Total cost of material for silo and chute foundation	$123.97	
Total cost of labor for silo and chute foundation	212.21	
Total cost of material and labor		$336.18
Cost of Five Small Doors, 27 x 20. in. :		
Material	$ 3.80	
Labor (carpenters), 16 hours	3.92	
		$ 7.72
Cost of Chute (framework)—Including Door to Feed Entry :		
Material	$ 17.00	
Labor (carpenters), 29 hours	7.08	
		$ 24.08
Roof (including two dormers) :		
Frame material, sheathing, mill work	$ 47.37	
Nails	3.00	
Window sash and glass	.50	
	$ 50.87	
Asphalt covering, 7 rolls, at $2.50	17.50	
Extra cement	.10	
Brush for applying	.15	
Extra roofing nails	.70	
Total asphalt covering	$ 18.45	
Total material for roof	69.32	
Roof—Labor :		
Erecting framework (carpenters, 100 hours)	$ 26.00	
Covering with asphalt roofing, 98 hours	24.11	
Erecting lightning-rod, 2 hours	.54	
Hauling roof material	1.00	
	$ 51.65	
Total cost of roof, complete		$120.97
Total cost of silo, complete		$488.95

Successful Farming.

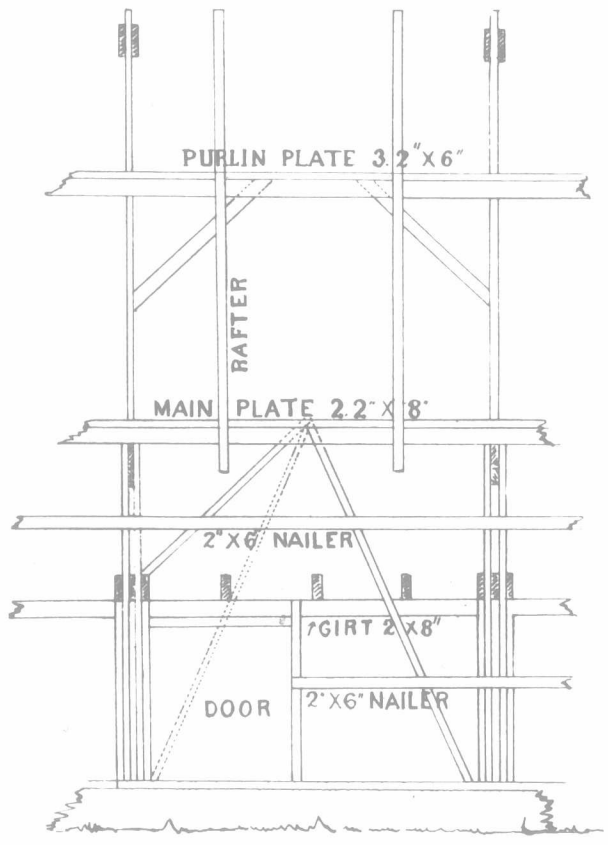
Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

When I was a small boy at school, there was one of my classmates whom I considered more efficient in the art of writing than I was. The reason of this I attributed to a difference in the quality of the slate, and thought, had I the same equipment for writing, I would not have to take a back seat.

The absurdity of this is readily seen in this case. But are we as ready to see it when it comes down to our everyday work? How many of us have taken notice to some fine, comfortable-looking farm home, and have reflected to ourselves. "It is easy for that man to get along with every convenience and improvement, and if I were placed in such circumstances, I, too, could get along as well as he"

The point I wish to make clear in this article is that circumstances do not count for everything. To a large extent we make our own conditions, which will make or unmake us, just in proportion as we do our best to improve or neglect the opportunities which are daily presenting themselves.

Now, what are the causes of the differences in a fine, well-kept farm and one that is rough and tumbledown-looking, granting that the quality of soil and other natural conditions are on comparatively the same basis? There are several reasons why this might be the case, and at the same time not reflect upon the management of the farm. On the one there might be sickness, misfortune, or the owner might be just beginning; while, on the other hand, health, wealth and many other assets of propserity might be his in abundance. But these are exceptional cases, not the rule, and it is



Plank Frame Without Basement.

the rule we have under consideration at present. Why are we not getting on as well as our neighbor? And in our pride we answer, "Oh, he is working under more favorable conditions than I." But why so? Am I not as competent in making the best of my circumstances as he is. Again our pride comes in, but this time to our rescue, and says: "Why, I should think I am." Now, the next step in this transformation is just to humiliate yourself for a little, and be willing to take a few lessons from your more prosperous neighbor. It is not advisable to follow him into every detail of his business, but what I do advise is to get at the basal principles which have carried him so successfully over the rough places of his daily routine. I think that, after observing for some time, you will agree with me when I say that the secret of his success does not lie in the superior advantages of his special line of work, such as dairying, horse-breeding, grain-growing, etc. It is deeper-rooted than that. In my opinion, based on observation and experience, the real secret of successful farming lies in making the very best of what we have.

To do this, we must have a definite plan of work, or, in other words, a system. Now, it is not enough to have a system, but we must see that that system is adhered to, and also that it is of the very best.

Now, in the very best system, economy must play an important part. Economy of time, economy of labor, economy of the raw material of the farm, so that, whatever the finished product may be, it will be the aim of the producer to make a maximum of gains at a minimum cost.

System has one more advantage, at least. It brings everything in its right place. We are not doing to-day what we should have been doing yesterday. We are almost invariably "up with our work," as we farmers put it.

Much more could be said on this subject of successful farming, but I hope that in the above article I have made it clear that, to succeed, we must first put ourselves at the back of the whole enterprise. And unless we do the pushing, I fear that neither circumstances, conditions, or anything else will be of much avail in helping us to succeed.

COLIN CAMPBELL.

Huron Co., Ont.

Plank Frame Without Basement.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

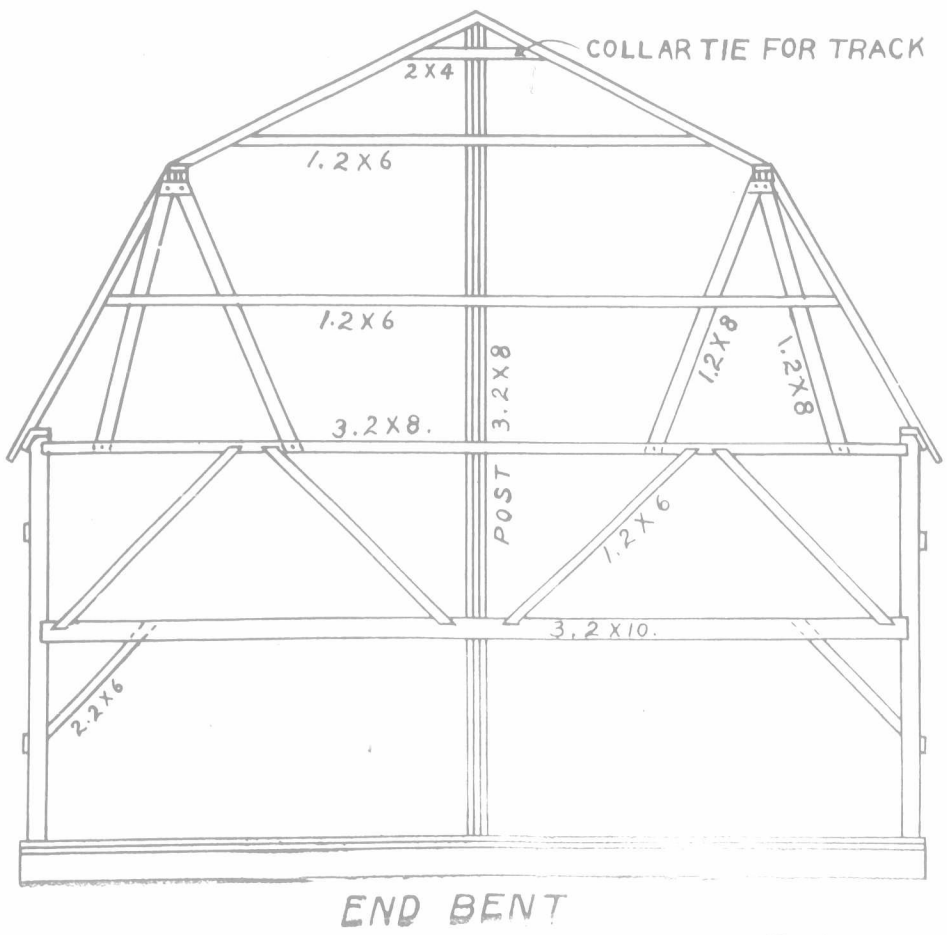
In your issue of December 21st, 1911, someone, signing his name "W. M. W.," asked for information about building a plank-frame barn without basement, as carpenters in his section tell him that it is difficult to build them without a basement, on account of the doors.

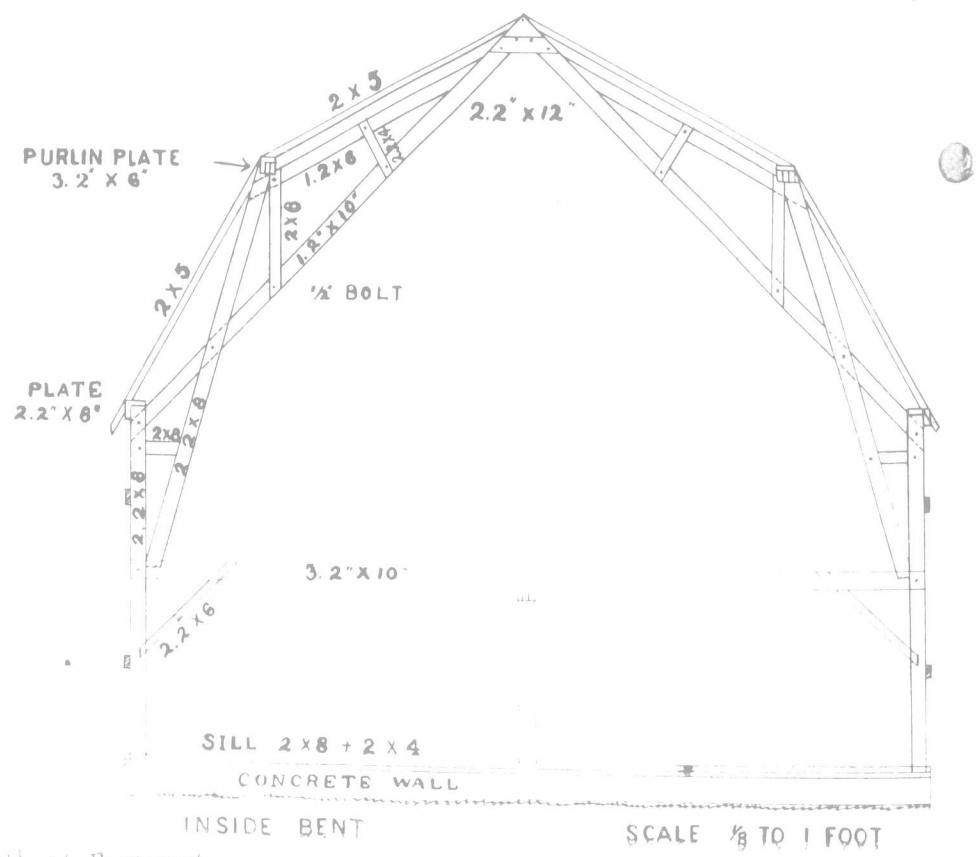
I might say, in reply to his question, that I have been in the concrete construction and building business for several years, and in the line of carpentering I make a specialty of plank-frame construction, and nearly all of the new barns built in this section now are plank-frames, built after a plan of my own design.

The plank-frame, if properly built, is the strongest frame for a barn or other building built in bents, that can be constructed, as the bents are made in a kind of cantilever plan, and, being spiked and bolted with ½-inch bolts wherever the braces or supports cross each other, are very rigid; and the braces being placed between the beam or post-plank, and firmly spiked at both ends, they hold both ways.

The long side-braces between the bents run from the bottom of the post on the sill up under the center of the plate (which is made of pig-trough style), which helps to support it; and when the outside nailers are securely spiked to the posts, and these long braces, the frame is very stiff and solid.

The purline posts, on the inside bents, run from the main beams, and are built in them, where they fasten to the posts, up to the purline plates,





Plank Frame Without Basement.