

After being allowed to set and harden for about 24 hours, the holder plate is placed on a hot plate to soften the shellac-balsam cement and the block pushed cautiously off.

The face of the section is cleaned free from all trace of the shellac-balsam cement with methylated spirit, and the block with the attached section remounted on standard 3 in. × 1 in. glass slip with cooked natural Canada balsam in the usual manner.

The slip is then soaked in water for about an hour to soften the gum-plaster joint, the plaster block removed, the section cleaned free from remains of the gum-plaster cement by brushing with water, all superfluous balsam scraped away, and the section trimmed to size. After drying, a cover glass is affixed, without heat, using dried Canada balsam in benzol.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PIPES IN SANDSTONE.

SIR,—In the January number of the *MAGAZINE* I note that Mr. N. L. Falcon draws attention to pipes in coast sandstones at Barnstaple Bay. It may be of interest to remind readers that similar pipes occur in cemented sand at Fistral Bay, Newquay; Godrevy near Hayle; and on the shore near Lelant.

All suggestions I have heard as to their origin fail to account for the fact that some of the pipes taper to an end upwards in the rock. It would be interesting if one could find a really convincing explanation to account for the origin of both upward and downward pipes.

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