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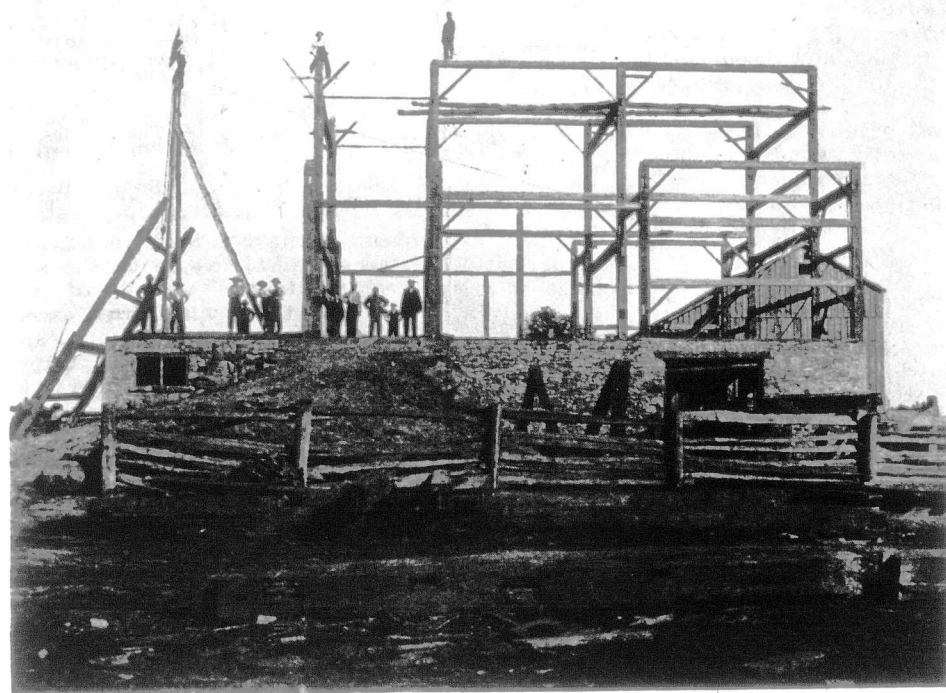
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NO. 1 MR. T. EARLY'S BARN RAISING, HALTON CO., ONT.

### Modern Barn Raising.

BY JOHN D. M'GREGOR, HALTON CO., ONT.

In your issue of July 15th, 1901, I gave a short sketch of the method adopted by the farmers of Halton Co. for raising barn frames. Many farmers are just now planning for building next summer, and some light on this subject may be helpful to them. I have been favored by Mr. Grant Johnston, of Alloo, Peel Co., inventor and operator of the jerry with which the work is done, with a number of photos taken while at work. No. 1 is a building owned by T. Early, size 56x75, raised with the assistance of four men in eight hours. No. 2, owned by Mr. Griffen, size 56x80, raised in nine hours. No. 3 shows the work being done in a somewhat different way, the raising being done from the side, the cut showing a length of sixty feet being raised at once. The men owning the raising outfit bring the machine and four men. With the assistance of four men a barn is easily raised in a day. The cost is twenty dollars, and is a great deal cheaper than the old way.

While farmers appreciate this method for the upper story of their barns, many still take the old way of raising the lower foundation, or mud sills. When a large barn is being built and heavy timber is used, it generally takes a gang of 25 men to raise the mud sills, and if the wall is but recently built, there is danger of jarring it. This trouble can be easily avoided and the work accomplished better and quicker by two or three men. The following plan has been found to work well: Take three pieces of timber, 3x6 and 18 or 20 feet long, run a 3/4-inch bolt through one end of the pieces of timber, not making it too tight, so as to allow for spreading when raised. Now raise the three pieces and spread the bottoms so as to form a tripod. With a clevis attach a double block to the top of the tripod, the other block being attached to the timber. The single block through which the rope passes as it goes to the horses is attached to the bottom of one of the legs of the tripod. At the bottom of this leg a stake is driven firmly into the ground, and the chain which attaches the block passes around both stake and leg, and holds the tripod secure. The sill to be raised is drawn into proper position and the tripod raised over the middle of it. Attach the block to the sill, six inches nearer to the end that goes on the wall. Raise with the team, above the wall, swing into position and gently back the team. Then shift your block six inches to the other side of the center of the sill, and raise as before. The team can easily hold the timber until the posts are put into position.

When a sill has been raised the full length of the building, care should be taken to have only one leg of the tripod on the side from which the machine has to be moved. The moving then is easily done by tipping this leg over the sill. With a double block, two or three men can easily raise the sills of an ordinary barn in an afternoon.

### Ontario Farmers' Institute Season.

From various points we are receiving encouraging reports of the large attendance and helpful nature of the Ontario Farmers' Institute meetings this season. Thoroughly practical subjects are presented and discussed in a manner well calculated to promote successful farming, and this is the object of the Institute system.

### Buying a Bull.

If the bull is more than half the herd, which we understand is according to the revised version, special care should surely be exercised in the selection of a head for the herd. It may pay well to travel a long way and wait a good while to get the right type and quality of animal for a sire rather than take one that is near and is not what the herd requires in order to its continuous improvement. A sire weak in general character or in one essential point may do more damage to a herd in his term of service than can be undone in twenty years, as the weakness is liable to be perpetuated in his descendants to the third and fourth generation, and failings are as likely to be

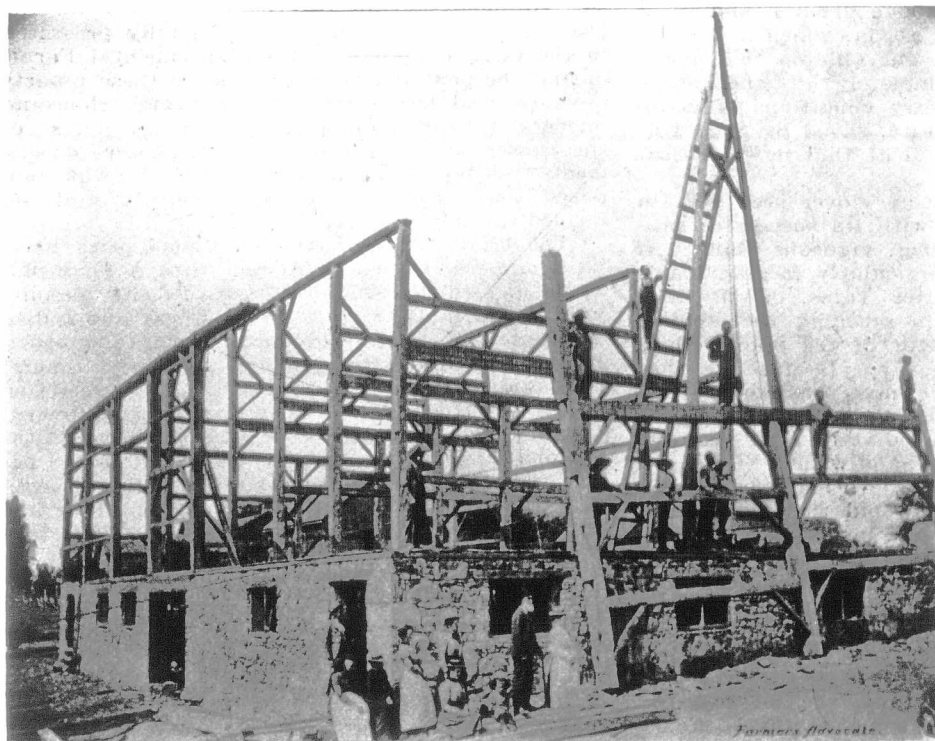
reproduced as are virtues. While it is often the part of wisdom, having found one to suit, to pay, if need be, a higher price for a bull than was intended, it does not follow that the

stock shows in this country in recent years, in competition with pure-breds, were not sired by bulls of middling quality or merit, but by champions in the show-ring at the leading exhibitions.

Most breeders, we presume, have an ideal in mind of the stamp of bull they prefer and require in order to the best results in the improvement of their herd, but it is often not an easy matter to find the animal that fills the bill, for first-class ones are by no means plentiful, and when found are sometimes beyond the reach of the seeker to obtain, owing to the price they are held at being higher than can safely be afforded. Let not the seeker be discouraged on this account and seek no further. It is probably true that there are as good fish in the waters as have ever been caught, and by looking further, another, if not as good in all respects, yet as good in most essential points, may be found that can be bought within the means of the purchaser, and if bred from good stock of the right stamp may give as good results as the other would. And this naturally suggests the thought that, as a rule, of course the best and safest place to buy a bull is at the home of the breeder, where the sire and dam can generally be seen, the character of other members of the family observed, and time taken to view him at leisure. There is no place where, as a rule, shipping of stock is so carefully done as from the home of the breeder, where feed and bedding is at hand and all the necessary precautions for ensuring safe and comfortable transportation can best be taken. Many a good young bull has been set back for months and not a few practically ruined by being taken from a warm stable in midwinter and compelled to walk for miles on a slippery road to the station, getting overheated, and then by standing, it may be, for hours in a station yard, exposed to the cold

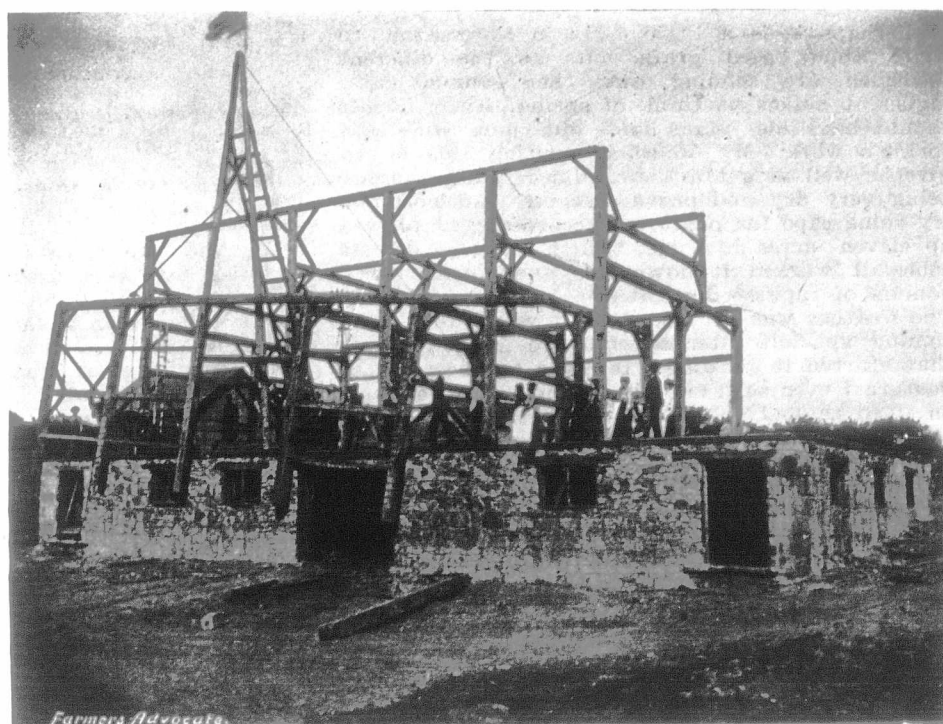
winds, and bundled into a drafty car without any covering in the way of a blanket. Every one professing to be a breeder should have a substantial cattle rack in which stock sold may be hauled to the station, especially in winter, when they should also be blanketed. The frequent complaints regarding purchased bulls being unsure breeders for a time after being removed from one place to another may well be traced to the long walk and the heating and cooling off incident to such changes, which upset the whole system and are apt to lead to lasting ills.

Wm. Peacock.—Replying to your enquiry re egg production, would recommend you to start on a small scale, and as you find it succeeding, increase the flock, making use of the valuable information we publish on that subject. Try Plymouth Rocks or Wyandottes for a general-purpose bird, or Leghorns as egg-producers specially.



NO. 2.—VIEW OF MR. W. GIFFEN'S BARN RAISING, PEEL CO., ONT.

highest-priced is the best for you, nor that he is the best for any one except, perhaps, the seller. By looking a little further one may find a bull of the desired type that can be bought for much less money than is asked for others that would not suit the purposes of the purchaser nearly as well as the lower-priced one. The breeder who has a large herd of pure-bred females can afford to pay a higher price for a suitable bull, because he can use him to mate with so many, and thus secure a larger number of his progeny, but all the same the owner of a small herd cannot afford to buy a cheap bull if he is inferior or ranks no higher than mediocrity. Indeed, the farmer who has a herd of grades will make a serious mistake if he uses a pure-bred bull that is only middling in character and quality, for there is no place where a high-class bull shows his potency for good more clearly than in a herd of grade cows. The grades that have been winning the highest honors at the fat-



NO. 3.—MR. W. GIFFEN'S BARN RAISING,