

View of residence of A. B. Potter, Montgomery, Sask

Building Cement Houses

We may be said to have reached the cement age in the erection of many farm structures. A few years ago the use of cement was confined largethe use of cement was confined large-ly to the building of foundations for houses, bridges, etc. To-day its use is very much more general and there does not appear to be any kind of a structure which the cement manufac-turer will not undertake to build out cement and guarantee satisfaction. And he seems to be warranted in this by recent experience with cement in the erection of many farm and other buildings. Where suitable gravel is convenient cement concrete forms a good material for the construction of a dwelling. It makes a warm, dry and healthful residence.

and healthful residence.

One of the most recent developments in cement building is the use of cement blocks, that is, blocks of cement made in a mould. These may be a sold square or hollow, plain or fancy in appearance. In fact there is hardly any limit to the variety of blocks the builder may have at his disposal. They have a much better disposal the properties of the ever, the greatest care should be exercised in having the blocks properly bedded in the mortar, as they are apt needed in the mortar, as they are apt to crack, and a broken cement block in a wall has a very unsightly appear-ance. The vertical points and the end of the blocks should also be care-fully mortared. These points are very important if a strong and durable wall is required.

wall is required.

The accompanying plans and photograph are of a farm house built of cement concrete by A. B. Potter, Montgomery, Sask. The house was designed by Mr. Potter himself, and built by day labor, with an expert to oversee the erection of the walls above ground. The house is two storeys, besides attic and cellar. It would have looked better had there been more windows, but we presume been more windows, but we presume Mr. Potter was guided by what would best suit the rigorous climate of the Canadian West when he designed the plan, rather than by outward appearance. The fewer windows

there are in a house the less chance

there are in a house the less chance there is for winter drafts.

The house is 23 × 32, cellar full size, 6½ ft. in height, 9 ft. first floor, 8 ft. second floor, and attic 6 ft. 4 in. be-tween joists. The cellar walls are 28 inch footing and 22 inch thickness, 28 inch footing and 22 inch thickness, with an inch board put in half way up, making two walls 13 inches and 9 inches, so as to break the frost. Walls are the full height of windows above ground. An 8-inch wall runs through the centre, and a 6-inch wall divides the dairy off. There is an 8-inch foundation under the frame entry over steps, also under the verandah. All these have a 12-inch footing with the wall centred. The first storey is 10 inches, stripped with one inch stuff and lathed; the second storey has 8inches, stripped with one men stuff and lathed; the second storey has 8-inch walls. All the walls, also a 45 barrel eistern, the foundation for the furnace and the dairy floor are built with Manitoba Union cement. The walls are plastered with the same thing on the outside and blocked off to 10 x 20 inches. The mortar for the outside was colored. The cistern is below the cellar bottom, with an

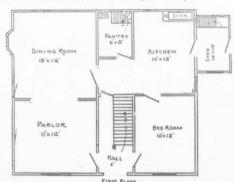
overflow drain 300 feet long, which overhow drain soot feet only, which would come out on the surface, but was put down 7½ feet deep with a cesspool and pump, so that it would do service in the winter for sink and bathtub. The dairy is lathed and plastered overhead and there are no furnace pipes except one cold air pipe,

which is enclosed in joists.

Most of the lumber was bought in Most of the lumber was bought in British Columbia, using fir dimensions and flooring and cedar finishing, and three feet wainscoting in kitchen. The first floor is double. There is barb wire, two strands twisted, put six times around the building in the walls over and under all windows. The house is plastered throughout with Manitoba hard wall plaster. The with Manitoba hard wall plaster. The irame building over steps and east door was the one that was on the farm. As yet no finishing has been done in the attic, except the stairway leading into it, which is over the stair-way from the lower floor. The roof is Mansard with a rise of 8 inches and with a rise of 8 inches and window on the composition of the window of the window of the composition of the window of the composition of the window of the window of the composition of the window of window of window windo window on the south side, sunga-on sides and galvanized iron on top. The walls of the building are 24 feet 6 inches high from bottom to top of plate, which is 4 x 8 inches. The hardware includes steel bath tub, eavetroughing and roofing, also three pumps for cisters cesspool and well sink, tank, pipes etc. The pan bathroom are over the cistern. The pantry and is a pump on the pantry floor, to pump into a sil or force up to the tank. The sa pipe from the tank to the sin ath tap to draw into the

All teaming was done by the farm All teaming was done by the farm teams. There was a haul of 17 miles for lumber and cement, two miles for stone and gravel. This work is charg-ed at \$3 per day with board. The building of walls, digging of cellar and drains and 50 days' lathing and carpenter work by the proprietor or carpenter work by the proprietor or men are reckoned at one dollar per day, board extra. Board is put at \$2.59 per week. The priming was done by the farm hands. These par-ticulars are given to enable others to figure as to cost. The carpenter work is charged at \$2 to \$2.50 per day, the particular was considered to the con-placting of the men, mason for plattering outside and inside, \$5.00 per day, outside and inside, \$5.00 per day.

The plan shows the kitchen 10 x 14 free, but there is also 6 x 6 feet between pantry and hall. The hall is 6 feet clear. The rooms both upstairs and downstairs are the thickness of the partitions less than the dimensions given in the plan. sions given in the plan.



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