

PAINTING A FLOOR.

Very frequently a painter may be asked to paint a floor, and in many cases is instructed as to the color, and other little matters. In the case of the floor being one that is to be done with oil paint, and to have much wear, the painter should select such coloring substances of certain earthy matters only, because the use of white lead for such a purpose is an error that should be avoided.

Many will advocate the use of lead in painting floor, because of its supreme density and body, under the mistaken idea that density adds to its wearing quality. As a matter of fact no oil paint will stand less wear than white lead or colors composed largely of white lead. It simply covers the surface, and is one of the best paints employed to protect wood-work where there is no great wear.

Ochres make the best wearing paints, and they may be applied in several ways. They may be mixed with the oil, and applied when mixed with hot stale beer and glue water, and when dry two coats of oil may be laid on thinly with a good strong brush, and, if properly done, the work will be lasting and satisfactory.

Care must be taken that the floor is perfectly clean and dry before the color is applied, and if the latter is mixed with oil, the floor should receive two coats, both of which should be well brushed in.

With new floors certain stains may be applied, and give satisfactory results without any sizing. When water stains are used they can be allowed to thoroughly sink in, and should then be varnished.

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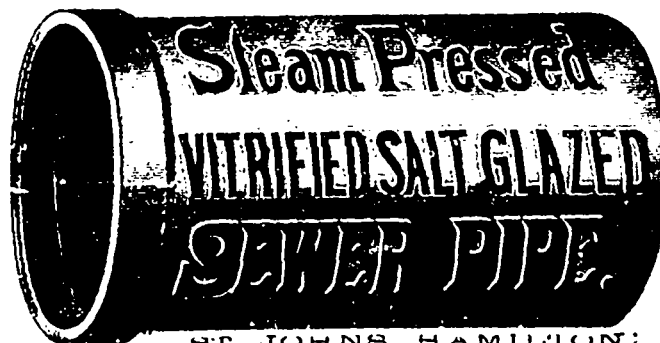
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