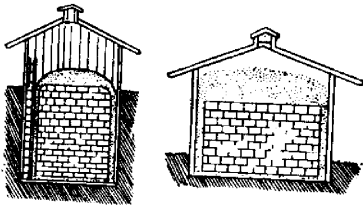


CONSTRUCTION OF A FARM ICE-HOUSE.

TWO classes of farm ice-houses are practicable. If high dry ground or a hill-side is available, a pit or submerged house can be constructed. Make a hole in the ground of the desired size, the bottom highest in the middle, so that the water from melting will drain toward the walls. At each side place a line of tile leading from the house to the side of the hill, or to another drain or ditch. Drainage must be perfect, or results will not be satisfactory. For walls, put in a frame made much like that of an ordinary corncrib, with the boards close together and on the inside of the up-rights. The joists should be 2 x 6 pine or hardwood, depending upon which is the cheapest. Stone may also be used. The roof is best if 2 x 6 studding is used, boarded on both sides; but any kind of a roof will serve, especially if covered with hay, straw, or stalks to keep out the heat. If the pit is in a



a FIG. 1308.— b

shady place—which is always desirable—the gables may be left open for ventilation. If sun strikes the roof, ordinary ventilators must be provided. Drainage must be perfect and the ventilation adequate, but it is best to have as little circulation of air as possible. A door must be made for taking out ice, and as the supply is lowered a ladder becomes necessary. Fig. 1308 a shows such a pit. If water stands near the surface of the ground, admitting of a

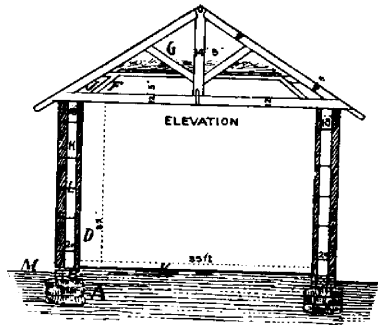


FIG. 1309.—ICE-HOUSE.

possibility of its rising in the pit, the safest way is to build the house entirely above ground, taking the precautions outlined above as to location, drainage and ventilation. A floor is not absolutely necessary, although desirable. A cheap shed with rough posts, carefully double boarded and the air space filled with sawdust or chaff, will be better than nothing, and if a straw stack or heap of cornstalks could be built over it, such an affair would keep ice fairly well. But thrifty farmers believe in building a durable ice-house that will last. The common type is shown in Fig. 1308 b. A 6-in. dead-air space is not

A DURABLE ICE-HOUSE

sufficient, even if the outer boards are matched and the inner square edged, with tarred paper underneath both. Some think the paper is hardly necessary under the inside boards if they are matched, but square-edged boards may be used on both sides with paper on both sides of studding. Fig. 1309

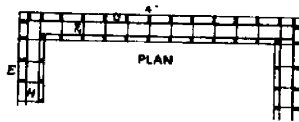


FIG. 1310.—PLAN.