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Air an insulator! It is well-known that gases are the best heat insulators: they keep heat from flowing. But air and other gases act best in their role as insulators if they are not allowed to circulate. Therefore, light, fluffy wool blankets are warmer than hard, wool, felt ones of the same weight. This is because the former are full of tiny pockets or cells of air, making circulation just about impossible. Even wood shavings introduced into an air space, as between the two-by-fours of a frame house, will make a warmer wall. Many of the modern heat insulating materials embody this principle.
