

practically worthless, while the bulk of them, we think experience will later show, are of but passing value. Their use simply temporizes matters instead of permanently curing same. We understand that one of the most extensively used of these preparations was originally intended by the inventor to lessen the absorbent quality of cement or concrete, and **not** for "waterproofing" foundations, arches, walls, floors, etc., in the every-day, practical waterproofing sense.

Even though liquid glass were spread over the surface to be waterproofed, it would not serve for practical waterproofing, because, while glass would, of course, be in itself water-tight, it would readily crack with any jar, contraction, expansion, settlement, etc.

Where Logic Counts.

Another thing. The majority of these preparations, cement plasters, etc., are placed on the inside surface of the wall.

It is against the logic of things to place the waterproofing in front (where in time it can be shoved off) of the line of resistance (the wall) instead of behind it.

One of the chief uses of waterproofing is to keep water entirely from the wall, instead of allowing it to come to and through it, and by capillarity work up and saturate the entire wall, and in the course of years press off the hardened cement or other coating on the other side, which it must finally do by the very law of nature.

Of what use is a waterproofing which will not accommodate itself to the wall, instead of having the wall accommodate itself to the waterproofing (i.e., of having the owner guarantee that his wall will not crack the waterproofing). Waterproofing is applied to protect the surface waterproofed under all conditions—settlement, jars, shocks, expansion, contraction, heat, cold, water, snow, ice, etc. To accommodate itself to and protect the wall or other surface under above described conditions is exactly what the elastic "membrane method" does, and what the rigid cement method, by the admissions of its own exponents, does not and cannot do. It matters not, then, how durable may be the cement.

Further, in addition to the undesirability, on general principles, of permitting water to soak through the entire wall and gradually work its way upward, the presence

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