

bales can be pressed so hard as to hold with firmness a nail driven into them.

Bales of this nature may be used for the construction of out-buildings, which would be both warm and cheap. An ordinary frame house sheathed with tightly-pressed bales would be perfectly frost-proof in winter and cool in summer.

DITCHING BY MACHINERY.

At the present moment over 800 miles of ditches require to be made in the County of Morris, that is about two miles in connection with every section.

The Morris municipality is required by law to spend the whole of the commutation money received from the Statute Labour Tax every year in this construction. At present about \$1,600 a year is spent in this way, an average of about \$1,000 per annum has been paid for this work let every year. With the increase of population in the county, which would undoubtedly come if water were available, this commutation money would be very largely increased.

There is at present on the Lowe Farm the following ditching machinery :—

1st. A heavy four-horse plough, specially constructed for the excavation of ditches.

2nd. A two-horse ditch sward cutter.

3rd. A four-horse ditcher known as the Ditch Sward Scraper.

The plan adopted for ditching by the Municipal Council of the County of Morris is to make ditches nine feet wide and six inches deep and to lay out the roads between every section of land, which is one square mile, all the road tax, as stated, being used for this purpose.

The cost of doing one mile of ditching is as follows :—

One man and two horses, staking out and cutting the sward, one mile, one day	\$2.50
One man and four horses ploughing, one day, one mile.....	3.50
One man and four horses, scraping out the dirt and putting it on the road two days, one mile.....	7.00
(This machine takes out of the ditch and throws on to the road one cubic yard of earth in every minute of time.)	
Time for measuring and taking the job, with draughting team and unforeseen expenses, in all.. ..	5.00
Total cost for one mile	\$18.00

The amount of payment received from the Council for one mile at 8 cents per cubic yard would be \$70.40.

The amount received at 14 cents per cubic yard would be \$123.20.