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LAING BROS.,

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### CAPPED HOCKS; BOG SPAVIN

1. I have a valuable young mare that has puffs on her hocks — what is called capped hock. They are not hard. They have been on her for some time. Can anything be done to remove them?

2. I have also a two-year-old mare with a bog spavin. What would be best to do for it?

D. S.

Ans.—Capped hocks are very difficult to cure, in many cases the enlargement remains in spite of all treatment, especially when of long standing. You might try iodine ointment, strength 1 to 8; gently rub in a little with the finger once daily for three days. Then discontinue for three days. Then repeat as before. Keep this treatment up for a month. If at any time the parts show signs of blistering, stop the use of the ointment until the skin again becomes clean and smooth.

2. Clip the hair off the enlargements and blister with the following: Powdered cantharides 2 drams, biniodide of mercury 2 drams, vaseline 3 ounces. Mix well. Rub in for fifteen minutes. Tie her head up so that she cannot lie down for forty-eight hours, then wash off the blister with warm water and soap and smear with vaseline every three days. Turn her out to pasture. It may be necessary to repeat the blistering in three weeks.

### CONCRETE FOR BARN FOUNDATION

1. Does concrete make a warm and satisfactory stable? 2. Would 12 inches thick be enough to carry a barn 36x50 feet with 14 foot posts? 3. Could enough stone fillers be added to Portland cement to make 30 bbls. do the walls, if 8 ft. high?

T. E. M. W.

Ans.—Opinions differ as to the value of concrete as a stable material. It is, however, universally used for this purpose, and on account of its comparative cheapness and durability is well adapted as a stable material. It is warm, particularly so if an air space can be made in the wall. A solid wall is not the warmest kind to build. In order, however, to get the hollow wall, it is necessary to use blocks of concrete instead of building the wall in the ordinary way, as we infer from your query you intend doing.

2. Yes, a 12 inch wall would be strong enough for this size building. It is advisable to use a broad foundation under the wall, say two feet in width.

3. The proportion of cement to sand and gravel varies with the quality of the materials used. Some use one of cement to seven of sand and gravel, while others claim that one to 10 is sufficient. With good Portland cement and clean sharp sand and gravel, one to eight should meet your purpose. The wall comprises 1,376 cubic feet. Since the cement works in between the particles of sand and gravel and since 125 cubic feet of concrete estimated for 100 cubic feet of wall, the cement requirement for concrete alone would be 215 cubic feet, or approximately 5 bbls. By exercising care and judgement, stones can be worked into such a wall without weakening it. They should not be embedded too near the surface. Perhaps it would be safe to use stones to make up one third of the wall. Even this would leave an estimated quantity of 917 cubic feet of concrete into which approximately 36 barrels of cement would be put. By using a lower proportion of cement to gravel and taking care not to waste concrete it is just possible that for the wall mentioned you could get along with 30 barrels of cement, but it is not wise to save a few dollars on cement, at the risk of unduly weakening the wall. This estimate does not take into account the quantity needed to build the wall under ground, required to furnish a solid base.

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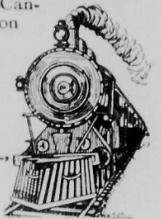
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