

stove with its attendant coal bin and ash heap is as much to be desired as is the absence of the kerosene lamps. Just as the introduction of the electric light has made the danger from fires much less than with other methods of lighting, so the replacement of fire in our stoves by the electric heater would reduce still further and indeed almost abolish the danger from within of destructive fires.

THE STONECUTTERS' STRIKE

82 GEORGE ST., TORONTO, Dec. 4th, 1889.
EDITOR CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to an editorial which appeared in your issue of November, and which owing as I believe to want of knowledge on your part, has grossly misrepresented the action of the Toronto stonecutters in the matter of the strike at present going on in Mr. Snarr's yard.

In the first place, no articles of partnership were ever shown us. The only knowledge we ever had that such articles were in existence, we received from the daily papers of Oct. 24th. Previous to this, however, at a meeting of our Society held on Oct. 16th, foreman Hobson in person admitted that he was not a partner, but claimed he had an interest. On being pressed, he refused to say that he had one single cent in the business. So much for the partnership.

Secondly, we have never demanded Hobson's discharge as a partner, but only as a foreman, and we have not either threatened or instituted a boycott. All we did was to refuse to work under Hobson as a foreman. That we have good grounds for such refusal is evidenced by the fact that four stonecutter bosses representing the Builders' Association, at a conference held in Mr. Snarr's office on Saturday, Oct. 19th, between themselves and three of our men, with the view of settling the matter, proposed that Hobson should go to his banker, and we should bear our own costs—work to be resumed on Monday. Mr. Snarr, however, repudiated the action of his brother bosses, and five days afterwards these partnership articles were first heard of.

And now, sir, will you allow me to call your attention to the fact that the Toronto stonecutters are not the unreasonable give-us-the-earth sort of men you depict them. For the past seventeen years there has been no dispute between us and our employers. Often, and especially was this the case during last spring and summer, we could have forced the bosses to have given us more money and less hours. A rise in wages did take place this summer, but it was given unasked, and was snatched from us again at the beginning of this trouble.

In conclusion, we confidently appeal for the help and sympathy of all architects, as this case concerns them almost as much as us. It is impossible for a stonecutter to turn out work which will bear inspection if he is forced to slash through it. Quality will soon disappear altogether, if quantity only is sought for.

Trusting you will, in justice to the stonecutters, insert this in your December issue, I have the honour to remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. DOHERTY,
Sec. Strike Com.

Hotel Castleton, St. George, Staten Island, is being stained with Cabot's Creosote Shingle Stains.

H. V. Attrill has offered the town of Goderich an acre of good clay land towards the establishment of a brick yard.

Early on the morning of Dec. 7th, a kiln-house belonging to the Hamilton and Toronto Sewer Pipe Company, was burned. Loss, \$1,200; fully insured.

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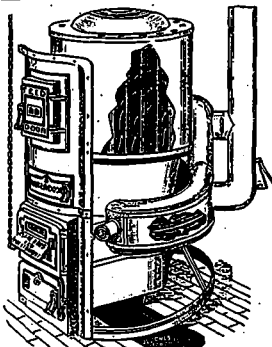
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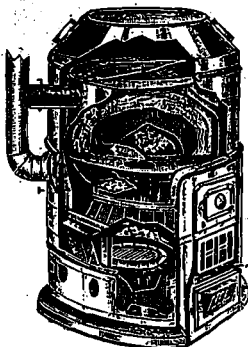
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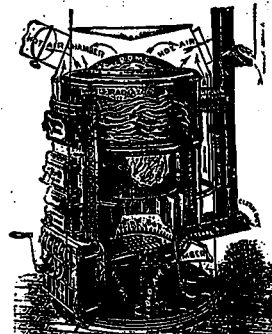
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