

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS AND MATERIALS

WHY STONE WALLS ARE DAMP.

The walls of a stone house and sometimes of a brick house are covered with dampness. This is due to the very same causes by which dew is deposited on grasses or moisture on the side of a glass or pitcher that is filled with ice water and brought into a warm room. The walls become cold, and as stone is a non-conductor of heat, they remain cold for a long time. When the weather changes suddenly from cold to warm the air becomes filled with moisture, for the warmer the air is the more moisture it will absorb. When the warm air strikes the cold wall, the moisture is deposited on it from the air, which is suddenly cooled by contact with them, the dampness accumulates until it appears like a dew upon them, and pours down in streams at times. It is easily prevented. No plaster should be put directly upon brick or stone, but furring strips should be nailed to the wall and the laths put on these.

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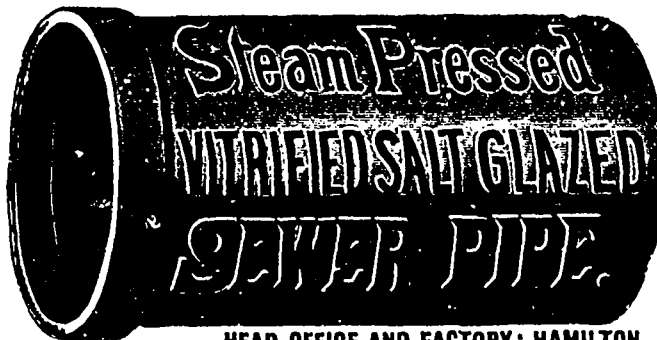
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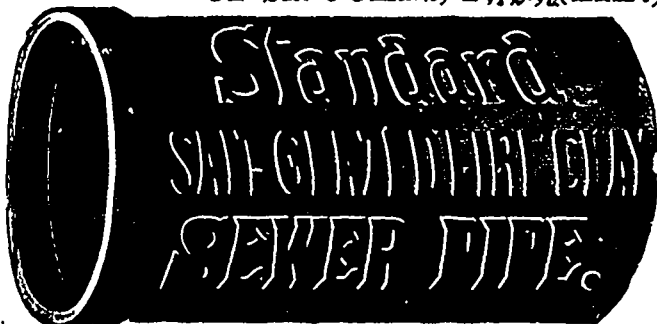
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