

enough, and he keeps purchasing land, while he adds little or nothing to his active capital, and the consequence is, while on fifty acres of land, he realized forty per cent., on five hundred acres he realizes nothing. He has converted his productive into unproductive capital, and from his five hundred acres he does not clear as much as he did from his fifty acres, or perhaps he actually falls behind. There is nothing more true than that *moderate desire for large farms has been the ruin of thousands.* It is true that a large farm may be made as productive as a small one, but there must be the same proportion of capital in manure, labour, &c., put upon it, a thing rarely or never done.—That part of the farm upon which most capital is expended is the garden, and this is clearly the most productive and profitable, and so with a small farm when compared with a large one. Let no one therefore desire to possess more land, or undertake the cultivation of more acres than he has capital to manage well. If he does, he will find he is rapidly sinking what little productive capital he possesses, and may become a poor man with the means of exhaustless wealth in his hands.—*Albany Cultivator.*

(Concluded from First Page).

shire and Hampshire buildings, from which the hint was borrowed, are called *cob-walls*, but they are not exactly raised in the manner we now practice and recommend.

I have said, sir, that these buildings may be constructed with any description of clay, but I think the strong blue clay the best.—It need not however be so pure and free from stones as the brick-maker requires, (as it is well known that the least mixture of limestone spoils earth for bricks intended to be burnt). On the contrary, for our purpose, I believe that the clay is all the better for containing a large proportion of small stones or gravel, or that the same might judiciously be mixed with it, if convenient, and that, in that case, no straw would be required. The small stones or gravel would, by themselves, be quite sufficient to give the requisite solidity and binding nature to the material, and showing here and there on the surface, they would give an admirable hold to the plaster which is subsequently to be applied. I believe that the clay and small stones well kneaded together, do in the course of time grow into a solid mass, though I must leave to the learned to explain how that takes place. I remember well, when I used, many years since, to be sometimes at Muddiford in Hampshire, a place on the sea coast, I observed how small chunks of blue clay, from the under soil of the surrounding land, when they came by any accident in the way of the tide, used to be carried backwards and forwards by the ebbing and flowing of the sea, rolling up with them the sand and small pebbles, till they grew to be frequently as big as a flour barrel, and then, if cast by a storm on the dry land, they would lie there and harden into the solidity of a rock, and it was from a piece of them that the shoemakers used to make their lap-stones.—This was the school, I used to think, where the builders of that country, many, many generations before, first learnt to make their cob-walls; for there are buildings of that sort at Christ Church, close by, which are said to be six hundred years old.

If the clay be pure, and gravel or small stones not procurable, straw must be used. I find that it takes about one cwt. of straw to one hundred bricks, of the dimensions given in your last, which were very correctly stated.

You were about right also as to the expenses, the walls being supposed one foot in thickness, which is substantial enough

for a two-storied house. A barn which I have built has the walls eighteen inches thick. It need hardly be remarked that the cost will vary according to the price of labour and other local circumstances.

I shall add such remarks as at present occur to me respecting the mode of proceeding. A box or mould is to be prepared of the dimensions you state, as also one for bevelled bricks for arches &c. We temper the clay by the aid of horses. A place is scooped out about fifteen inches deep, twenty-five feet long, and half that in width.—Into this the clay and water is thrown, and a boy mounted on one horse and leading another, walks them backwards and forwards until every part is thoroughly kneaded, another person, the mean while, throwing in the straw in very small quantities at a time. Sometimes a circular ditch is made, for a horse to go round in, after the fashion of a cider mill. You may save labour in obtaining the clay by ploughing it up on a spot whence you intend taking it. The bricks are set to dry in loose or hollow walls, similar to those used in common brick yards. The foundation for a wall of this description should be laid with stone and mortar, and raised a few inches above the level of the ground. The bricks are to be laid in the same material of which they were made, instead of in mortar. And here it will be proper to point out the advantage of making these squares or bricks, over the older fashion of cob-walls. In constructing the latter, it is necessary to wait for each successive layer of the material to dry, before another can safely be added, lest the wall should subside unqually, and out of form, and the length of this delay depends on the state of the weather. With the bricks, the artificer proceeds uninterruptedly, and with much greater security against any such accident, and his building may be completed with all that celerity so generally desired by inhabitants of America. When the walls are quite dry, the last finish is to be given them by a good coat of plaster, made of lime and sand, and not of clay, though this is sometimes done. You will then have a dwelling of a most durable description, and as handsome as you choose to make it. It will be infinitely superior to a frame house, being, both warm in winter and cool in summer—so much so indeed that underground cellars, for the purpose of preserving articles from frost and heat, may be altogether dispensed with; and most people in this neighbourhood find their underground cellars to be as a great nuisance, and a cause of damp and vermin.

If I were to add that this description of house is as good as one of brick or stone, many would think it was saying a great deal, considering how cheap it is in comparison. But my firm opinion is, that it is very superior in healthiness and comfort to the best brick houses, and to most sorts of stone ones. Every one knows how very porous burnt bricks are, and what a quantity of water each one will drink up when plunged into it fresh from the kiln. From this it happens that the damp is continually making its way from the outside inwards. Unburnt clay, on the contrary, has nothing of this imperfection, and I could give the most incredulous person a convincing proof of this, by exhibiting to him the opposite condition of the paper on two walls in my own house, one built of each material.

But it is time to draw this communication to a close, which I shall do with wishing success to your useful labours, and hoping that your paper may soon rival and surpass any of the kind on this Continent.

I am, Sir, yours,

THOS. SHEPPARD.

Sheppard's Tavern,
Yonge Street, 26th Jan'y, 1842.

ERRATA IN OUR LAST—Page 16, in Mr. Severn's Communication, five lines from the bottom, for 177 lbs. read 77 lbs.

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JAMES FLEMING.

Yonge Street,
Toronto, Feb'y, 1842. 2

TORONTO MARKETS;

For the Month ending 31st. January, 1842.

Wheat, per bushel.....	5	0	a	5	9
Barley, per do.....	2	6	a	2	8
Oats, per do.....	1	6	a	1	8
Flour, Farmer's, per barrel.....	25	0	a	27	6
Do. Miller's, warranted per do.....	30	0	a	0	0
Do. Superfine, per do.....	35	0	a	0	0
Oatmeal, warranted, per do.....	0	0	a	25	0
Beef, per cwt.....	15	0	a	17	6
Do. on Foot.....	15	0	a	17	6
Mutton, per lb.....	0	2	a	0	3
Pork, per 100 lbs.....	12	6	a	17	6
Geese, each.....	2	0	a	2	6
Turkeys, do.....	3	0	a	5	3
Fowls, per pair.....	1	3	a	1	0
Ducks, per pair.....	1	4	a	2	0
Eggs, per dozen.....	0	7	a	0	10
Butter, in tubs, per lb.....	0	6	a	0	7
Do. in rolls, per lb.....	0	7	a	0	9
Potatoes, per bushel.....	1	0	a	1	3
Hay, per ton.....	79	0	a	80	0

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