

THE USE OF CONCRETE ON THE FARM.

Synopsis of an Address Given by T. C. Raynor, Rose Hill, Ont., Before the St. John, N. B., Farmers' Institute

Wherever a farmer is building new barns, or changing his stables, the question of the use of concrete for floors and walls is a live one.

In a country where lumber is comparatively cheap, concrete is not likely to come into general use for making walls of barns, but for flooring it is without question the best and cheapest substance that can be employed. Its first great quality is its durability. Properly put down it is practically indestructible. Then it is water tight, and will help in saving all the liquid voiding of the animals, and this in farm practice today is a most important matter. Fully 50% of the fertilizing value of the manure is in the liquid portion. By having concrete floors and using plenty of absorbents this can all be saved and put on the land where it will do the most good.

Concrete is a mixture of clean gravel or pure sand and cement. There are several kinds of cement. In Ontario they have natural rock cement, which is manufactured at Queenston and Thorold, and this while not as strong as the Portland cement, is cheaper and does very well. In some sections the Portland cement will be the best to use.

Laying concrete floors, does not require skill which an intelligent farmer cannot supply. First make a solid smooth floor, 12ft. square, two inch lumber preferred. Then a box without a bottom should be made in which to mix the gravel and cement. This can be made of such a size as to accurately measure the gravel or sand. The gravel and cement are then put into this box in the proportion required, the box taken off, and the mixing of cement and gravel or sand thoroughly done with a shovel. It should be shoveled over twice at any rate, while it is dry, and shovelled up into a cone; then before applying the water the cone should be pulled down making the mixture in the form of a ring, leaving a hollow in the center bare to the floor. Into this water should be poured, and dry gravel and cement turned from the outside of the ring to the center. This will be pulled out again from the center and more water added until the mixture becomes of the consistency of thick porridge, so it will run down but not be soft. The proportions in which gravel or cement can be used depends somewhat on the strength of the cement. With good Portland cement, one part of cement to six or seven of gravel could be used for the lower part of the floor, but this should be covered with a veneer of one part of cement to two of clean sand. If an extra fine finish is required use equal parts of cement and sand.

Before laying a stable floor a good foundation should be prepared. It should be made firm and solid by the addition of gravel or small stones thoroughly pounded down and floor shaped as is required for the stable. It is best to have a slight slope from the manger to the gutter. The plan of cow stable which is generally preferred has a square gutter two feet wide and eight inches below the level of the stall floor. This gutter is first made and the cement laid in it. Then a board mould is put up and the cement put in behind the boards and the boards left there until the cement gets firm.

In laying concrete only as much as can be conveniently reached, say a piece four feet square should be laid at one time. All the studding necessary in the construction of the stalls should be set on flat stones and the cement put round them. Great care should be taken when laying cement to thoroughly pound it down. After the floor is finished it should be sprinkled with water especially if the weather is dry. This should be done every day for a month. It will probably take from a month to six weeks for a floor to harden properly, and sufficiently to use, and it will not become thoroughly hard for six or seven months after having been put in. Large stones can and should be used in the construction of a concrete wall, if pains are taken to see that they are covered with at least two inches of cement on either side. A concrete wall one foot thick is sufficiently strong to carry any barn. This makes a thoroughly warm and dry stable wall. Fine stone from a stone crusher is an excellent material from which to make concrete. A barrel of rock cement will lay 55 square feet of 4 in. floor. Good qualities of Portland cement should do more than that.

By the use of corrugated sleepers made like railway rails it is quite practicable to make a good floor which would form the ceiling of the story below. The sleepers should preferably be made of iron, and laid sufficiently close to make the structure solid. Such a floor prevents any leakage through to the space beneath.

F. W. HODSON,
Live Stock Commissioner.

The merry season is upon us, and the suggestion of a new in-door game is valuable. Philip H. Goeppe, an accomplished musician and critic, gives the outline of a charming game for the piano in the December Lippincott's Magazine, just the thing for Christmas Eve when the family centres in the home.

KIDNEY TROUBLE.

A DISEASE THAT OFTEN TERMINATES FATALLY.

Mr. L. Lussier, of Sorel, Tells How He Overcame the Trouble After Repeated Failures.

There is no trouble more dangerous to life than disease of the kidneys, for the reason that before any special symptoms have made themselves manifest, the disease has usually assumed a formidable character. The symptoms that first manifest themselves are usually weakness in the small of the back, pains in the region of the loins. The urine is sometimes highly colored, while in other cases it is extremely pale, frequently depositing a sediment. As the trouble progresses these symptoms grow more severe, and frequently terminate in dropsy, Bright's disease or diabetes. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a specific for all kidney troubles, and have cured many cases after all other medicines have failed. Mr. L. Lussier, a well known navigator of Sorel, Que., gives his experience for the benefit of other sufferers. He says: "For several years I suffered very much from kidney trouble. The symptoms usually made themselves manifest by severe pains in the back and kidneys, and sometimes they would be so bad that I would be confined to my bed for several days at a time. I tried a number of different medicines, recommended for the trouble, but got no relief, and finally became so discouraged that I thought a cure was impossible, and stopped taking medicine. Shortly after I read in our local paper of a case of kidney trouble cured by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and this induced me to try this medicine. I soon felt that these pills were not like the other medicines I had been taking, for in the course of a few weeks I began to experience great relief. I continued taking the pills for a couple of months, by which time all symptoms of the trouble had disappeared, and I have not had the slightest return of the disease. These pills also strengthened me in other ways and I believe them to be the best of all medicines." Dr. Williams' Pink Pills enrich and nourish the blood and strengthen the nerves. It is thus that they cure such troubles as dyspepsia, kidney ailments, rheumatism, partial paralysis, heart troubles, St. Vitus' dance and the ailments that make the lives of so many women a source of misery. Do not take any pills without the full name, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People," on the wrapper around the box. Sold by all medicine dealers or sent post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

When Thackeray was Bored.

During Thackeray's second visit to Boston, Mr. James T. Fields, his host, was asked to invite Thackeray to attend an evening meeting of a scientific club, which was to be held at the house of a distinguished member.

I was, writes Mr. Fields, very reluctant to ask him to be present, for I knew he was easily bored, and I was fearful that a prosy essay or geological paper might be presented, and felt certain that should such be the case he would be exasperated with me, the innocent cause of his affliction.

My worst fears were realized. I dared not look at Thackeray. I felt that his eye was upon me. My distress may be imagined when I saw him rise, quite deliberately, and make his exit very noiselessly into a small anteroom adjoining. The apartment was dimly lighted, but he knew that I knew he was there.

Then began a series of pantomimic feats impossible to describe. He threw an imaginary person, myself, of course, upon the floor, and proceeded to stab him several times with a paper-folder, which he caught up for the purpose.

After disposing of his victim in this way he was not satisfied, for the dull lecture still went on in the other room; so he fired an imaginary revolver several times at an imaginary head.

The whole thing was inimitably done. I hoped nobody saw it but myself. Years afterward a ponderous, fat-witted you man put the question squarely to me:

"What was the matter with Mr. Thackeray that night the club met at Mr. —'s house?"

The December Lippincott's Magazine.

MISS MAUDE ROOSEVELT, a cousin of the President and an actress as well of considerable vogue, contributes the monthly complete novel to the Christmas number of LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE. "The Price of Fame" proves that fiction is by no means the least of Miss Roosevelt's accomplishments. She turns a brilliant searchlight on New York society life which reveals the good and the bad with infinite skill. The evolution of Helen Mortimer—country bred girl with an imaginative temperament—into an actress of the first rank, through the most treacherous act a man may commit, is the pivotal point in this novel of exciting episodes that ends delightfully.

In addition to the complete novel in the Christmas number of LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE there are many short stories, several papers suited to the glad season, much good verse, and the usual diverting "Walnuts and Wine."

The Single Thought and two Souls.

"Smoking on the car!" exclaimed the disgusted woman, as Dennis Flaherty, with his short-stemmed pipe, took the seat beside her.

"Oiam!" rejoined Dennis, between long and determined puffs. "And av ye don't loike ut, go wan up front. These sates is resairved fer smokhers."

"If you were my husband, I'd give you poison."

"Would ye, now?" Puff-puff. "O! think, av ye wor me woife,"—puff, puff,—"O!d take ut."—Edward Nocton, in Lippincott's Magazine for December.

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Few people know that Lord Dundonald, a colonel of a show regiment, the Life Guards, a corps supposed to be a relic of mediaevalism and possessed of all the faults that have filled so many graves on the South African veldt, was possibly the only British officer of prominence that foresaw the difficulties and dangers of the South African war. Like his grandfather, the hero of a hundred sea fights and the terror of the French coast during the Napoleonic wars, he had ideas. "You Canadians will see in this affair," he said, as we looked over the taffrail of the "Cunibroke Castle" towards the island of Madeira, dying away in the distance, where he had received word of the disaster at Nicholson's Nek, at the outset of the South African war—"you will see what will be of peculiar value to you. You will understand how a small nation, knowing their ground and accustomed to the use of quick-firing, long-range rifles can hold off what in other days would be overwhelming numbers. Canadians, with their adaptability, love of country and a knowledge of marksmanship, would be a more troublesome proposition to tackle than the Boers have ever been, and these fighting burghers of a corrupt little republic will keep a large empire busy, I am afraid, for the next year."

You see, some British officers do understand things, and apparently Canada has got one of them.

MARRIED.

GRANT-DAVIS.—At the residence of the father of the bride, No. 9 White street, St. John, on November 19, 1902, by the Rev. Dr. Raymond, rector of St. Mary's church, the Edred Grant, of Woodstock, (N. B.), to Kate Gertrude, youngest daughter of James Davis.

BURKE-HOVEY.—At the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Aaron Hovey, Royalton, on Nov. 19th, by Rev. E. A. Parker, E. A., Willis R. Burke, of Knoxford, and Miss Luella Bernice Hovey, of Royalton.

LONDON-CHAPMAN.—At the Exchange Hotel, Hartland, on Nov. 21st, by the Rev. J. Perry assisted by Rev. Geo. Avers, Mr. Warren G. London to Miss Maggie V. Chapman both of Woodstock.

DIED.

BAIRD.—Died of consumption, at Bairdville, Nov. 10th, Rachael, the beloved wife of B. H. Baird, leaving two sons and one daughter to mourn the loss of a kind mother.

WHITE.—At Charleston, on Sunday, November 16th, Michael White, of Bright's disease, aged 60 years.

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A Noble Profession.

Not often has the public had so good an exhibition of the characteristic attitude of the medical profession,—which includes the profession of surgery,—its feeling of responsibility, its unselfishness and its fidelity, as has been afforded by the great Austrian surgeon who has lately been operating in this country.

He was called to Chicago to attend a child who had suffered since birth from a dislocation of the hip. The child's father, a man of large wealth, brought him, at great expense, to Chicago because he was considered one of the greatest specialists in the world in cases of the kind.

No sooner was the operation completed than the surgeon sought the hospitals of Chicago, St. Louis and other cities, and there, entirely without payment, he treated the children of the poor. Other physicians came to witness the operations, so that not only has the skill of this man changed the future for many small sufferers, but it will be disseminated in geometrical progression; for the

doctors who saw the operations will, in turn, teach others.

The course of Doctor Lorenz has attracted more than the usual attention only because the man himself is so well known and because he came to this country under peculiar circumstances.

The standard of conduct of the medical profession is something of which one can hardly write without a glow of admiration. No profession in the world has a higher code of ethics. The Hippocratic oath is no longer administered, yet physicians still observe its obligations. They make public all discoveries and inventions which may benefit the race, and take no patent upon nor profit from them. They give the same faithful service and exercise the same skill for a small fee as for a large one, and the amount of work which they do gratuitously is known only to themselves and to the recipients of their charity.

The medical man is indeed a noble figure in our life. We take off our hats to him.

DR. MANZER,

DENTIST,

WOODSTOCK, N. B.