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# THE Canadian Contract Record

A Weekly Journal of Advance Information and Public Works.

Vol. 1.

Toronto, Canada, Feb. 22, 1890.

No. 2

## THE CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD,

*A Weekly Journal of Advance Information  
and Public Works.*

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

As an Intermediate Edition of the Canadian Architect and Builder.

Subscription Price of "Canadian Architect and Builder" (including "Canadian Contract Record") \$2 per annum, payable in advance.

**C. H. MORTIMER, Publisher.**

14 KING ST. WEST, TORONTO, CANADA.

The purposes of this journal are to supply Contractors, Manufacturers and Dealers throughout Canada, with advance information regarding contracts open to tender, and to furnish Architects, Municipal and other Corporations with a direct medium of communication with Contractors

*Information from any part of the Dominion regarding contracts open to tender will be gratefully received.*

### ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

*At its Convention held in Toronto, Nov. 20 and 21, 1889, the Ontario Association of Architects signified its approval of the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD, and pledged its members to use this journal as their medium of communication with contractors with respect to advertisements for Tenders.*

### USEFUL HINTS.

Hard finish is cheaper than paint for woodwork, looks better and lasts longer.

The weight of a crowd of men closely packed is about 84 pounds per superficial foot.

**VARNISH FOR UNPAINTED WORK.**—Quarter of a pint of wood naphtha, quarter of a pint spirits of wine, four ounces benzoin, four ounces oranges shellac; dissolve all together.

The cost of houses may be approximated by rating small ones at twelve to twenty cents per cubic foot for ordinary plans, and fifteen to twenty-five cents where there is an extraordinary amount of plumbing, etc., and the site unfavorable. Thus a house 30 x 30 x 25 containing 22,500 cubic feet, would range from \$2,700 if of frame in a favorable locality and not too elaborate to \$5,525 if of stone and in an expensive place and "liberally" constructed.

**THE FLOW OF STEAM.**—The velocity at which steam flows in pipes and through apertures is governed by the same law as the flow of liquids, if the gravity is considered. It is more convenient, however, to compute the flow from temperature, as follows:  $V = 60 \sqrt{T + 460}$ , or the velocity per second equals 60 times the square root of the degree of temperature with 460 added. The flow is nearly uniform at different pressures, and the following table will answer for nearly all cases without further calculation:

Pressure in lbs. per in.,	25	30	45	60	75	100	150
Velocity in ft. per sec'd,	863	867	877	885	891	898	908

Mortises where in the side of a beam, should be cut as near as possible in the centre of the depth, where the neutral axis is, thus weakening the beam to the least extent. But tenons, to have the greatest strength, should be at or near the under side

of the joint. To reconcile these two, give the tenon a depth of  $\frac{1}{4}$  and a length of  $\frac{1}{3}$  the depth of the cross beam, and make the level side of the cross beam into a shoulder, let into the main beam one-half the length of the tenon.

**IMITATION EBONY.**—Wash any compact wood with a boiling decoction of logwood three or four times, allowing it to dry between each application. Then wash it with a solution of acetate of iron, which is made by dissolving iron filings in vinegar. This stain is very black, and penetrates to a considerable depth into the wood, so that ordinary scratching or chipping does not show the original color.

**INTERESTING ENGINEERING FEAT.** The method of constructing the foundations of the great drawbridge over the Thames at New London is of exceptional interest. Timber curbs were constructed, which were sunk eighty feet into the bed of the river, the bottom of which was soft mud for this depth. The mud inside the curb was excavated, and the piles driven into the solid ground then obtained. The heads of these piles were then bound together with concrete, on which the masonry of the pier was finally erected.

**STAINED FLOORS.**—The hue to be given in staining a floor greatly depends on the condition of the boards. If they are smooth or fine grained, a satinwood or pitch stain is appropriate, but if a floor is old and somewhat rough, it may be well to stain it with dark oak or mahogany. After the stain is applied with the brush, it is to be wiped dry with a soft cloth. For the ultra-fashionable floor of a pale shade of oak sized and varnished, raw sienna powder is mixed with water. Although at first of a painfully glaring yellow, sizing tones down the strong color surprisingly and the polish brings out the true oak shade to perfection. A coating of shellac varnish to parquet floors has the fault of becoming brittle as soon as the spirit used in dissolving it has evaporated. The objection to linseed oil is its darkening effect on the wood, besides rendering in time different kinds of wood much of the same color. White wax so prepared as to be free from stickiness makes one of the best finishes. Once the floor has been properly filled and finished, it keeps fresh and bright, and when a little dull only needs to be rubbed over with a weighted brush or cloth.

**FIRE-PROOFING WOOD-WORK.** The Western Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company have issued the following suggestions relative to the construction of fire-proofing wood-work. A door of the right construction to resist fire, should be made of pine, and should be of two or more thicknesses of matched boards nailed across each other, either at right angles or at 45°. If the doorway be more than 7 by 4 feet, it would be better to use three thicknesses of the same stuff; in other words, the door should be of a thickness proportioned to its area. Such a door should always be made to shut into a rabbit, or flush with the wall when practicable; or, if it is a sliding door, then it should be made to shut into or behind a jamb, which would press it up against the wall. Both sides of the door and its jambs, if of wood, should then be sheathed with tin, the plates being locked at joints and securely nailed under the locking with nails at least one inch long. No air-spaces should be left in a door, by paneling or otherwise, as the door will resist best that has the most solid material in it. In most places it is much better to fit the door upon inclined metal sliders than upon hinges. This kind of door may be fitted with automatic appliances, so that it will close of itself when subjected to the heat of a fire, but these appliances do not interfere with the ordinary methods of opening and shutting the door—they only constitute a safeguard against negligence. The construction of shutters varies from that of doors only in the use of thinner wood.



### CONTRACTS OPEN.

**BROCKVILLE, ONT.**—A new public school building is to be erected.

**MIDDLESEX, ONT.**—The Presbyterians will erect a new church soon.

**PERTH, ONT.**—St. Andrews congregation will build a new church on a new site.

**ALMONTE, ONT.**—A new church will be built in the spring by the Presbyterians.

**HAYSVILLE, ONT.**—The congregation of Christ Church contemplate improvements.

**SMITH'S FALLS, ONT.**—A new post office and customs buildings are expected for this town.

**YARMOUTH, N. S.**—It is proposed to expend \$50,000 in street and sidewalk improvement.

**LACHINE, QUE.**—A new Roman Catholic Presbytery is to be erected in the spring. — Also a new post office to cost \$12,000.

**TRENTON, ONT.**—The Government has been asked to make needed improvements to the post office building in this town.

**DIGBY, N. S.**—The Dominion Government has been asked to make a grant for the construction of a new pier at this harbour.

**HALIFAX, N. S.**—The Board of Health will apply to the Legislature for authority to borrow \$400,000 to construct additional sewers.

**PARIS, ONT.**—The town council is collecting information which it is proposed to use in providing the town with a system of pure water supply.

**OTTAWA, ONT.**—Permission has been granted by Parliament to the Pontiac and Pacific Junction Railway to construct a bridge over the Ottawa river.

**COLLINGWOOD, ONT.**—The Government will cause a survey to be made of the harbor, with a view to making the improvements necessary to put it in good condition.

**NEW GLASGOW, N. S.**—The Board of Trade have decided to petition the Government for \$100,000, for the purpose of deepening the river between New Glasgow and Pictou.

**BOTHWELL, ONT.**—Tenders will be received by I. E. Vogler until March 5th, for the erection of an iron bridge with stone abutments across the river Thames on the county line between Kent, Elgin and Middlesex.

**PORT STANLEY.**—Deputations representing this town and the cities of London and St. Thomas, will urge the Government to improve Port Stanley harbor. — A number of cottages are to be built on the beach here this spring.

**GUELPH, ONT.**—New county buildings are needed. The suggestion is made that they should be erected in a more central locality. — The city council is considering how it may provide funds for the construction of a sewage system.

**WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.**—The congregation of Annette street Methodist church will erect a new edifice with a seating capacity of 1,200. — This town is seeking authority from the Legislature to construct subways or overhead bridges.

**LONDON, ONT.**—The Ontario Government and the C. P. R. are asked to share with the city the cost of construction of a trunk sewer. — The chief of the fire department recommends that the present central fire station be torn down and a new one erected. — Mr. Anderson will probably build two more stores east of the McCormack block.

**BRANTFORD, ONT.**—The school authorities are collecting information in Toronto and elsewhere to be utilized in the erection of a new school to take the place of the Central School recently damaged by fire. — By-laws will be introduced providing for the construction of sewage and fire alarm systems. The proposed cost of the former is placed at \$30,000.

**KINGSTON, ONT.**—A syndicate is looking for a suitable site on which to erect steel works. The Fire and Light Committee of the city council intend to erect an engine house in the upper part of the city. — The trustees of the general hospital are considering the question of erecting a new wing to that institution. — A site has been purchased for a new Anglican church in Williamsville.

**HAMILTON, ONT.**—Mr. James Balfour, architect, has prepared plans for two new school buildings, the estimated cost of which will be \$22,000 and \$32,000 respectively. The building committee of the school board have the plans under consideration. — Plans are being prepared for a factory building 434 x 100 feet for the Sawyer-Massey Co. — The Inspector of Prisons recommends the erection of an addition to the gaol. — Tenders will be asked by the city council for the construction of a stone or granolithic pavement surrounding the new city hall. — The city will grant a bonus of \$275,000 to aid the construction of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway. The proviso is made that the railway company shall construct a tunnel from Bay to James St., the cost of which is estimated at \$125,000.

**VICTORIA, B. C.**—The Pandora street Methodist church will erect an edifice costing not less than \$60,000. — St. Andrew's (R. C.) congregation

will erect a handsome cathedral costing in the neighborhood of \$75,000. — Three and four-storey brick blocks will be put up at the corner of Government and Fort streets, at the corner of Government and Broughton streets, at the corner of Douglas and View streets, at the corner of Johnson and Government streets, at the corner of Yates and Waddington Alley. Similar buildings will replace primitive structures on Government, Yates, Fort, Johnson and Douglas streets. — It is believed that the Canadian Western Hotel Co. will begin the construction of a hotel costing \$150,000. — The proprietors of the Dravid have stated their intention to erect a seven storey addition to their hotel, facing on View street.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—The Carmelites have purchased a piece of land on Rachel street between Duferin and Amherst, upon which they intend building a convent next spring. — The City Surveyor's estimate of expenditures by the Roads Department the present year includes the following: Squares, \$10,500, roads, \$140,901, paving repairs, \$2,000, sidewalks (wood) \$57,000, sewer repairs \$10,000, catch basins, \$41,000, private drain connections, \$1,800, river roads, \$1,500, names and numbers of streets, \$2,000. Of the \$140,901 put down for roads, only one-fifth will be expended this year and the balance in the four succeeding years. — The estimates of the Water Committee contain \$23,412 for distribution pipes. — Tenders are asked by the City Clerk until noon of Saturday, 1st March, for the erection of a public weigh house. — It has been decided to build the new Roman Catholic church of St. Louis at the corner of Roy and Laval streets. — There is a rumor that the Seminary intend erecting a large hall for the entertainment of young men, on the corner of St. Denis and St. Catherine streets.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—The city registry office does not afford sufficient accommodation. The erection of a new one is being urged. — The city will contribute \$30,000 towards the cost of erecting a bridge across the Rosedale Ravine at the head of Sherbourne St. — A new police station will be erected to take the place of the one at St. Andrew's market. — The Provincial estimates for the present year include the sum of \$91,916.59 for repairs to public buildings, and \$18,500 for repairs to public works. — University College will at once be rebuilt at a cost of \$250,000. The Ontario Legislature will furnish \$160,000 of this amount, the balance coming from the insurances on the burned building. — The Dominion Piano Co., of Bowmanville, are looking for a suitable site in Toronto on which to erect a large factory. — Messrs. Peter McIntyre and W. G. Storm, propose to erect on the Island a summer hotel capable of accommodating 500 guests, if the necessary arrangements can be made with the city council. — The Park Superintendent says 75,000 yards of dredging will be required at Island Park the coming season. — The construction of new wharves at the Island has been decided upon. — The following building permits have been granted since last issue: Toronto Real Estate & Investment Co., add. storey and alterations s. w. cor. Church and Colborne Sts., cost \$3,500; Mr. Curran, pr. s. d. 2 storey and attic bk. fronted dwellings, St. Patrick St., near Spadina Ave., cost \$1,800.

### CONTRACTS AWARDED.

**WINNIPEG, MAN.**—The contract for the erection of the W. E. Sanford Company's new warehouse at the corner of Princess and Bannatyne streets, Winnipeg has been awarded to Bruce & Madden. The amount of the tender is between twenty and twenty-five thousand dollars.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—Contracts were awarded a week ago by the city as follows: Block paving—Hamilton street, \$1,828; Gordon avenue, \$2,249, and Brighton avenue, \$838, to Wm. Cassels. Peter street, \$1,890, John street, \$4,950, Morris street, \$1,249, and Birch avenue, \$2,460, to John McCracken. Bridge street, \$1,502, to H. A. Brown. Mackenzie Avenue, \$742, to A. W. Godson. Sewers—Radenhurst street, \$875, to J. H. McKnight. Withrow avenue, \$2,373, Smith street, \$1,151, and Defries street, \$432, to John Farley. Sand—To all localities east of Yonge street at \$1.03 per ton, to J. H. McKnight, and west of Yonge street at \$1 per ton, to Ardagh & Leonard.

### BIDS.

**MONTREAL, QUE.**—The following bids have been received by the Water Committee for the supply of cast iron pipe: Gloucester Iron Works, Philadelphia, \$32.91 per ton, B. J. Coghlin, \$43; J. X. Perrault, \$41; T. T. Turnbull, \$40.48; Canada Pipe Company, \$40; Londonderry Iron Company, \$36.45; D. V. Stewart & Co., Glasgow, Scotland, \$43; J. Bellhouse, \$46.20. A tender was also received from the Wood Company, of Philadelphia, but as it was not in accordance with the specifications, it was thrown out. The awarding of the contract was deferred until the next meeting, in order that the Gloucester Iron Works could be communicated with in regard to the terms of their contract. The following firms tendered for the supply of five copper 24-inch water valves: R. H. Buchanan & Co., \$268 each, John MacDougall, \$255.60, Miller Bros. & Mitchell, \$325, Darling & Bros., \$315, Eagle Foundry, \$295, E. Chanteloup, \$235, Guilford & Felton, \$450. The tender was unanimously awarded Mr. Chanteloup.

The death is recorded of Mr. John Philpot, one of the oldest contractors and builders of the city of St. Thomas, Ont., at the advanced age of 81 years.

**BUSINESS TROUBLES.**

THE following assignments of contractors are reported  
George H. Maltchets, 5 Parkdale Avenue, Toronto;  
Chas. O. Lamontague, contractor for the Lachine Water Works,  
Montreal.

**LEGAL DECISIONS.**

IN the case of Langdon et al. vs. Northfield, lately decided by the Supreme Court of Minnesota, it appeared that the contract sued on (by which the defendants agreed to construct or grade a portion of a railway, 85 per cent. of the contract price to be paid by plaintiffs monthly on the monthly estimates of the engineer, the remaining 15 per cent. to be retained until the final estimate of the work was completed) contained a provision that if the defendants neglected or refused, after notice, to proceed with the work as fast as, in the opinion of the plaintiffs or the chief engineer of the railway company, was necessary for its completion within a time specified in the contract, then the plaintiffs might "employ other parties to execute any part of the work and charge the cost of the same to the defendants, to be deducted out of the retained percentage or out of any payment that shall become due on any former estimate or that may become due on any subsequent estimate." The court held that the defendants' liability to reimburse the plaintiffs for the cost

of executing a part of the work was not limited to the amount due defendants on the contract retained in the hands of the plaintiffs.

An action was recently brought in the Toronto courts by John Cowdy against his employer, a contractor named Hamblyn, claiming \$3,000 for injuries sustained owing to the fall of a scaffold. The jury awarded plaintiff \$300.

**TESTING THE HARDNESS OF WATER.**

A RAPID method for ascertaining the amount of lime and sodium carbonate necessary to soften a hard water has been devised by M. L. Vignon. It gives satisfactory results in waters which do not contain a large quantity of magnesium chloride or sulphate. He employs a standard solution of lime for titrating the water, using an alcoholic solution of phenolphthalein as indicator. The volume of lime water added is a measure of the lime required to combine with the free carbonic acid present in the water, and that necessary to convert the hydrogen calcium carbonate and hydrogen magnesium carbonate into insoluble salts. On filtering off the precipitate formed in this way from 100 c. c. of the water under examination, the filtrate is titrated with a solution of sodium carbonate containing 1 gram per litre, phenol-phthalein again being used to indicate the end of the reaction.—*Industries.*

A glue which is proof against moisture, may be made by dissolving 16 ounces of glue in 3 pints of skim milk. If stronger glue is wanted, add powdered lime.

Complaint is sometimes made of the thick skins and dry, hard conditions in general of old lead. A point worth remembering by the "old league" fanatics, is to always open a lead keg from the bottom. The lead will be found to be much smoother and softer than on the top.

Please mention the CANADIAN CONTRACT RECORD when corresponding with advertisers.

**UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.**

**TENDERS.**

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the undersigned until Wednesday, February 26th, 1890, at 12 o'clock noon, for the plumbing and gasfitting of Upper Canada College. The envelopes to be marked "Tender for Plumbing and Gasfitting," and to be accompanied by an accepted cheque for ten per cent. of the amount as a guarantee of good faith. Plans and specifications can be seen at the Education Department.

GEO. W. ROSS, Minister of Education.

Education Dep't (Ont.), Toronto, 18th Feb., 1890.

**TO BUILDERS.**

TENDERS will be received at the office of the undersigned, where plans and specifications may be seen, on or before

**12 o'clock Noon of the 26th Instant,**  
For the several works required in the erection of a dwelling in this city.

JAMES BALFOUR, Architect,  
James and Main Sts., Hamilton.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the office of the undersigned, on or before

**THURSDAY, 27TH INST.,**

For the following work and materials for the City of London for the ensuing year:

- LUMBER FOR REPAIRS, NAILS,
- STONE FOR PAVING, CEDAR BLOCKS FOR PAVING,
- GRAVEL, PLANK WALKS, SWEEPING, BLOCK PAVEMENT, ETC.

Specifications and forms of tender at the aforesaid office.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

WM. JONES, THOS. H. TRACY,  
Ch. No. 2 Com. City Engineer.

**TO CONTRACTORS.**

**TENDERS**

Will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon on Friday, February 28th, for the several works required in the erection of a building for the Dorset school, Toronto.

No tender necessarily accepted.

STRICKLAND & SYMONS, Architects,  
18 Toronto St.



**TO CARPENTERS AND BUILDERS.**

TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned, will be received through registered post up to noon on THURSDAY, the 9th day of March next, for the erection of a Police Station on Ossington Avenue, on the lot adjoining the Fire Hall recently erected on that street.

Specification may be seen and all further information obtained upon application at the office of A. R. Denison, Esq., Architect, North of Scotland Chambers, No. 20 King Street West. Tenders must be accompanied by a cash deposit, or a marked cheque, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, for two and a half per cent. on all amounts over \$1,000, and for five per cent. on all amounts under \$1,000. Should any of the parties whose tenders are accepted fail to give satisfactory security for the due performance of the work, their deposits will be forfeited. The names of two responsible sureties must accompany each and every tender. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

FRANK MOSES,

Chairman Committee on Property.

City Clerk's Office, Toronto, Feb. 15, 1890.



**TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.**

TENDERS addressed to the undersigned will be received through registered post up to noon on THURSDAY, THE 9TH DAY OF MARCH NEXT, for the completion of the tower of the Cowan Avenue Fire Hall and certain other works in connection therewith, including slating, heating and concrete flooring.

Specifications may be seen and all further information obtained upon application at the office of A. R. Denison, Esq., Architect, North of Scotland Chambers, 20 King Street West.

Tenders must be accompanied by a cash deposit or a marked cheque, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, for two and a half per cent. on all amounts over \$1,000, and for five per cent. on all amounts under \$1,000. Should any of the parties whose tenders are accepted fail to give satisfactory security for the due performance of the work, their deposits will be forfeited. The names of two responsible sureties must accompany each and every tender.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

FRANK MOSES,

Chairman Committee on Property.

City Clerk's Office, Toronto, Feb. 15, 1890.

**Prices of Building Materials.**

**LUMBER.**

CAR OR CARGO LOTS.	
1 1/2 and thicker clear picks, Am. ins.	\$30 00 @ 32 00
1 1/2 and thicker, three uppers, Am. ins.	27 00
1 1/2 and thicker, pickings, Am. ins.	27 00
1 x 10 and 12 dressing and better.	18 00 20 00
1 x 10 and 12 mill run	13 00 14 00
1 x 10 and 12 dressing	14 00 16 00
1 x 10 and 12 common	12 00 13 00
1 x 10 and 12 spruce culls	10 00 11 00
1 x 10 and 12 maple culls	9 00
1 inch clear and picks	28 00 30 00
1 inch dressing and better	18 00 20 00
1 inch siding, mill run	14 00 15 00
1 inch siding, common	11 00 12 00
1 inch siding, ship culls	10 00 11 00
1 inch siding, mill culls	8 00 9 00
Cull scantling	8 00 9 00
1 1/2 and thicker cutting up plank	22 00 25 00
1 inch strips, 4 in. to 8 in. mill run	14 00 15 00
1 inch strips, common	11 00 12 00
1 1/2 inch flooring	14 00 15 00
1 1/2 inch flooring	14 00 16 00
XXX shingles, sawn	2 30 @ 2 35
XX shingles, sawn	1 30 1 35
Eastlake galvanized steel shingles, 24 W. G., per square	5 25
Eastlake galvanized steel shingles, 26 W. G., per square	5 00
Eastlake painted steel shingles, per sq.	4 00
Eastlake painted steel siding, per sq.	3 50
Manitoba galvanized steel siding, per square	4 50
Manitoba painted steel siding, per sq.	3 50
Special galvanized steel siding, per sq.	4 50
Special painted steel siding, per sq.	3 50
Imitation brick siding, per square	7 50

**YARD QUOTATIONS.**

Mill cull boards and scantling	10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	13 00
Shipping cull boards, stocks	14 00
Hemlock canting and joist up to 16 ft.	11 00 4 00
" " " " " "	18 " 12 00 13 00
" " " " " "	20 " 13 00 14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	14 00
" " " " " "	18 00
" " " " " "	20 00
" " " " " "	22 00
" " " " " "	24 00
" " " " " "	26 00
" " " " " "	28 00
" " " " " "	30 00
" " " " " "	32 00
" " " " " "	34 00
" " " " " "	36 00
" " " " " "	38 00
" " " " " "	40 to 44 ft. 35 00
Cutting up planks, 1 1/2 and thicker, dry board	25 00 26 00
Dressing stocks	18 00 22 00
Picks, American inspection	40 00
Three uppers, American inspection	50 00
Cedar for block paving, per cord	5 00
Cedar for Kerbing, 4 x 14, per M	14 00
1 1/2 inch flooring, dressed, F. M.	28 00 32 00
1 1/2 inch flooring rough, B. M.	18 00 22 00
1 1/2 " " " " " "	25 00 28 00
" " " " " "	18 00 19 00
" " " " " "	18 00 22 00
" " " " " "	12 00 15 00
Beaded sheeting, dressed	22 00 35 00
Clapboarding, dressed	12 00
XXX sawn shingles, per M, 16 in.	2 65 2 75
Sawn lath	2 00 2 20
Red oak	30 00 40 00
White	15 00 45 00
Basswood, No. 1 and 2	18 00 20 00
Cherry, No. 1 and 2	70 00 70 00
White ash, No. 1 and 2	25 00 25 00
Black ash, No. 1 and 2	20 00 30 00

