

whole Province, does not, and cannot under the circumstances, demonstrate the best method of cultivating Red River Valley soil. A well-conducted experimental farm would prove of inestimable value in assisting to solve many of the perplexing problems in connection with the cultivation and management of these lands. Such a farm, centrally located and representing a fair average of the conditions of the district, would, if within convenient reach of the City of Winnipeg—the gateway of the West—serve a splendid purpose in illustrating the capabilities of the country to newcomers and visitors. It would at the same time be more easily within the reach of all residents of the country than if located elsewhere. Such a farm would not necessarily be a large or very expensive establishment—160 acres would answer all purposes. Indeed, it might be conducted as a branch of the Brandon Farm, as it would be a special purpose farm rather than a general experimental one, there being no necessity for repeating all the experiments being carried on at the two western farms. In Ontario, fruit farms have been established at several points in order to make more satisfactory tests of varieties and conditions suited to each locality. In Minnesota and Dakota, branch experimental farms have been started in order to meet the varied conditions of soil, location, etc.

The ADVOCATE has no interests in any particular section, and the only purpose it has to serve in this matter is for the general advancement of the country. We are glad to see in this connection that the business men of Winnipeg are alive to the desirability of such an institution. At a recent meeting of the Board of Trade a resolution was passed urging upon the Dominion Government the importance and necessity of such an undertaking. We trust the Government will appreciate the importance of such a step and that before another season passes Eastern Manitoba will possess an experimental farm.

**Captain D. Milloy's New Barn.**

In July 15th issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE was published a very brief description of Capt. D. Milloy's splendid barn, then in the preliminary stage of construction. The structure being well forward toward completion, we had the opportunity, on Nov. 2nd, of visiting Oak Park Stock Farm, which comprises some 600 acres of choice, gently undulating, clay loam land, with gravelly subsoil, situated on the Brantford road some three miles from the highly picturesque town of Paris. A drive over the farm, accompanied by Mr. H. B. Wells, the farm superintendent, led one to forget for the time being what we have heard so much about, that agriculture was not a highly prosperous business. The broad, rich fields, surrounded with almost new board fences, standing as plumb as possible, broken here and there with a purely white painted gate, was in striking contrast with many an Ontario farm scene. A number of the large pasture fields are studded here and there with beautiful spreading oaks, which are also growing in profusion along the shore of Grand River, in profusion along the shore of the farm. In this skirting the west boundary of the farm. In this grove we found a number of Berkshires feeding and thriving well upon the falling acorns, hickory nuts, and pasture. The cattle which are to occupy the new stables are largely of Shorthorn breeding of good families. The several bunches of very fine Shropshires grazing in different fields added beauty to the landscape and testified to the choice of their owner.

The barn referred to and illustrated on the front page is an imposing structure. Our engraving shows the south side. Not only is it of large proportions, but the artistic finish and beauty of the external coloring is quite in keeping with the general

character of its surroundings. The general color of the barn is a dark cream, trimmed with a delicate shade of light brown. As the illustration shows, the lumber of the old barn had not all been cleared away when the photograph was taken, but it is the intention of Capt. Milloy to enclose a roomy yard for the advantage of the stock. To the east and north of the barn is a range of horse and sheep barns which are to be refitted inside and out and painted in tasty style. Next summer, we understand, there is to be erected as fine a hogpen as can be planned. To the north and west of the main barn stands a neat, well-equipped blacksmith shop, large corn crib, feed-boiling house, henhouse, and brick icehouse. The dwelling, which shows in the right background of our engraving, was referred to in July 15th issue as being equipped with every modern convenience; and it assuredly is, from cellar to attic, finished and furnished as one would

run smaller pipes to each row of mangers, and up from these pipes come the 1 1/2-inch pipes to each beast's drinking-cup, shown in the corner of each stall. The position of two cistern taps is shown in either root compartment. These taps are approached from the passage. There are two spring water taps in the feed-mixing room. The two bull boxes have each two water cups, which may be used if two cattle were tied in either of them. The three large boxes forming one range of stalls have each three mangers, so that three cattle may be tied in each should such be desired. The six calf boxes at the ends are roomy and light. In each of two is to be placed a set of stanchions hung on hinges, to be used for pail-feeding calves. They can swing round against the wall when not in use. Their main feature is to hold the calves for some time after feeding, to prevent their sucking each other. The stalls in which the animals are tied are all double and the same width throughout. It will be noticed, however, that the platforms upon which the animals stand are of three lengths, viz., 5 feet, 5 feet 6 inches, and 5 feet 10 inches, to accommodate the different sizes of cattle. The passages, both for feeding and cleaning out, are amply wide. The gutters are from 15 to 18 inches wide, 7 inches deep against the stalls and 4 inches on the side against the passage.

The ventilation system is simple, and cannot but be very effective. In the south calf box at either end of the stable will be noticed a square box ventilator. Each of these consists of a hole, about 8 by 12 inches, through the wall just above the floor. The air thus admitted is conducted up

through a box 10 inches across, 20 inches wide, and 5 feet high. Each of these boxes has a lid which may be left open or closed as desired. Near the top of the wall, directly above each box ventilator, is an opening about 15 inches square, fitted with Venetian blinds or shutters. These, too, can be opened or closed at will. The lower and upper openings are shown in the end of basement in the front page illustration. At the bottom of each of the end doors of the long passage is a hole out, which may be opened or closed at will. The plate glass windows, 28 by 40 inches, swing on side pivots, so that when the top is drawn open inwards the weight of the upper portion above the pivots keeps it there. These, too, serve as ventilators. The doors are not divided across in the ordinary way, but in each is a small door, 18 by 30 inches, opening inwards.

The posts in the basement supporting the upper floor are of 7 by 7 inch oak. The facing on the front of the stalls is of matched 2-inch plank, covered with matched inch stuff, breaking the joints. The feed chutes from the passages to mangers are of 2-inch plank, running lengthwise, faced on the upper side by inch matched stuff running up and down. This is capped with an oak top of artistic design. The openings into the mangers are 13 inches, for the admission of feed. The mangers in the box stalls have, in front of each, a door which opens outwards to admit the feed.

The drainage system is most complete. Along outside the south stone wall is a drain of 6-inch tile. This follows the east wall till it unites with a 4-inch drain which takes the overflow water of the cisterns, tank, etc., and the water of the two drains

is carried away in a 9-inch pipe. **Additional points.**—The inside of the stone wall is to be plastered, and the ceiling is of narrow matched inch pine. The division between the root rooms and the stable is double boarded 6 feet high, above which are 5-inch slats, 3 inches apart, so that the temperature of each compartment will be alike. (We will be interested in knowing how the roots keep in such quarters. There is a possibility of the best temperature for the cattle being too high for the roots.) The whole of the interior woodwork is to be fastily painted, so that the completed structure may well be called a live-stock palace in appearance and utility, a monument to the enterprise of its owner.

Now is the time for the readers of the ADVOCATE to get up a club of new subscribers and secure some of our premiums.

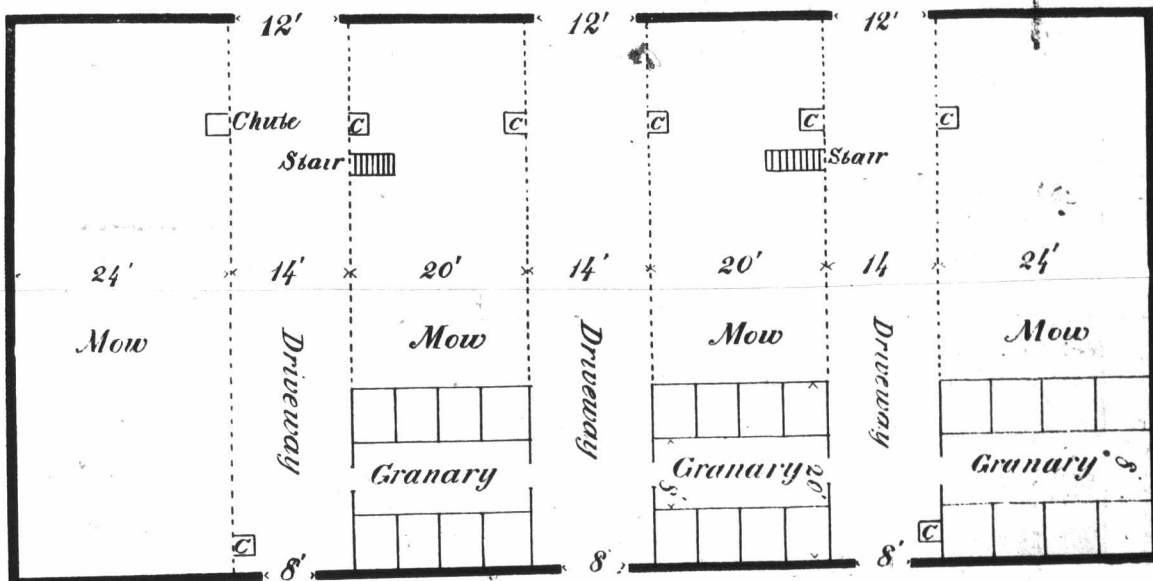


FIG. I.—BARN FLOOR PLAN.

expect to find a wealthy city residence.

The barn is 130 feet long by 60 feet wide. The basement (the ground plan of which is shown in Fig. II.) is, rightly, we think, not in a bank, but stands on level ground, having 12-foot walls of splendid masonry. The posts of the barn are 24 feet long, so that the building has large capacity for crops of grain and fodder, and the ample-looking contents of the generous "bays" and granary bins spoke volumes for the productiveness of the adjacent fields. The barn is sided with novelty siding, similar to that frequently used upon residences. As Fig. I. shows, the barn has three driveways and three granaries, and a number of chutes down through the floor into the roothouses, feed rooms, and stables. The windows in the barn, as in the basement, are of plate glass, and sufficiently large and numerous to admit all the light desirable. Three wide bridges on the north side of the barn afford means of entrance to the upper floor, which is uni-

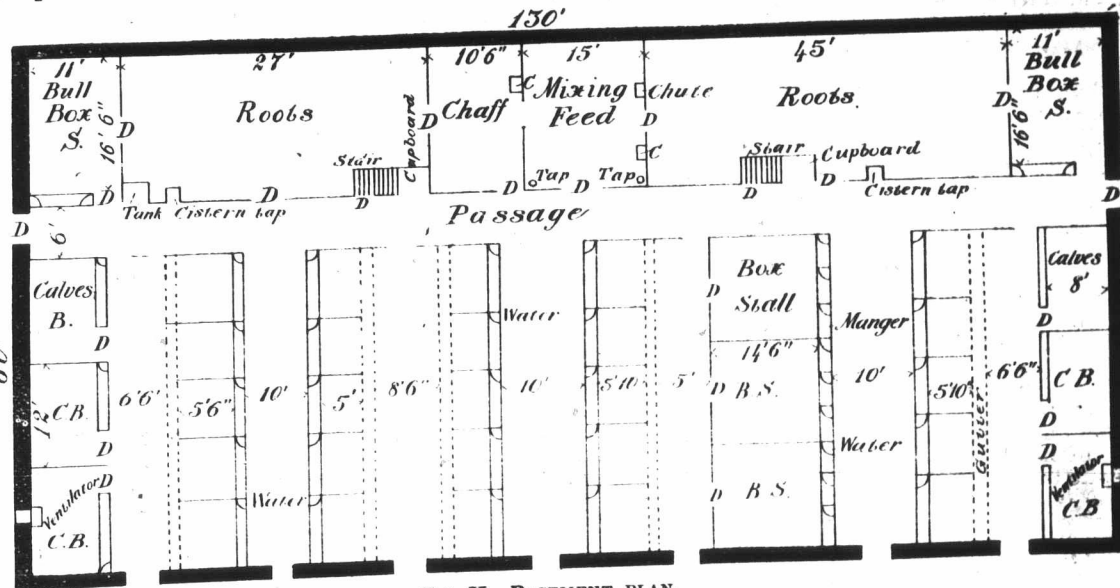


FIG. II.—BASEMENT PLAN.

form throughout; nor are there any "breast girls" dividing driveways from bays as in the old-fashioned barns.

The basement, as Fig. II. shows, is exceedingly well arranged. The whole floor, mangers, and gutters are made of cement. The water system is being put in by an American expert. Besides two large cisterns beneath the barn—approaches on the north side, there is a spring water supply of copious quantity. It is forced to the buildings, over 4,000 feet, by means of two hydraulic rams. The position of the tank (5 ft. long, 4 ft. wide, and 2 ft. 8 in. deep) is shown in the corner of the smaller roothouse. (Capt. Milloy, as the plans disclose, still pins his faith to roots.) The inflow of water is controlled by a float. From the tank is laid, beneath the cement floor, a two-inch galvanized iron water pipe, the whole length of the main feed passage, running from end to end of the basement. From this pipe