

tions necessary to make up the sum required to obtain the grant. Still the shows are held every year, or almost every year; and what is the ordinary result? The majority of impartial men must admit that these exhibitions only serve to distribute, as equally as possible, under the cloak of prizes, the Government grant among, at most, 30 or 40 people, to bribe them to subscribe again the next season about a tenth of the value of their receipts. No fraud existing, the rest of the subscriptions are obtained by distributing gratis seeds of forage plants paid for out of the grant; and if the required sum is not completed by this means, the absence of fraud being always presupposed, the begging-box is carried round from door to door, to the Senator, to the two Members, to the priests, to the shop-keepers; and the tavern-keeper must not be left out of the list, at whose house the grand dinner with which the Directors repay themselves and their friends for all their trouble — always out of the Government grant — is to be given. Thus are matters carried on in sixty societies of agriculture out of the eighty which exist! It is only right to add, however, that of late years the societies keep, at their own expense, a few stallions, boars, etc., the use of which is allowed to members at a nominal charge. And this, with the gratuitous distribution of forage-plant seed, is by far the most useful expenditure incurred by them, always, again, presupposing that honesty presides over the distribution.

"We must proclaim it aloud: what is wanting to the whole of our agricultural organization is a wise head—a head responsible indeed to the Legislature, but entirely free from any danger of being embarrassed in his free action by the trammels of politics.

"But, it may be said, why, if the Commissioner is not able to conduct the agricultural business of the Province, is not that duty entrusted to the Council of Agriculture?

"It must out: the Council of Agriculture gives the idea of a body composed of 23 members having no close connection—a body which has, indeed, the power of motion, but neither informing soul nor guiding head—a body, lastly, which is utterly incapable of dragging out the torpid carcass of our agriculture from the deep burrow of routine in which it has for so long reposed."

The farmers in Quebec who have to pay for that journal may some day ask themselves who established it, and for whose benefit it is circulated, as they have to pay for it and have the paper forced on them whether they wish it or not. That paper is published by the Government at the request of—whom? for the benefit of—whom? to send—where? and to show—what?

We do not coincide with the above views in regard to Township Societies. When 30 or 40 members take an active interest, they are pretty sure to be the farmers that are doing the most good to the country. If the indolent, ignorant or inactive drones do not exert themselves to improve their minds, their stock or their crops, it is right that they should be made to pay something to aid those who are doing good for them.

We notice that large sums are mentioned as having been expended for agricultural journals. We are very pleased to be able to inform you that the FARMER'S ADVOCATE cannot in any sense be included among the list of subsidized agricultural journals.

Farm Barn.

For a farm of moderate size, or one where the means of the owner are limited, the most economical mode of accommodating the stock and produce of the farm is in a barn and stable combined.

This building should be placed in a situation where, either naturally or artificially, the ground slopes, so that on one side the barn is entered on

mer. *A* is the threshing-floor, 12 feet wide, with a hay-mow on one side, *H*, 14 feet wide, open to roof, and grain, *G*, on the other side, also 14 feet wide. On one side of this floor is a space, *a*, through which roots are thrown into the root-cellar, and another, *b*, through which straw is thrown into the straw-room, both being in the basement, while on the other side are openings, *c*, *c*, through which the hay is placed in the racks of the horses, in the stable beneath.

Let us now examine the basement or stable story of this barn, Fig. 3. The first feature is the cow stable, *C*, occupying about 30 feet square, being that portion on the right hand of the plan, Fig. 3. Here is a large "feeding passage," *FP*, 11 feet wide, including the mangers, *f, f*. This passage is supplied with hay, it will be remembered, through the hole *d*, in the ceiling (which is in the floor of the barn above). This well-hole acts also as a ventilator, whenever one is necessary, for the whole cow stable.

The cow stable accommodates 18 cows. The stalls measure 3 feet 2 inches from centre to centre. These stalls are formed of a series of light gates, or rather, each side of the stall is a single gate, swinging, not upon hinges likely to be broken, but upon a wooden pivot, made on the upper and lower end of the frame post, at one end of the gate. Supposing the cows entering the door *g*, Fig. 3, to be stalled for the night, the gates being all swung open, as the first three are represented—the first cow enters; the gate is shut behind her, and thus forms her stall; then another, and the gate is shut; and another, until all the gates are closed, as represented on the other side, *h*.

By taking out a gate, double stall can readily be made for a cow about to calve.

Next, on the left, see Fig. 3, is the stable, 14 feet wide, with stalls (5 feet wide) for six horses. To the left of this is the carriage-house, *CH*, 12 feet wide. At the side of the door, on entering this apartment, is the pump, *e*, a large cistern, which takes all the water from this side of the roof, being built under the floor here. There is a spout running through the wall, and another through the stable, to convey water both into the yard and the stables.

The space, 14 feet wide, to the left of the carriage-house, is occupied by a small root-cellar, *R*;

a place for straw used for litter, *S*; and a harness-room, or box stall. Here is also a flight of stairs which ascends to the grain-room on the barn floor above. The grain-room is 14 x 20 feet, and 10 feet high, and will hold 2,000 bushels. Division of space may be made to suit the necessities of the owner. The space, 10 x 14 feet, next to granary, may be used for the storage of farm machinery and utensils. The barn will contain 50 tons of hay, exclusive of space above granary. Over the granary 11 tons of hay may be stored.

That is, however, the natural place for the storage of straw for bedding.

The basement wall is 8 feet high and 18 inches thick, and contains 24 cords of stone. Above basement the barn is boarded up and down with dressed stock boards, battened, and painted—two coats.

In localities where common lumber is \$12 per thousand, and stone \$6 per cord, this barn may be built, all complete, for \$1,500.—[Factory & Farm.

Five or six drops of ammonia to every pint of water, once a week, will make house-plants flourish.

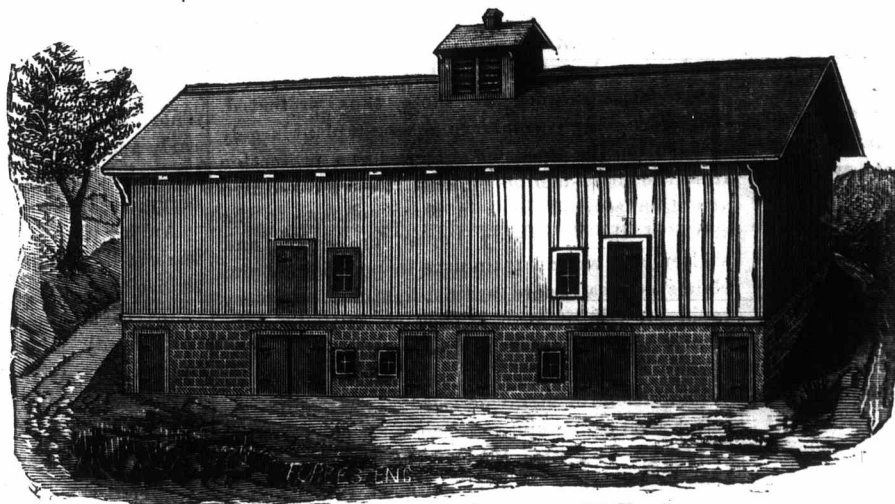


FIG. 1. ELEVATION. SIZE, 30 x 70 FEET.

the level of the ground, and on the other the stable, which is one story lower. The latter, or basement story, opens into the cattle yard, and contains accommodation for cows and horses, the root cellar, etc.; thus the same roof and walls cover and enclose at once the live stock below, and the hay and grain above.

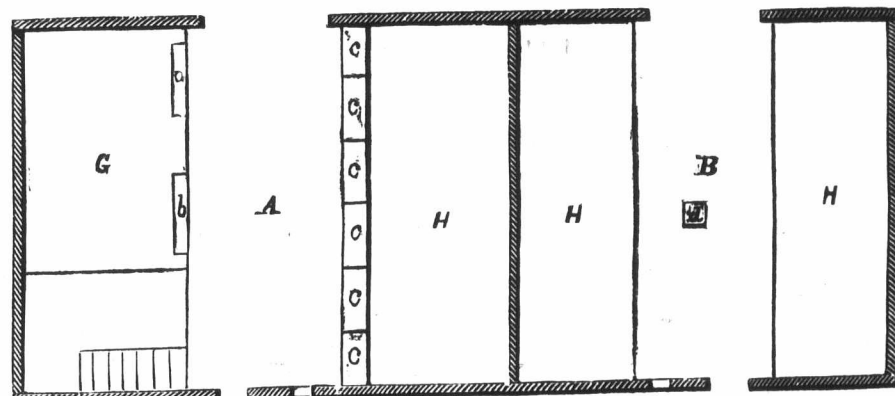


FIG. 2. PLAN OF THE MAIN FLOOR.

The elevation, Fig. 1, shows the stable or basement side, with both stories. The posts are 18 ft. long from the basement walls to the eaves. The basement is eight feet high in the clear. The opposite side, one story high, shows two pairs of double doors for driving in loads of hay and grain.

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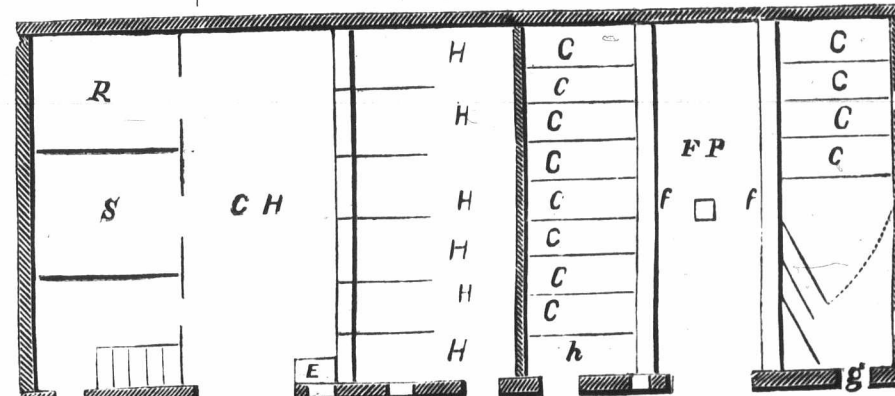


FIG. 3. PLAN OF THE BASEMENT FLOOR.

The whole building is 30 x 70 ft. outside, 30 ft. square being a hay barn, under which is the stable for cows, and the remaining 40 ft. being a grain and hay barn, with horse stalls, carriage house, etc., below.

In Fig. 2, which is the plan of the barn floor, *B* is the main floor, 12 ft. wide, with a hay-mow, *H*, on each side, 9 ft. wide, open to roof. At *d* is a hay-well, or hole in the floor, with a curb round it, through which the hay is thrown into the feeding passage in the cow stable below. This curb is removed, and a trap-door put in its place in summer.