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##  MATERIAL

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Mr. Wiliam A. Radford win answer ${ }^{\text {Muestions and }}$ length over all is 23 feet. What will questions and give advice FREE OF subject of building for the readers of
this paper. On account of his wide expethis paper. On account of his wide expe-
rience as Editor. Author and Manufacrience as Editor. Author and Manurac-
turer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects, Address
all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 194 Fifth Ave. Chleago, Im . and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.
Cement plaster houses are popular n many small towns and in the suburbs of large cities. The houses are
built in the manner usual with frame structures, with the exception that instead of siding being used tar paper is nailed onto the studding, furring strips are then put on and the exterior surface is either lathed with wooden lath or expanded metal is used. Expanded metal is always preferable, although lath, if not too well seasoned, is proving itself satisfac tory. A coat of cement mortar is first applied and the surface of this is scratched to make a bond for the finishing coat, which is put on in a number of different styles. Often a finish of cement mortar is applied


and on the surface of this while it is and on the surface of this whe thrown, imbedding themselves in the mortar as most often is done, may be troweled smooth, when the amount of water in the mortar is equal in al parts of the mix the color is uniform. Variations in the amount of water cause variations in the color, or a mottled effect.

Artistic effects may be produced also by leaving wooden ornaments in relief above the mortar. Such houses do not cost any more than frame at the present time and are much more economical, as they require no paint-
ing and no repairs ing and no repairs.

The house here displayed is one of that style. It has a wide porch. The width of the house is 34 feet and the
ly one. The kitchen back of the dining-room is 11 feet three inches by nine feet six inches in size. There is also a kitchen pantry conveniently sit uated.
On the second floor, reached by a stairway from the living room, are three bedrooms. One is 11 feet by 11 feet six inches, another is 17 feet six inches by ten feet, and the third is 11 feet six inches by 11 feet three inches. All of these bedrooms open into a central hall, off which also is the bathroom, seven feet by six teet six inches.

## Waterworks in a Desert.

There is a large quantity of water in the great desert of Chile, but none that either ruman beings or stock can drink. Science, however, has come the the aid of this rainless section of ous desert in the form of ansingen a series of frames containing 20,000 square feet of glass. The panes of glass are arranged in the shape of a $V$ and under each pane is a shallow pan containing brackish water. The heat of the sun evaporates the water, writes a correspondent of the Mexican Herald, which condenses upon the sloping glass, and, made pure by this operation, it ruas down into Iftle channels at the bottom of the $V$ and is carried away into the main canal. Nearly 1,000 gallons of fresh water is
collected daily by this means.

