How to Concrete-veneer a House.

Several of our readers have asked for details of the process of veneering a house with concrete. First there must be a good foundation for the veneer to rest upon, projecting beyond the walls from four to five inches. Then drive five-inch spikes about an inch and a half into the studding to hold the concrete. These may be from twenty inches to two feet apart up the studs. The cribbing or shoring is now placed around the bottom above the foundation. This shoring can be made of two-inch plank, cleated together, to enclose about thirty-two inches of concrete. Have sufficient shoring to allow the concrete to set before the shoring is removed or raised. If it is desired to block the wall off in imitation of stone, nail V-shaped cleats an the inside of the shoring, so that the wall will be divided into eight inch blocks. Care should be taken in putting on these cleats to see that they will fall in the proper line when the shoring is moved up, so that each joint will be broken evenly. Place No. 7 wire in the wall, about every four feet, to bind the concrete and prevent cracking.

The concrete is then mixed. The amount of sand, gravel or stone used in proportion to cement will depend upon the kind of cement used. Portland cement may be mixed one to ten of coarse sand or gravel. All gravel should contain from twenty-five to thirty per cent. of sand. Rock cement should be mixed at about one to five or six. The cement and gravel are first mixed dry, then moistened just enough to pack well behind the shoring.

To find the amount of material required, find the number of cubic feet to be built. Then one barrel of Portland cement, mixed one to ten, will build thirty-five feet of wall, and a barrel of rock cement will build about twenty cubic feet. One hundred and twenty cubic feet of gravel or coarse sand is required for each one hundred cubic feet of wall. Small stone may be used for filling; a cubic foot of stone displacing an equal amount of gravel or sand.

Outlook Good for Hard Spring Wheat.

I have grown Preston spring wheat for three years, with very favorable results. I grew three acres last year, which yielded twenty-two bushels per acre. This last season was not as favorable for spring wheat as the year before. In 1902 the yield of Preston spring wheat was thirty bushels per acre; soil clay loam, root ground heavily manured with barnyard manure the fall previous. After the roots were taken up the ground was lightly plowed and left in that condition till spring, and cultivated twice and harrowed down ready for the drill; drilled in 1½ bushels per acre. I think, no doubt, there will be a large acreage of spring wheat sown this coming seeding. Red Fern, Scotch Fife and Champion are good, hard varieties, consequently best for milling purposes. If farmers would sow good varieties they would no doubt have good results if the season is favorable. I have disposed of all my Preston spring wheat for seed this season.

York Co., Ont. T. W. STEPHENS.

Poor Opinion of Preston Wheat.

I have a very poor opinion of Preston spring wheat. The first year, at my request, Mr. Saunders sent me ten pounds. It did fairly well, as I took good care of it. The following spring I sowed about an acre, on land where potatoes and mangels were grown the season before; good clay soil, plowed the fall before. It was no good. I kept it by itself; when threshed there was not quite the full of an empty salt barrel of it. I wonder very much at Mr. Saunders recommending it. I get bulletins every year from Ottawa, in which always big yields are mentioned. One to hand a few days ago. As usual, Preston wheat 30 bush. 30 lbs. per acre. If any others wish to have a trial of it, let them, but do not say too much about it.

Grey Co. JOHN MOFFITT.

Feeding Cornstalks.

A reader asks regarding the feeding of cornstalks. Our plan is as follows: After husking the corn we tie in sheaves, using cornstalks as bands. To keep them till wanted is somewhat difficult, as if laid flat they will spoil. We set them on end, around on top of the straw, which will have settled in the mows enough for that purpose. During winter we run them through a cutting-box, cutting every two or three weeks, as here again a large pile will mould. We mix them in a large trough with chaff, pulped roots, a handful of salt, and enough water to dampen it, always mixing one feed ahead. Our cattle eat them up clean this way with apparent relish.

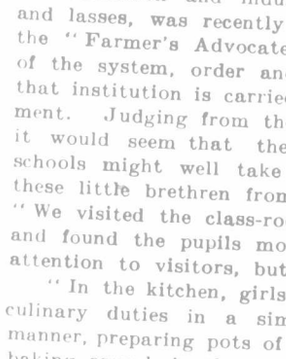
"SCOTTIE"

A Day at Mt. Elgin.

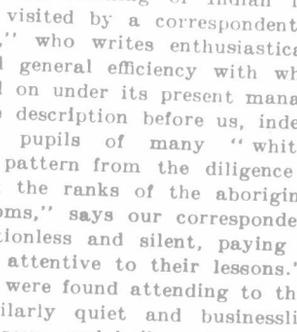
The Mount Elgin Institute, Middlesex Co., Ont., for the education and industrial training of Indian lads and lasses, was recently visited by a correspondent of the "Farmer's Advocate," who writes enthusiastically of the system, order and general efficiency with which that institution is carried on under its present management. Judging from the description before us, indeed, it would seem that the pupils of many "white" schools might well take pattern from the diligence of these little brethren from the ranks of the aborigines. "We visited the class-rooms," says our correspondent, and found the pupils motionless and silent, paying no attention to visitors, but attentive to their lessons."

"In the kitchen, girls were found attending to their culinary duties in a similarly quiet and businesslike manner, preparing pots of soup and boilers of potatoes, baking squash in the oven, and carrying viands to the dining-room. A visit to the sewing-room revealed still other 'dusky, dark-eyed maidens' busied in making coats for the boys, dresses of checked gingham for the girls, and quilts for the dormitories; while in the baking-room an interesting proceeding proved to be the setting of bread, also by the pupils—an operation which required the using of four pails of water, potatoes, a bowl of salt, and a whole box of yeast-cake. A subsequent visit to the farm and the stables, where over four hundred head of stock were quartered, also called forth enthusiastic comment."

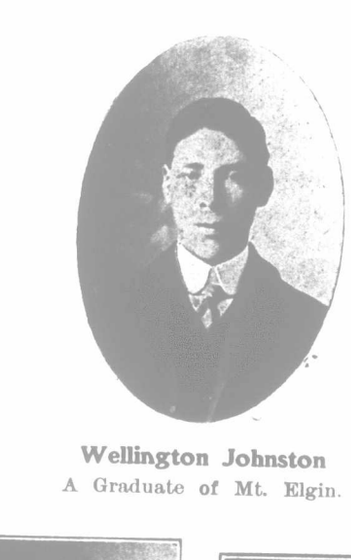
Wellington Johnston
A Graduate of Mt. Elgin.



Peter Miles
A Pupil of Mt. Elgin.



Alfred Johnston
Mt. Elgin.



Philolomen Roundpoint
A General Favorite at Mt. Elgin.

The remarks of our correspondent have been supplemented by the following facts regarding the Institute, which have been very kindly supplied us by the Rev. T. T. George, Principal of the Institution.

Mt. Elgin Industrial Institute was founded by the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church in 1847. The first buildings were erected by funds collected for the purpose by said Society in England and Canada. The Government set apart two hundred acres of the Caradoc Reserve to be used by said Institution as an Industrial School farm. The purpose of the school was the education of Indian children in the ordinary branches of a public school education, while, at the same time, giving to the boys a training in all departments of agricultural work, and the girls in all branches of domestic work. The original building was supplemented in 1895 by a commodious, four-story building, erected at a cost of $25,000, borne by the Indian Department of the Dominion Government. Increased accommodation made way for an increased attendance. The old building accommodated forty pupils; the new, one hundred. The Government support is $60.00 per annum per pupil to the number of one hundred, payment being made for those in actual attendance up to that limit. Nothing is received for any in attendance above the limit. This grant, the use of the two hundred acres of land and the buildings erected by the Department as supplemental to the original buildings form the sun total of the Government aid. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church has stocked and furnished the farm and all the departments, and meets any deficiency of outlay not covered by the per capita grant and the income of the farm. The number of pupils having increased from forty to one hundred, and the expenses increased in proportion, it has been found that the acreage of the farm is altogether inadequate, and recourse has been had to the leasing of adjacent lands on the Caradoc and Delaware Reserves.

The staff is composed of the principal, who is responsible for the entire management and government of the Institution in all its departments; a head teacher, a gentleman, who, in addition to the class-work of the schoolroom, has immediate oversight of the boys in residence; an assistant teacher, a lady, having similar duties in respect to the girls in residence; a matron having charge of the general housework and management of the sewing-room; an assistant matron, giving instruction to the girls in the making and mending of garments of all kinds; a cook, having charge of the kitchen and dining-room and giving instruction to the girls in this important branch of domestic duties. Outside the main building staff, stands, first, the foreman of the farm, charged with the oversight and direction of the industrial work on the farm, and having as assistants two subordinate officers; next, a herdsman, having charge of the herds and the direction of the boys in this department of industrial work; a carpenter also gives instruction in the carpenter trade, and has, usually, associated with him certain boys, making and repairing such implements as are in use on the farm, the erection of gates, the erection and maintenance of buildings; a shoemaker, supplying the pupils with the necessary equipment of footwear.

The stock of the farm at present includes thirty head of horses and colts, one hundred pigs, thirty milch cows, and upwards of three hundred head of store cattle, etc. All grain raised on the farm is fed on the farm, all milk is likewise consumed on the premises. Profits are looked for alone in the sale of cattle and pigs, some eight or ten carloads of the latter being marketed each year.

Pupils are now in attendance from the following Reserves: Caradoc, Delaware, Orford, Walpole, Sarnia, Saugeen, Cape Croker, Rama, Rice Lake, Alnwick, Cornwall Island, Caughnawaga, St. Regis and Oka.

Beside the morning and evening prayers, all pupils are required to attend public service on Sabbath morning, and Sabbath school on Sabbath afternoon, and Bible study on Sabbath evening in the chapel.

All pupils are clothed, boarded and instructed free.

Hydraulic Ram.

We all prize the weekly visits of the "Farmer's Advocate" very much, and would not like to be without it.

I noticed some enquiries about hydraulic rams. I have had one working for ten years, and think it an excellent water-pumper. We got 400 feet of tamarack logs bored out and banded same as pump logs, and laid them a short distance in the ground, and ran the water in a small tank made of two 12-ft. planks, one 10 in. wide, the other 14 in.; cut in two in center and coal tarred them well on both sides, then spiked together, and had a 10-in. square tank inside. We put a tight bottom in, and cut a bevelled hole near the bottom to fit the end of the tamarack log tight into. Now this would raise the water nearly to the top, so I put a waste pipe about one foot from top of tank, and the feed pipe to ram about two feet from top of tank, and use fifty feet of feed pipe. We raise the water about 30 feet high, and drive it about 250 feet. The discharge pipe is laid in tile. We receive at barn about one gallon per minute. Ram is working fine all the time.

J. F. BROWNRIDGE.

Thrift.

Mr. Duncan N. Campbell, Elgin Co., Ont.: "I wish to congratulate you for your ability and foresight in providing such a paper as the "Farmer's Advocate" for Canada. If all Canadians followed the advice given in your columns, an unthrifty farmer would soon be unknown in our country. Wishing you continued success in the future."