TO PREVENT DAMP WALLS.

A Simple Process Which Involves But Little Expense and Labor.

It is unnecessary to dilate upon the danger and undesirable character of damp walls. Not only do they endanger the furniture, books, fittings and dressings of the house itself, but a much more serious matter is the peril which they convey to the health of inmates. It is also known that in many cases walls, as though gifted with the power of voluntary perversity, will persist in proving damp, where no recognized cause exists. In a recent article touching upon this matter the writer describes a very simple remedy for this difficulty. He says: In many localities there is a great deal of complaint about damp walls. Expedients of all sorts have been resorted to in order to remedy this evil, but in most cases they have involved great cost and labor, and sometimes the only alternative was the tearing down of the wall and rebuilding it with a filling of Portland cement and other impervious material. A simple process is said to effectually do away with all dampness. Applications are made alternately of dissolved castile soap and dissolved alum. Three-fourths of a pound of soap is melted in one gallon of boiling water. The liquid thus obtained is thoroughly beaten, to cause a stiff froth. This and the water are then completely incorporated by stirring and made boiling hot. The time for preparing the wall should be after a long dry spell, and, as the wall must be as free from moisture as possible, this condition can be assisted by the judicious use of fires. Then brush the surface to be covered until as clean as possible. With a wide, flat brush coat the surface with the boiling soap preparation, working it back and forth until the wall is covered with small bubbles. Let it remain 24 hours to dry out, then apply an alum solution made by dissolving half a pound of alum in four gallons of water. The alum coating may be nearly at blood heat. This should stand a day or two to dry and harden, then another application of soap, the same as the first, must be put on. How many coats are needed depends on the condition of the wall; sometimes half a dozen would be necessary. The soap and alum form a coating insoluble in water, and this unites with the material in the wall, filling all of the crevices and making a thoroughly waterproof surface.—Housewife.

ONLY A DREAM.

A Convict's Sweet Illusion of Freedom and Wealth Ruthlessly Dispelled.

The day of my discharge has come. How happy I am. How proud I feel as I stand with my face to the wall near the cellhouse door, awaiting the summons to go to the storeroom to change my clothes. It seems that the men will never cease their tramp, tramp, as they file from the cellhouse on the way to the shops. But the last of them finally goes out the door, and I am hustled to the storeroom. I array myself in my "store" clothes, then make my way, eager and trembling with excitement, to the front office. There, after a few preliminaries, I am handed my discharge and my money and joyfully go forth to battle once more with the world. How brightly the sun shines. How fresh and invigorating the air. It actually smelled better than the air behind those ugly frowning walls.

And, now that I am once again free, where will I go, and what will I do? Ah! a thought strikes me. I have not yet breakfasted. Where is there a good restaurant? Right down the street. I enter and give an order that makes the waiter stare in astonishment. Ha, ha! He will stare harder than that when he sees me get outside of that breakfast. Beefsteak, fried potatoes, eggs, ham, hot rolls, butter, coffee and—. But while the cook is hustling around making ready the feast I will take a drink. Is there a saloon near? Yes. Just two doors below. Thither I go, and feeling rich enough (for haven't I 25 big American dollars in my pocket?) I ask everybody up to drink. All accept. The drinks are placed on the bar. The barkeeper is making change for a ten, we raise the glasses to our lips, and—

Clang! Clang!! Clang!!! goes the gong, and I rise and dress, and, as usual, go to my daily grind.—Minnesota Prison Mirror.

Planked Bread.

Just as the most tasty way of cooking shad is on a plank, so many people think that the best corn bread is that cooked in the same fashion. Into two tablespoonfuls of cold hominy rub a tablespoonful of butter or lard, one egg, one-half pint of milk, and corn flour enough to make the batter just stiff enough to be spread upon a board. Do not let the batter be more than half an inch thick on the board. Put it in the oven, or before a hot fire if you can manage it, and let it brown. Pass a coarse thread between the cake and board, turn it and brown the other side. Use a well-seasoned hardwood plank.—Farm and Fireside.

The Kernel.

The difference in our estimate of people and things depends on how we take them. If we eat the whole nut we find a good deal that is coarse and innutritious; but if we have the habit of picking out the kernel we generally find it sweet. Even the squirrel knows enough for that. Persons of a very wide and varied experience are apt to acquire this squirrelous wisdom. Out of each of their battles, sieges and fortunes they have contrived to extract a central core that was interesting.—Housewife.

GOSSIP OF THE STUDIOS.

The artists of Naples sell about 700 pictures a month, those of Rome, 550; of Florence, 400; Venice, 125; Milan, 43.

The entire inadequacy of the space awarded to foreign artists at the Paris exposition is now commented upon by English artists. The London papers say that it is an absurdity to expect any adequate representation of English art in the small amount of room available.

There is, in New York, a young woman who hangs pictures for a living. Her novel occupation is both pleasant and profitable. She finds most of her customers among people of moderate means, who cannot, like the very wealthy, employ a distinguished artist or first-class decorator for such work.

According to Raffaelli, who recently visited this country, the artists of Chicago no longer seek inspiration and authority in Europe, although most of them have been educated, in part at least, in Paris. They construct their ideals, and then follow them out in that vigorous, businesslike way that is characteristic of American life. This independence, this true artistic instinct will make Chicago one of these days a great art center.

The interest of the German emperor in art matters is demonstrated in a quite practical manner. Sculptors often find a heavy tax laid upon them, while executing equestrian statues, to procure good models for their equine studies. The German sculptors have now received permission to use for these purposes the chargers in the imperial stables, which are, if necessary, brought to the studios.

In Sweden the five annual prizes, each of the value of $50,000, founded by Alfred Nobel, will be awarded shortly for the first time. One of them is to be assigned to the artist who has particularly distinguished himself in promoting by his pictures the cause of peace. The well-known Russian painter Verestchagin is said to be a candidate for this "prize of peace," on the ground that his numerous representations of the horrors of war must necessarily deter people from warfare.

SMALLPOX DISTRIBUTORS.

How the Germs Are Nurtured and the Disease Is Spread.

It would seem that people will never learn to be careful. The recent alarming spread of that dire epidemic, smallpox, throughout different sections of the country has been traced by physicians and sanitarians in many instances directly to the moldy and rotting layers of paper and paste which cover the walls of many houses. The practice of laying layer after layer of paper on a wall, using common flour paste, is especially calculated to create homes for disease germs. People could not do more to effect such a result if they tried. The rotting vegetable matter affords caves from which are ready to dart forth the infection at every opportunity. There is no excuse for this practice, as walls and ceilings can be coated with a pure, cleanly and sanitary material like Alabastine, for instance, at no greater expense. Alabastine is a rock-base cement, which incorporates itself with the wall or ceiling. It is easily applied, comes ready to mix with cold water, requires no washing or scraping before renewing or retinting, is beautiful, long-lasting and safe.

For walls that have been infected, nothing is equal to Alabastine as a disinfectant to render them pure and clean and the rooms once more habitable.

Not All Taffy.

"Can you tell me who Ananias was?" asked the old man of the proprietor of the book store.

"Of course I can," was the reply. "He was champion liar of the world at one time. Did anyone call you Ananias?"

"Yes, sir. Yes, called me Ananias, and, durn my buttons, if I didn't think he was givin' me a bushel of praise! Next man who calls me Ananias won't never know what house fell on him!"—Chicago Evening News.

A hit-or-miss policy usually has few striking features.—Chicago Dispatch.

Look before you elope.—Chicago Dispatch.

A blind wood sawyer's wife says she never saw him see, but she often goes to see him saw.—Chicago Daily News.

There is a special tier of griddles in Hades for "painless dentists."—Town Topics.

"Never despise physical deformities," says the Manayunk (Pa.) philosopher. "The dog with his tail cut off has no fear of tin cans."

It is a wonder that a man doesn't appreciate to a higher degree a seat at his own fireside, considering how much the fuel is costing him.—Atchison Globe.

A Chicago youth calls his sweetheart a silent belle because he kissed her and she never tolled.—Chicago Daily News.

"Isn't it hard," said the sentimental landlady, "to think of this poor little lamb cut down in its youth to satisfy our appetites?"

Miss Pepprey—"Why, she doesn't look as if she knew her own name." Miss Newitt—"She doesn't, half the time." Miss Pepprey—"Really?" Miss Newitt—"Yes; you know she married a Polish nobleman."—Philadelphia Press.

Stage Manager—"You say you have had some stage experience?" Miss Gush—"O, yes, indeed! I took the leading part in our church cantata at home once, and—well, to tell you the truth, everybody said I just played my part too lovely for anything."—Ohio State Journal.

She—"We discussed the greenback at our study club to-day." He—"Well, what did you decide?" She—"That the government should either issue currency in all the going tints or else not at all!"—Brooklyn Eagle.

Justly Proud.—Butterfly—"Magnificent, sir! There are scenes in your comedy that Shakespeare himself could not have written." Dapter—"You are too kind, really." "Not at all, sir. Take, for instance, that railroad smash-up in the third act."—Brooklyn Life.

MY BEAUTIFUL BABY BOY

Weak Women Made Happy by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound—Letters from Two Who Now Have Children.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—It was my ardent desire to have a child. I had been married three years and was childless, so wrote to you to find out the reason. After following your kind advice and taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, I became the mother of a beautiful baby boy, the joy of our home. He is a fat, healthy baby, thanks to your medicine."—MRS. MINDA FINKLE, Roscoe, N. Y.

From Grateful Mrs. Lane

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I wrote you a letter some time ago, stating my case to you.

"I had pains through my bowels, headache, and backache, felt tired and sleepy all the time, was troubled with the whites. I followed your advice, took your Vegetable Compound, and it did me lots of good. I now have a baby girl. I certainly believe I would have miscarried had it not been for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I had a very easy time; was sick only a short time. I think your medicine is a godsend to women in the condition in which I was. I recommend it to all as the best medicine for women."—MRS. MARY LANE, Coytee, Tenn.

NOT UP IN THE CLASSICS.

A Congressman Who Was in the Dark as to Title and Colophon.

A certain member of the house of representatives, nameless here forever more, met a newspaper correspondent in the lobby the other day and mysteriously invited him to his committee room. The correspondent cast a chew of tobacco out of his mouth in anticipation, and followed the statesman to the seclusion of the place designated.

"Say," said the member, looking about carefully to see that only the two of them were present, "I want to ask you a question in confidence."

"Oh," responded the correspondent in a tone of disappointment, "is that what you wanted?"

"Yes; and if you can give me the information, I am after you will do me a great favor."

"All right," said the correspondent, recovering his wonted spirits, though the other kind were lacking, "what is it? Go ahead with your rat killing."

"Well," began the member in a manner reminding one of the preface to a book, "I had one of the boys look over a speech I am going to make, just to see what he thought of it and make a suggestion or two to improve it, if necessary, and he's got something into it that I'm not up to."

"What is it?" asked the correspondent, as the member hesitated.

"Well, I'm fairly well up on the Bible, and when I come across the sentence 'anywhere from Dan to Beersheba,' I know what it means well enough, and also know about Dan and the other one. I had that in the speech, but he said it was a chestnut by this time, and it would sound more tony and abreast of the times and literary culture to change it from 'Title to Colophon,' and I told him 'all right,' but didn't let on. Now, you are a friend of mine, and I want to ask you about this. As I said, I'm up on the Bible, but I don't know the classical business a little bit, and while I can kind of catch on to Title, I'd like to know who in thunder Colophon was. Do you know?"

The correspondent explained, and the member saw to it that his cast-out chew of tobacco was not wasted.—N. Y. Sun.

Could Change His Mind.

Prof. Hendershott is well known in Pittsburgh as a man of affable temper, and it is rare that he shows even impatience. One day while traveling on a suburban trolley car to call on a friend, he asked the conductor to transfer him to the city street cars at a certain point. Soon afterward the car stopped and he was surprised to see outside the very friend he was seeking. He started to leave the car, when the conductor accosted him. "You can't change for your car here," he said, brusquely. The professor passed him, taking no notice. "Can't change cars here, I tell you," snapped the conductor again. The professor, deep in conversation with his friend, merely waved his hand to signify that the car might go on without him. "Here," cried the man in brass buttons, angrily, "don't I tell you that you can't change cars at this place?" Then the good old professor answered with severity: "But I can change my mind at this station, can't I?"—Golden Days.

He Dealt in His Dream.

"May you take this lesson home with you to-night, dear friends," concluded the preacher at the end of a very long and weariesome sermon. "And may its spiritual truths sink into your hearts and lives to the end that your souls may experience salvation. We will now bow our heads in prayer. Deacon White, will you lead?"

There was no response.

"Deacon White," this time in a louder voice. "Deacon White, will you lead?"

Still no response. It was evident that the good deacon was slumbering. The preacher made a third appeal and raised his voice to a pitch that succeeded in waking the drowsy man.

"Deacon White, will you please lead?"

The deacon rubbed his eyes and opened them wonderingly.

"Is it my lead? No—I just dealt."—Detroit Free Press.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

"I won't say that I'm proof against temptation," said the peaceful citizen; "but I'm blest if I wouldn't rather be right than be governor of Kentucky!"—Puck.

Some people of fair intelligence are so stubborn that they refuse to acquire practical sense.—Atchison Globe.

I cannot speak too highly of Piso's Cure for Consumption.—Mrs. Frank Mobbs, 215 W. 22d St., New York, Oct. 20, 1894.

No speculator ever quits in time.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

$100 Reward $100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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Hall's Family Pills are the best.

He Knew.

"Now, boys," said the Sunday school-teacher, "our lesson to-day teaches us that if we are good while here on earth, when we die we will go to a place of everlasting bliss. But, suppose we are bad, then what becomes of us?" "We'll go to a place of everlasting blister," replied a small boy at the foot of the class.—Yonkers Statesman.

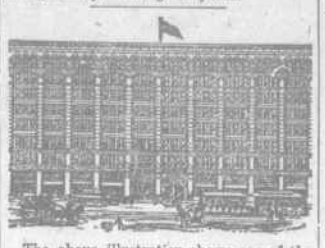
You Can Get Allen's Foot-Ease FREE.

Write to-day to Allen S. Olmsted, Le-roy, N. Y., for a FREE sample of Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder to shake into your shoes. It cures chilblains, sweating, damp, swollen, aching feet. It makes New or tight shoes easy. A certain cure for Corns and Bunions. All druggists and shoestores sell it. 25c.

No matter what job it is, there is always somebody who wants it.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES do not spot, streak or give your goods an unevenly dyed appearance. Sold by all druggists.

It is hard for a crooked man to tell a straight story.—Chicago Dispatch.



The above illustration shows one of the mammoth buildings occupied by the great Mail Order House of the John M. Smyth Company of Chicago.

For one-third of a century this Company has been in business. Beginning in a small way they supplied their neighbors in the near-by towns, each year widening their field. They are now selling merchandise direct to the consumer at wholesale prices throughout the United States.

Some years ago they began supplying their customers with an illustrated catalogue. As the business expanded they were obliged to increase the size of this catalogue, until to-day it exceeds 1,000 illustrated pages, quoting the lowest wholesale prices on everything to Eat, Wear and Use. By a superior process of color photography they illustrate many of their goods in natural colors, bringing out the rich color value of curtains, carpets, draperies, and the latest designs in wall papers, etc., thus enabling the customer hundreds of miles distant to select goods at his own fireside, knowing by the description, illustration and price the class of goods he may expect.

This feature of their business is becoming more and more popular each year, for it not only saves long and tiresome railroad journeys but is a great time saver. It leaves out the profit of the jobbing house, the retailer, the expensive commercial traveler, the general agent, the sub-agent, and thus eliminates from one to four profits, saving this amount for the consumer. In short, it is a great wholesale store brought to the home. The mammoth catalogue referred to is a 20th century dictionary of economy.

The illustration above shows the recent building added to this great enterprise.

The success of this Company seems incredible, considering the fact that they have advertised so little. Their spirit of fairness and industry is the secret of this wonderful success. The quantity of goods they require in some lines enables them to handle train loads of merchandise secured at the lowest possible cost and freight rate.

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Their references are: Any bank or express company, or any man, woman or child in Chicago.

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MALARIA and CHILLS and FEVER.

There is manufactured in San Francisco, California, a medicine that is sold under a positive guarantee to cure all forms of malarial poisoning, chills and fever, swamp fever, dumb ague, etc. This remedy is Casca Ferrine. It is not a secret patent medicine, but, instead, the formula of the preparation is made known to all. One of the chief ingredients of Casca Ferrine is Cascara Sagrada, the bark of a small tree that grows nowhere in the world but in California. Cascara Sagrada has no equal as a liver and intestinal tonic among all the drugs known to medicine. All physicians throughout the world regard it as one of the most valuable of all drugs. It is strictly tonic in its action and effect on the liver and bowels, and there is positively no reaction from its use, as is the case with every other medicine that acts specifically on the liver, such for instance as calomel, aloes, jalap, podophyllin and similar drugs. It is impossible to cure malaria, chills and fever, etc., unless the liver is kept active, and the bowels open, so that the poison can be expelled from the body through these natural channels. This is one reason why Casca Ferrine is so effective in preventing and curing all forms of malarial poisoning. It acts as a natural tonic to the liver and bowels, tones them up, and in a short time places them in such a healthy condition that they will act naturally without the aid of medicine.

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