



Fig. 28. Elevation of a Two-Pipe System of Steam Heating.

Two-Pipe/Air Vent System of Steam Heating:

This is the oldest method extant, and while it is today practiced chiefly on high-pressure work, we find many such systems in use for low-pressure heating.

The piping for a system of this character may properly be, and usually is, somewhat smaller in size than that necessary for a one pipe system, for the reason that the flow of steam and of the water of condensation are separated, each having its own service pipes. Fig. 28 is an elevation of a two-pipe system, and, from its examination, it will be noted that all return pipes are connected below the water-line of the boiler. This is an important feature to be observed in order to prevent the short-circuiting of the steam into the returns, which action would result in cutting off or retarding the flow of the condensation—a condition which might not only block the circulation but would probably also cause water-hammer.

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