

USEFUL HINTS.

A new building material now on the market in Milwaukee which promises to be much used comes in the shape of grooved plaster slabs. They consist of fibrous plaster material. The face of the slab is grooved and under-cut, so that when mortar or cement has been applied a perfect dovetail is formed at each groove.

When it is required to finish pine or other soft wood in the natural finish at a small expense, it may be done by first filling the wood with the following mixture:—Take a cheap benzine japan and add cornflour until of paste-like consistency; thin with turpentine and give the work a good coat, lightly sandpapering when dry. This will give a good surface and one, two or more coats of varnish may be afterward applied as may be necessary.


HOW TO CLEAN MARBLE.—Marble is a very difficult thing to clean if it is stained in such a way that the stain has sunk into the stone. Slight stains may be easily removed with a pumice stone or with vigorous scrubbing. Greasy stains are best removed with a paste of fuller's earth applied in the same way it is to wall paper. It is said that stains of ink on marble may be removed by hydrochloric acid, which is a powerful poison, and must be washed off with water almost as soon as applied to prevent its eating into the stone.

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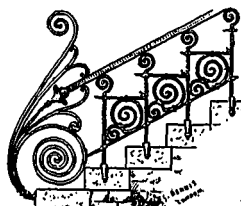
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