



Portable Buildings.



WILLIAM CALWAY, GLOUCESTER.

Manufacturer of all Classes of Portable Buildings in Wood, Iron, and Cement Slabs.

A PARTICULARLY interesting industry is that carried on by Mr. William Calway, proprietor of the Severn Works, Gloucester. This industry, which has the distinction of being the only one of its kind of any importance in the county, is of comparatively recent origin, although it has already become known in almost all parts of the kingdom.

In 1881 Mr. Calway, who had for some years taken great interest in poultry, began the breeding of prize fowls, soon becoming a very successful exhibitor of some eight or ten breeds. It was as a fancier that he first felt the need of more suitable poultry appliances and foods than could then be obtained, and in 1887 he began to manufacture them at Sharpness. From a very small beginning the business grew rapidly, new features being constantly added, the larger part of the appliances being of his own design. His reputation has now become firmly established among the leading breeders of the day, as well as among the aristocracy, and in the principal technical and agricultural colleges his methods and appliances are adopted and lectured on as representing the highest achievements in their line. It should be added here that he is not only a manufacturer, but

forming an important industry of itself. Both his designs and methods reveal a striking originality as well as a high degree of technical skill. He has erected many of these buildings in very exposed situations, notably at Malvern and other hillside resorts, and all of them have withstood the severest storms as well as the ordinary brick or stone structures.

But perhaps one of the most interesting and most important departures Mr. Calway has made from the conventional buildings is one

pered, as desired. They are thoroughly seasoned and are practically non-porous, the house, therefore, having no damp walls, being fit for occupation the day it is finished. Another advantage is the reduced insurance, there being no trouble to insure them where a wooden building could not be insured at all. Local authorities will accept these buildings for erection in their districts where they absolutely refuse to allow a wooden place to be erected. Still another advantage—and one of the greatest importance—is the facility with which a building may be transported and erected. The actual work of erection, indeed, may be carried out by the owner himself, with the assistance of one or two labourers. For the home trade the price includes erection. A workman's cottage can be built for about £125, and a six room residence, with offices, and with a verandah round two sides, for about £225. It is gratifying to know that these new buildings have already elicited a great deal of favourable comment from all quarters, and Mr. Calway has received a number of orders for them from throughout Great Britain and the Colonies. The first engraving on this page shows a half-timbered house which forms an excellent



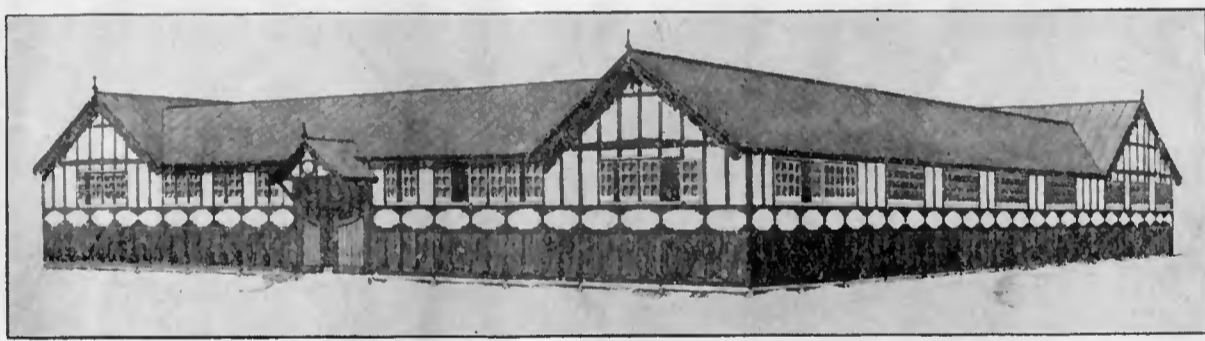
THE "OLD HOUSE," HEREFORD.
Representing the appearance of a House constructed of Cement Slabs. Calway's System

he has but recently perfected, and for which he has obtained provisional protection. He has introduced a method of constructing houses of cement slabs, the finished structure having the picturesque appearance of the so much admired half-timbered houses, but having

illustration of the character of the new buildings. The second illustration gives a perspective view of a range of class-rooms, this particular building having been designed and constructed for the Directors of Clayesmore School, Pangbourne, Berks.

In 1903 Mr. Calway removed his works to Gloucester, where he has secured the larger and more convenient premises made necessary by the continuous growth of his industry. His premises in Tuffley Crescent comprise offices, several workshops, and timber drying sheds, with sufficient reserve ground to permit of larger buildings now in contemplation. From having started but a few years ago with one man only, he now employs a number of skilled workmen, whose energy is fully taxed to execute the orders that are being constantly received. This is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that he has created what is practically a new industry, particularly as regards the cement slab buildings, which, as has been stated, mark a radical departure from conventional architecture.

For a fuller reference to Mr. Calway's varied manufactures the reader is referred to his elaborately illustrated and attractive catalogue, which will be posted to any address upon request. It is but just to add that his business methods have been marked by a consistent integrity which has no doubt been an appreciable factor in his success.



PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF CLASS ROOMS BUILT OF CEMENT SLABS.
Constructed by Wm. Calway, Gloucester.

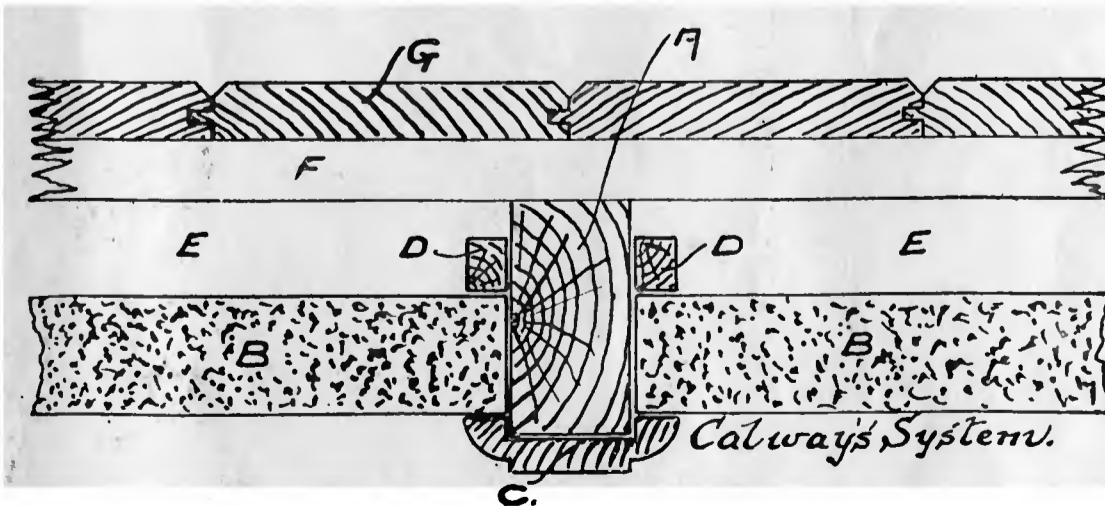
that he is prepared at any time to visit the premises of those interested to offer suggestions or to make special designs.

Being of a strongly inventive turn, Mr. Calway has added a number of other lines to that of poultry appliances, and he now manufactures every character of portable buildings in wood, iron, or cement slabs, including bungalows, shooting and entrance lodges, cottages, churches, schools, mission rooms, laboratories, hunting establishments, loose-boxes and stables of all kinds, and appliances of every description for game, poultry, pigeons, dogs, rabbits, ferrets, etc. He has been awarded no fewer than twenty-four medals and diplomas for exhibits of his appliances at various agricultural and principal London shows, the exhibits invariably forming an exceptionally interesting feature.

During the past ten years Mr. Calway has largely developed the designing and construction of both large and small portable buildings, this feature of his business now

the advantage of being much more solid and durable. By means of this invention the cost of a home or any other building is reduced to the price of the usual temporary wooden or iron structure, while in comfort, durability and ornament they are equal to brick edifices.

The slabs of which the houses are constructed are a composition of granite and cement, cast in blocks 2 feet 6 inches long by 2 feet in width and 2 inches thickness. The slabs have a very smooth face, which can be painted or distem-



SECTION OF OUTSIDE WALL OF CEMENT SLAB BUILDING.
Constructed by Wm. Calway, Gloucester.

- A.—Shows Framing.
- B.—The Concrete Slab which is 2 ins. in thickness.
- C.—The Creosoted Capping which covers the exposed part of framing.
- D.—Stops which keep the Slabs in position.
- E.—An Air-space.
- F.—A Batten to which the inner lining is nailed.
- G.—Inner Lining.

