

position until the posts themselves can be moved. On no account must the posts be moved until four or five days have elapsed. They may then be lifted carefully, supported in the middle as well as at the ends, and should be laid carefully on sand or loose earth until mature. A stout plank makes a convenient carrier for the posts, and prevents any tendency for them to sag in the middle.

STRAINERS.

For a good strainer, which can be used also as a gate-post, the following is recommended: Type of mould as in Fig. 7; dimensions, 8 ft. by 8 in. by 8 in.; reinforced with $\frac{3}{8}$ in. or $\frac{1}{2}$ in. round iron. When the post is required as a strainer a notch to take the ends of the stays is made by bedding a wedge-shaped piece of wood of the required size into the face of the post as soon as it is moulded.

LARGE GATE-POSTS.

The mould for making these is shown in Fig. 12, and the method adopted in building one is as follows: The position in which the post is to stand is carefully determined. A hole, 3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. deep and about 16 in. square, is dug. The base of the mould is then set in position over the hole and carefully levelled. Reinforcing-rods of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. or $\frac{3}{8}$ in. iron, long enough to reach from the bottom of the hole to the top of the post, and which may be held at the correct distance apart by a wooden frame or by strong wire (the latter can be left attached to the rods) twisted round them, are next placed in the hole, and the concrete filled in to the top of the base. The mould proper is then placed in position and fastened to the base by means of the brackets and thumb-screws shown in the diagram: it is carefully plumbed and held firmly in position by two temporary stays connecting the mould with pegs firmly driven into the ground. While the mould is being filled the concrete should be well tamped with an oar-shaped rammer, especially around the sides. If this is done and there is sufficient sand in the aggregate a very smooth surface will result.

As soon as the mould is filled the cap is put on. This may be of any desired shape. The small drawing annexed to Fig. 12 gives dimensions for a pyramid-shaped cap, which is made two or three days before the post. Short wires are inserted into it, and when the cap is put in position these serve to tie it to the post. The cap-mould shown consists of a square frame with a pyramid-shaped mould (shown in section) within it. An alternative method of putting on the cap is to prepare a strong mixture (1-2 or 1-3) of cement and sand, which is made fairly stiff, and simply placed on top of the post and moulded into the desired shape. This is a slower method than the one first described.

The post-mould may be removed with safety in about two days, and if the post is then painted over with pure cement mixed into a paste with water a very good finish will result. A pure-white cement may be procured for such work as this if a better appearance is desired.

The hinge fasteners which have given best results at Lincoln consist of a three-sided bracket with the ends rounded and threaded. The fourth side has two holes bored in it, and carries the hanger for the hinges. The threaded ends of the three-sided piece pass through