

A notable addition to Hawera business premises is the splendid building now nearing completion at the junction of High and Regent streets, to the order of Messrs Nolan and Tonks. It is a large two-storied building, finished throughout in brick, on solid concrete foundations, and its handsome appearance fronting the streets mentioned has been the subject of much favorable comment. The business people now in occupation have secured commodious premises and admirably adapted to their requirements. Price and Co. occupy a large shop in Regent street and also have the second floor as workshop and showroom. Premises fronting both Regent and High streets on the ground floor could not suit a business better than that of Mr J. Brunette, who is in possession. An adjoining shop is not yet tenanted. A fine suite of offices on the second floor (five rooms and a strong room) are occupied by Messrs Welsh and Ryan, and should adequately meet their requirements. The elevations of the building to High and Regent streets are finished in cement stucco with cornice enrichments on fluted columns, finished with Ionic capitals. The windows are circular headed and finished with cement architraves, caps and facings, and moulded sills running the whole length of the building. Access to the second floor is gained by fine staircases. On the ground floor there is a strong room for Mr Brunette. In each shop the Wunderlich patent steel ceilings are fixed, which is very pretty and a preventive against fire spreading in case of an outbreak. The windows of the shops are glazed with polished British plate glass, and the doors are also of plate glass. The windows are cased in and fitted with enamel glass sliding sashes. The other internal finishings are on a correspondingly elaborate scale. For lighting purposes Wade's patent skylight is utilised. Frontages are protected by a curved iron verandah resting on handsome cast iron columns and finished with cast brackets. Light for the shop windows is provided by large skylights in the verandah roof. The architect for the work was Mr J. E. Roe, contractor Mr E. A. Pacey, and sub-contractors Messrs Whittington (brick work) and Cowell and Kneebone (plumbing).