

corrosion of the iron is called, and the result is usually not only a leaky joint but a joint that leaks rusty water.

In other countries, England for instance, lead is used extensively, not only as a water conductor, but for waste and air pipes, owing to its pliable character allowing it to adapt itself to settlements, etc., that would inevitably result in leaks in the rigid iron pipe, with its caulked joints. In many of the old houses in English cities, lead pipe, some of it centuries old and hand made at that, is still doing good service.

Another advantage of lead pipe is the readiness with which it can be repaired, without disturbing the remainder of the plumbing systems. The disadvantages of its substitution for iron pipe, for a majority of the plumbers' purposes, makes the change worth looking into on the part of the owner and builder.—Shoppell's.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR MINE TIMBERING.

The newest innovation that has taken place in the method of working a coal mine is the substitution of concrete for the mine timbering. The experiments along this line are being made by the Reading Coal Company at Shamokin, Pa. A plant for the manufacture of these cement props will be erected at the North Franklin colliery, Trevorton, from which place the new style of "timbering" will be sent to all the other collieries. The Reading Company has spent considerable time and money in determining the best method for preserving mine timbers, and the present step seems to indicate that in the future cement will replace wooden props.

IRON SMELTING BY WATER POWER.

A novel method of iron making is suggested by A. Hiorth as a promising industry for Norway. The Norwegian iron ore is now exported, but experiment proves that even the unsaleable low grade ore can be reduced by the impure graphite of the country in electric furnaces operated by water power, the product being fine pig iron at low cost.

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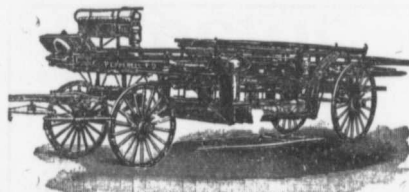
(Abstract from "Specifications for Portland Cement," issued by the United States Navy Department, June 12, 1905.)

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