

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, AND MATERIALS.

slag wool and straw board, 90.51; live geese feathers, 96.4; hair felt, 102.3; calcined magnesite, loose, 123.6; cork charcoal, 126.5; pine charcoal, 136.6; washed fossil meal, loose, 145.1; plaster of paris, 309.4; extremely fine sand, 317.5; air space, 479.9; fibrous asbestos, 489.9; coarse sand, 629.7; fine sand, 623; naked pipe, 1,555.10.

In the course of the discussion over Prof. Ordway's paper, Mr E. E. Leavitt, Jr., then president of the society, stated that when he becomes connected with the Calumet & Hecla mines in 1874 it was then the custom in carrying steam pipe underground to excavate a trench, place the pipe and then shovel the dirt back; the condensation was enormous; the defect was remedied by applying a coating of plaster of paris and sawdust, mixed in the proportions of one part of plaster of paris to two parts of sawdust. The plaster and sawdust was mixed as you would ordinary mortar and put on 2½ ins. thick. While the covering was wet the condensation was heavy, but when it once becomes dry the condensation was less than 1% of the former loss, being about 5% total loss by condensation. The idea was obtained from a boiler covering used at a fair of the Franklin Institute in 1865. Prof. Eggleston, School of Mines, Columbia College, also mentions the fact about the bridge of Crenoble which was built in the year 1626, and was destroyed by fire in 1837 (an interval of 211 years), that all the iron surrounded by mortar was found to be intact and just as bright when taken out at it was when the bridge was built. On the contrary, that which was not so surrounded where there was an air space was very much rusted.

(To be Continued.)

LEGAL DECISIONS AFFECTING MUNICIPALITIES.

Where an electric light and power company owned land on which was a building and machinery for generating electricity, and had a franchise from a city to use its streets for the erection of poles on which to stretch wires and suspend lamps to furnish light for the people of the city, and poles were planted in the streets of the city, and wires and lamps were placed thereon, and all were connected by the electric light wires with the machinery and premises of the company, the Supreme Court of Kansas held (Badger Lumber Company vs. Marion Water Supply, electric Light & Power Company) that the poles and wires were an appurtenance of the premises of the company, and that a person from whom they were purchased was entitled to a lien upon the same for the poles furnished.

WEIR V. SMYTH.—Judgment on appeal by the plaintiff from the judgment of Davis, junior judge of the County Court of that county. The action was a quitclaim action for a penalty, brought under sec. 9 of R. S. O., ch. 71, against the defendant for acting as a justice of the peace of the County of Middlesex without the necessary property qualification. The defendant assumed to qualify as tenant by the courtesy of certain land, and the question raised by the appeal was whether or not, under the section referred to the justice must have an interest of the value of \$1,200 in land, or an interest in land of the value of \$1,200. The court below held the latter to be the case, and dismissed the action. Appeal dismissed with costs, the court agreeing with the court below.

VILLAGE OF FORT ERIE V. FORT ERIE RAILWAY CO.—Judgment on appeal by

the defendants from the judgment of Street J., at the trial, whereby the defendants were ordered to remove their tracks from the streets of the village of Fort Erie and to desist from the running of trains thereon. The action was brought for a mandamus and to compel specific performance of a contract contained in a by-law of the plaintiffs. Appeal dismissed with costs, the court holding that the defendants were in the wrong and had misconceived the effect of the by-law.

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