smaller one for \$12,000. S. M. Brookfield offered to erect a garbage reducing plant (the Holthaus system) for \$59,000. John McDougall, of Montreal, representing Messrs. Goddard, Massey and Warner, of Nottingham, England, offered to erect a Warner's patent destructor for \$29,000. No action has as yet been taken.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Contracts have been awarded as follows for new interior fittings and fixtures for R. E. T. Pringle: Painting and glazing, L. Z. Mathieu; wood work, Mr. Robert.—Messrs. A. Sincennes & E. Courval, architects, have let contracts as follows: One house, cor. Pine and City Hall avenues, for C. Charbonneau—masonry, Valin & Allard; carpenter and joiner's work, Legare & Son; plumbing, David Ouimet;; rauting and glazing, Hurtubise & Desjarding. Four cottages, forming four tenements, to be erected on Mackay street, for Paquette & Gueneitte—masonry, Latour, Goulet & Co.; carpenter and joiner's work, D. Gagire; plumbing, Girard & Co.; brick, N. Major; plastering, Alf. Levert; painting and glazing, G. Roy.—Webster Bros. & Parkes have been awarded the contract for Mosaic floors, maible lavatories, urinals, etc., for the chemestry and mineralogical building of McGill University.

J. E. Meddaugh, manufacturer of bricks, Wheatley, Ont., has assigned to Joseph Julien.

## ESTIMATING.

Perhaps there is no more difficult piece of work for a contractor to undertake than that of making up an estimate of work he intends to tender for. Fear on the one hand that he will make his prices so high that a rival contractor will underbid him, and a dread on the other hand that he may overlook some portion of work, or material, or rate the labor so low that loss is certain to follow. Hemmed in on one side by Scylla and on the other by Charybdis, the contractor finds it hard to navigate successfully through a long specification and perplexing series of details, without he has some faithful guide-or helm as it were-in which he can put confidence. The practiced estimator, the man who knows the ropes, so to speak, never-trusts to luck or chance when figuring up to put in a tender. He will have a memorandum or a sheet of paper before him containing a list of every possible item required about a building similar to the one estimated on, with the prices of the items attached, the cost of preparing, putting in place and completing. The memorandum or sheet will also contain the prices of all sorts of materials, stones, bricks, lumber, etc., etc., with marginal notes, giving hints and suggestions as to the best and most economical methods of performing the various kinds of work. He will have at his hand tables of quantities so that he may be enabled in short order to figure up the amount of stone wanted, the number of bricks required, of slates or shingles, of rough joists, studs, rafters, collar beams or other timbers; the amount of laths or number of yards of plastering, and of painting, cornice, etc., etc. A "tickler" or "reminder" of some sort is absolutely necessary for correct estimating—that is if there is such a thing as correct estimating, which we very much doubt-and these are easily acquired if a man sets himself about to get one: Keep a good sized memorandum book always on hand, either in pocket or in your office. Keep track of all the work you do each day, the amount and quality of materials and cost of same cost of labor and time employed; add to these entries, as you may think will be of future use, such remarks as may occur to you, and condense and copy these entries in a suitable book, from time to time keeping each class of work by itself or under its own head-thus, for doors, make memoranda of cost of different styles of doors, pine, whitewood, hardwood, etc., cost of hanging, trimming and hardware for tame. Door frames might be put under the same head, including all kinds of door frames, interior, exterior, single and double, for brick, wood or stone, with and without transoms, including everything that may be necessary to complete he work, even to painting and finishing them. Memoranda of this kind, made from actual experience, are: worth to the estimator their weight in gold, for with them he can arrive at once at the actual cost of work similar to that estimated for. It takes some time and considerable labor to prepare a book such as I speak

of, and the young contractor will meet with many difficulties in the search after reliable data for it, but, if he is persistent, an I lets no opportunity slip in gathering up material, he will soon find himself the owner of one of the best and most reliable "Estimating Reminders" that can be put together.

The great value of a reminder of this sort lies in the fact that the party using it is the party who compiled it, and its weak, as well as its strong points, are known and provided for.

The art of estimating is the most difficult and most troublesome of the contractor's labors; and the man who cannot tie himself down to close application should never attempt to make an estimate, for like "learning," there is no "royal road" to the art. Time and labor under the very best conditions are required to arrive at anything like correct results, and without a "reminder" or other similar aid, it is next to impossible; in fact, the figures are merely the results of labored guess work.

#### TRANSOM LIGHTS.

It is customary to make all transoms of fan-lights the same thickness as the doors below them and to leave the rebate in the stile the same as for the door. This is a mistake, we think, so far as outer doors are concerned, for where the sashes are the same thickness as the door and there is no difference in the rebate, it follows that no stops can be put around the transom light to make it weathertight and hold it in place. It is suggested that the sashes be left the same thickness as the doors, as they always look more in keeping with the surrounding finish this way than if thinner, and that the rebate above the transom bar be one inch deeper than the rebate for the door, which would admit of a one inch stop being planted all round the transom sash when in place. This, it is suggested, would make a much better job and a much tighter one than the usual way of finishing about a transom light.

The writer is aware that there are other methods of fastening and finishing transoms than those mentioned, but as they are only adopted in the most expensive buildings, they are purposely overlooked here and the more general methods are discussed. This matter of purposely

"stopping" a transom light may not appear a startling one, but it is one of those little things that is deserving the attention of those workmen who desire to make the best of everything they do.

With inside tran-oms the conditions are different, as in most cases they are so arranged as to be adjustable, to open and close at will. There are cases, however, where the system suggested in the foregoing would be just as well suited to the inside transom as to the outside, and where it can be applied, it is our opinion it ought to be, unless special arrangements to the contrary are made. This not only applies to transoms with square heads, but to semi-circular and elliptical transom lights, or transom lights of any shape.—The National Builder.

#### TO PRESERVE WOOD.

A writer in the Technical Review of Natural Science, of Jena, Germany, in a review of the various processes of impregnating wood in order to preserve it, says that he considers the carbolienum avenarias to possess merits of a high order, as it requires no machinery or apparatus, but sin.ply a brush for painting or an iron tank for immersing the woodwork. He says the use of this article is based upon the essential fact that a good system of impregnation must efficiently prevent every degree of the rotting and decaying of wood, even in unfavorable conditions, and it must also be so cheap that no obstacle of this kind will exist to its use in great quantities-must be easily employed and furnished ready for use—another desirable point being that the impregnation be such as will give an attractive color to the treated woodwork. The writer states that these qualities are combined in the substance in question, it being a carbonate of oil of 1.14 specific gravity, and having components which are energetically antiseptic, its boiling point being 557 degrees Fahr. He considers impermeable coatings, which are so much resorted to, as of little value when the wood at the time of their application is not perfectly dry and seasoned, as they prevent, as must naturally be the case, the evaporation of the humidity contained in the word, especially in certain cases, and rather promote decay.

Frank Squibb, plumber, Hamilton, is said to have assigned to C. Freeman.



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## GERMAN PILE DRIVING.

Mr. H. C. Carpenter, United States Commercial Agent at Furth, Germany, writing of the method employed in driving piles at that place, says: A simple block-and-fall arrangement is rigged up over the pile and to the end of the rope, running through the pulley and fastened to the weight, are attached about twentyfive smaller ropes and hand pieces, and twenty-five men grab these, and, at a signal from one of their number, all pull together. The weight goes up about eighteen inches or two fcet, when the men relax their hold and the weight drops. It is unnecessary to state how long it takes by such a method to drive a pile or how much more effectually a small dummy engine would do the work. In the erection of buildings the same tedious process is employed. Every stone to be raised requires the strength of a pair of horses and about fifteen men tugging away at the rope. The machinery manufactured and used in America for such purposes would do away with this clumsy method, but none of it seems to be in the market here.

#### WATER PROOFING BRICKS.

Experiments made to ascertain the length of time that brick and sandstone are rendered water-proof or protected, by oiling, show some valuable results. The oils used were linseed oil, boiled linseed, and the crude mineral oil, known as "blue oil," and the exposure was on a roof fairly exposed to the sun and weather, the bricks being good, sound, machinemade. It is stated that the amount of oil and water taken up by the sandstone was very much less than that absorbed by the bricks, although the area of the sand stone cubes was much the greater. Equal amounts of the raw and boiled oils were absorbed; the blue oil, however, was taken up in much greater quantity by both bricks and sandstone, but by the end of twelve months the whole of the thirteen and one half ounces of blue oil had evaporated, and the bricks had returned to their original state, but those treated

with raw and boiled oils were unchanged. Finally, it was seen that the sandstone cubes treated with raw and boiled oils returned to their original weights, but not appearing to have lost the good effects of the oils, being practically impervious.

A method of finishing a pine floor that gives unsatisfactory results is to well rub in, by means of a cloth, boiled linseed oil, to which has been added a little colour. When this is thoroughly dry the surface is either waxed or varnished; if waxed it needs rubbing occasionally with a little beeswax to bring up its lustre.

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# MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

#### VALUABLE REPORT ON ROAD CON-STRUCTION.

Mr. A. W. Campbell, Provincial Road Instructor for Ontario, at the request of the City Council of Woodstock, Ont., presented a report on the streets of that town, which contains much information of interest to municipalities who have the subject of road improvement under consideration. We print a large portion of the report herewith:

#### ROAD EXPENDITURE.

Money for this purpose is appropriated from the general funds of the town to the amount of about \$2,000 annually. It is distributed among the various wards, and the sum given to each is under the control of the councillor representing that ward on the Board of Works. Under this system the effect invariable is to again subdivide the ward appropriation to such an extent that no work of a durable nature can be attempted. The people expect the amount to be scattered and the council has no course to pursue. system is fundamentally bad. Money is not spent in accordance with the requirements of street improvement, and the result is waste, extravagance and bad roads. An annual appropriation from the general funds for the repair of roads is found to work satisfactorily and equit ably. To construct roads, however, under this method is practically an impossibility, as the expenditure cannot be sufficiently concentrated.

## FRONTAGE TAX.

The most suitable remedy for existing conditions in Woodstock is the frontage tax system. When work is undertaken under it, money is raised by the issue of debentures extending over a term of years. The amount is assessed against the property abutting on the work, or benefitted by it, according to the frontage of the lot, or according to its superficial area, or according to the assessed value of the property. Whichever one of these plans is chosen by the council must be stated in a general by-law submitted to the people for the adoption of the system. By means of the frontage tax system sufficient money can be raised to do durable, serviceable and economical work; and it is the most satisfactory method of consolidating road expenditure. Money thus raised is obtained at a very low rate of interest, and payment being extended over a term of years, the annual taxation is small. The ultimate cost is no greater than under the old system of patchwork, the difference being that less money is wasted. The durable improve-ments obtained are at once a benefit to the individual property owner, the value of property is increased, and the town as whole becomes a more desirable place of residence

Under this system work may be under-

taken in three ways: (1) On the petition of at least two-thirds of the property owners affected, representing at least one-half of the value of the real property benefitted. (2) On the initiation of the council, unless petitioned against by a majority of the property owners affected, representing at least one-half of the property benefitted. (3) On the recommendation of the Board of Health for sanitary reasons. In assessing the cost, ratepayers are notified of the amount, etc., and courts of revision are held, giving an opportunity to appeal, and to adjust any errors in the assessment.

As has been intimated, a general by-law for the introduction of the system must be submitted to the citizens, and must be sanctioned by a majority vote. In framing this general by-law very great care must be taken to adjust it to local circumstances as far as possible. When this is done, and the by-law provides for a just and equitable assessment, street improvement is invariably stimulated. To this end peculiar cases, such as corner lots, triangular or irregularly shaped lots, side hills and similar property should be taken into consideration, also the matter of street intersections, which are sometimes paid for by the property owners on the street, and sometimes by the municipality. The frontage tax has in some cases unquestionably worked injustice, but when the by-law is judiciously framed there is no fairer way of paying for street improvement.

#### SUPERVISION OF STREET IMPROVEMENT.

In the direction and supervision of street improvement in Woodstock there are very serious defects. This branch of public work is in the hands of the ward epresentative on the Board of Works. There are five wards in Woodstock, and each member of the Board of Works is subjected to the possibility of a change annually. The result of such a system is that there is an entire lack of uniformity in street improvement. The work of one year is generally done without reference to the work of succeeding years, in view of which it may be rendered useless. Almost every street presents instances of this defect, in its sidewalks, its drainage, grades, and road metalling. For economical and satisfactory results, there should be someone with a knowledge of the principles of roalmaking and street im-provement over this branch of public work, who would examine, stake out, and report to the Board of Works, with plans and specifications, and works of importance should be let by contract. All work should be completed under the supervision of this official. He should be in constant touch with the chairman and Board of Works, and should attend each of their meetings for consultation. Even if all who have ever been members of your Board of Works had been expert roadmakers, the constant change and interchange of plans would necessarily result in patchwork.

#### DRA!NASE.

Good pavements are largely a matter of good drainage. Not that the shape of the roadway, the material of which the surface is composed, or the way in which it is laid, are unimportant—but that these are very largely a part of the system of drainage. With the River Thames in the westerly portion of the town and Cedar Creek passing through the southern portion, with natural depressions or water courses leading to those streams throughout the town, admirable facilities for street drainage are afforded.

Underdrainage is one of the first points to consider. In making roads it is the native soil which must really support the weight of the traffic, no mutter what paving material is used to surface it Gravel, stone, brick or asphalt are not sufficiently strong to bridge over a wet

and yielding sub-soil. But it this natural soil is kept in a dry state it can support any weight, and to this end underdrainage is necessary. Underdrainage of common field tile, four to six inches in diameter, should be placed on each side of the carriageway underneath the gutters, and below frost. This "lowers the waterline," and secures a good foundation.

There must be surface drainage, and for this the roadway should be crowned or rounded up, covered with suitable surface material, and open gutters provided to carry away this surface water. The surface metal (grave or other material) of course resists wear, but on streets which are lightly travelled the main object is to prevent the water penetrating the natural soil underneath, making it unfit to support traffic. By crowning the surface of the road, water is shed at once to the side, where provision should be made to carrry it away immediately in open gutters.

Gutters or underdrains are useless unless outlets are provided and care should be taken to see that these do not become obstruc ed. Surface drains may have outlets into the tile drains through catch-basins, or into the sewers where capacity for storm water is provided.

Springs underneath roadways should be tapped with blind drains and the water carried diagonally to the underdrains at the side of the road.

## CROWNING THE ROADWAY.

To secure perfect drainage the roads should be uniformly crowned or rounded. On the streets of Woodstock very little attention appears to have been given to this important matter; as on the majority of streets no crown whatever is made, while in one or two instances, notably Vansittart ave., it is considerably above the adjoining property, driving the traffic to the gutters and making it almost dan-gerous to turn from the centre. On gravel or macadam streets this crown should be one inch of rise to each foot horizontal from the gutter to the centre; that is the centre of a roadway 24 feet wide should be 12 inches higher than the outer edge. It is well to first establish outer edge. the grade of the sidewalk and then make the centre of the roadway conform to this as nearly as possible and with the same elevation. On hills the crown should be sharper, say ½ inch rise to one foot horizontal, so as to draw the water quickly to the gutters and prevent it following the wheel tracks and deepening them to Obtain the crown chiefly by rounding up the sub-grade or earth foundation, the remainder to be made up by the additional quantity of road metal placed in the centre of the roadway. Thus for a roadway 24 feet wide, the crown of the sub-grade should be nine inches, the remaining three inches to be secured by difference in thickness of gravel between the centre and the sides. Care should be taken to make the crown perfectly circular.

# FORMING THE ROADBED.

The practice in your town has been to pile gravel in the centre of the roadway on the top of the natural soil, or to bring the earth from the gutter to the centre of the roadway, placing gravel on the top of this. This is the plan usually followed in grading township roads, but is totally unsuited for street construction.

suited for street construction.

The roadbed should be excavated to the required width to receive the gravel, broken stones or other road material and the excavated earth used in making boulevards or filling in the low lots to bring them to the grade of the street. The sides of the streets should be levelled to conform to the surface of the roadway. As far as practicably the crown of the finished street should not be higher than the adjoining property, but should conform to certain established grades.

(To be Continued.)

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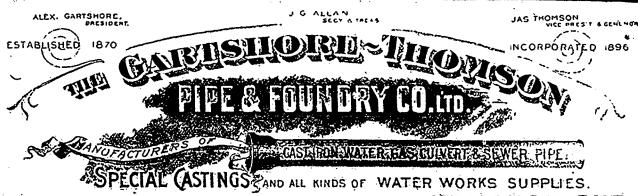
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CONDITION OF THE MARKET.	Common Walling 6 so 6 oo	ORMENT, LIME, etc. Portland Cements.—
TORONTO: The feature of the market this	Good Facing 800 850 Sawer 830 800 850 900	German, per bbl 350 255 26 London " 275 300 292 20
week has been a drop in the price of cut nails.	Presed Brick, Per M:	Newcastle " #75 185 19
Following the collapse of the nail combine in the United States, American manufacturers	11 11 4	English, artifical, per bbl., aft and at 46
made a strong effort to capture Canadian trade,	Buff	Brigian, natural, per bbl 253 263 170 185 Canadian " 255 275 180 185
and at a meeting of Ontario manufacturers a	Brown 24 00 Roman Red 30 00	Roman 200 225 Parian 11 . 475 500 550 575
reduction of 45 cents per keg was decided up- on in order to meet the competition. The	11 Buff 35 00	Superfine " . 75 7 25 8 00 9 00
price is now \$2.30, with a relate in car lots of	Sewerman	Hydraulic Cements.—  Thorold, per bbl
price is now \$2.30, with a relate in car lots of 71/2 cents per keg The lowering in price has	Hand Building	Queenston, " 171 150 160
not stimulated trade, there being little de- mand. Wire nails are more active. Cement	Hip Tile(erch) 20	Hull, 11 175 150
jobbers are getting in their winter supplies, but	astquality, f.o.b. at Port Credit to co 18 co	Ontario, " 150 Keene's Coarse " Whites" 450 475 450 475
few sales are effected. Iron pipe and galvan-	and " " " 10 00 15 00 3rd " " 4 8 00 12 09	Fire Bricks, Newcastle perM 27 00 35 00 15 00 21 00
ized iron are selling freely at firm quotations.	Hard building brick 6 50 Ornamental, per 100 3 00 10 00	Scotch 27 00 35 00 19 00 25 00  Lime, Per Barrel, Grey 40  White 50
MONTREAL: No material change has taken place in the market. The general tone of	SAND,	Plaster, Calcined, N. B 200
business is perhaps slightly improved, and	Per Load of 11/2 Cubic Yards 1 25 1 25	Hair, Plasterers', per bag 80 roo
some lines are moving freely. Among these	STONE.	HARDWARE.
are iron pipe, galvanized iron and building paper. A fair business is also doing in fire-	Common Rubble, per toise, delivered 10 00 11 00	Cut nails, 3cd & 6cd, per keg 2 75 2 75
bricks and cement, at the advanced quotations.	Large flat Rubble, per tolse, delivered	Steel 11 11 11 2 85 2 85 CUT NAILS, PENCE AND CUT SPIKES.
The stock of cement is larger than was at first	Foundation Blocks, per c. ft. 3; 50 Kent Freestone Quarries	40d, hot cut, per 10.1bs 280 28q
anticipated, and will be ample for the winter's trade; consequently, values are likely to rule	Moncton, N. B., per cu	20d, 15d and 12d, hot cut, per
steady. Glass and paints and oils are dull and	ft., f.o.b	100 lbs 2 00 2 90 10d, hoz cut, per 100 lbs 2 95 2 95
řeatureless.	Freestone, per cu. ft., f.o.b. 95 Ballochmyle 80 90 65 75	8d, 9d, 11 11 11, 3 00 3 00
LUMBER.	New York Blue Stone 1 05 Granite (Stanstead) Ashlar, 6	4d to 5d, ;; ; ; 3 3! 3 3\$
CAR OR CARGO LOTS.	in. to 12 in., rise 9 tu., per ft. 25	2d, " " " 425 425
Toronto, Montreal.	Moat Freestone	4d to 5d cold cut, not polished or blued, per 100 lbs 3 25 3 25
\$ \$ \$ \$	Credit Valley Rubble, per car	3d to 5d cold cut, not polished
134 to 2 clear picks. Am ins33 00@35 00 40 00@45 00 134 to 2 three uppers, Am ins. 37 00 40 00 45 00	Credit Valley Brown Cours-	FINE BLUED NAILS.
tinch clear	yard, at quarry 150 175 150 175	3d, per 100 lbs 4 25 4 2
x to and 12 dressing and x better20 00 22 00 18 00 20	Credit Valley Brown Dimen-	CASING AND BOX, PLOORING, SHOOK AND TOBACCO BOX
t x 10 and 12 mill run16 00 17 00 19	Credit Valley Grey Coursing,	HAILS.
t x to and 12 dresting20 00 22 00 18 00 t x to and 12 common13 00 14 00 8 00 10 00	per super. yard, at quarry. 1 00 1 00 Credit Valley Grey Dimen-	tod, "" 338 336
Spruce culls	sion, per cu. ft., at quarry. 45 45 Clark's N. B. Brown Stone,	6d and 7d, " " 365 365
I inch clear and picks 28 00 3200 35 00 40 00	per cubic foot, f.o.b 1 15 1 00 Brown Free Stope, Wood- point, Sackville, N.B., per	4d to 5d, " " 385 3.85 3d, " " 425 425
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t inclusiting, mill culls 9 00 10 00 8 00 9 00 Call scantling	Madoc dimension floating, f.	2 to 2 1 " " 3 00 3 co
iW and thicker cutting up	o. b. Toronto, per cubic ft. 30 32	175 10 174 4 10 4 10
plank	Cape Bauld, N. B., Brown Freestone	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
inch strips, common	Stone (ol.ve-green) 90 73	SLATING NAILS.
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Shipping cull boards, pro-	Sawed Ash'ar, No. 1 Blue, any thickness, per cub. ft. 85 90	a inch. per toolbe a 60 a 66
Shipping cull boards, stocks 1600 1600	Sawed Flagging, per sq. ft., for each inch in thickness. 061/2 071/2	3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
Hemlock scantling and joist up to 16 ft	Above prices cover cost freight and duty paid. For	175 and 174 " 410 410 174 " 475 476
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cord	12 in. x 6 in. x 4 1/2 in., per M 50 00	z½ and z¾ " 460 460
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44 44 15 18 18 15 00 16 00 14 44 20 18 16 00 16 00	SLATE. Rocfing (* square).	STREL WIRE NAILS.
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Cutting up planks, 1% and thicker, dry	" zinc, Can., 11 11 6 50 7 50 6 50 7 50 Red lead, Eng 400 500 4 50 500	Toronto, 65 per cent. discount.
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18 ii midrossed 12 00 15 00 12 00 15 00	Black lamp 15 25 12 25	Adam's Mar's Best and Queen's Head;
Beaded sheeting, dressed20 00 35 00 22 00 36 00 Clapboarding, dressed	Blue, ultramarine 15 20 12 18 Oil, linseed, raw, by bbl. \$	16 to 24 guage, per lb 4½c. 4½c. 25 guage, 4½ 4½ 5
XXX sawn shingles, per M 2 60 2 70 3 00	Oil linseed, U.'d, by bbl., 38 48 58 59	Gordon Crown 5 5%
Sawn lath	Imp. gal 51 51 62 63	16 to 24 guage, per lb 4% 4% 26 guage, 4% 4% 28
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Cherry, No. 1 and 2	Whiting dry, per 100 lbc 60 80 60 75 Paris white, Eng., dry 50 x 25 90 x 00	Steel Beams, per 100 lbs 275 250,
Black Ash, No. 1 and 220 00 30 00 18 00 30 00 Dressing stocks	Lithary's Eng 4 5 450 500	angles, a so a so
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