

“ such a manner that the wet got in behind, and
 “ kept there in spite of sun or wind ; so that the
 “ timber rotted as fast, as if it had lain against a
 “ bank of wet earth.

“ THAT there is a method to make under-set-
 “ tings to buildings of wood, much less expensive
 “ than an entire stone or brick foundation. A fort
 “ of the dimensions of York-fort may be supported
 “ by forty-eight stone or brick piers, one at each
 “ salient and re-entring angle ; with a pier or two
 “ under each face and curtain. The interstices
 “ between these piers may be made of any stuff
 “ that can be got, and repaired at any time with-
 “ out disturbing the superstructure. If lime can-
 “ not easily be got for these purposes, stones
 “ might be prepared in the Orknies or elsewhere,
 “ each large enough to make a pier, and not exceed
 “ five hundred weight. Forty-eight of these stones
 “ would sustain such a fort as York-fort, and the
 “ whole would not cost above six pounds in the
 “ Orknies: fifty of them would be about twelve or
 “ thirteen tons. Stone or brick piers may be put
 “ under a building of timber after it is erected,
 “ which would make it endure many years longer
 “ than it would without them.” The Company
 took not the least notice of these remonstrances.

In the summer, 1746, I received the following
 letter :

Hudson's-Bay house, London April 30th, 1746.

Mr. Joseph Robson,

Sir,

“ WE received your letter of the 5th of Au-
 “ gust, and observe the contents ; and also
 “ the several draughts you mentioned ; and have
 “ paid your wife's bill for ten pounds, as you de-
 “ fired.