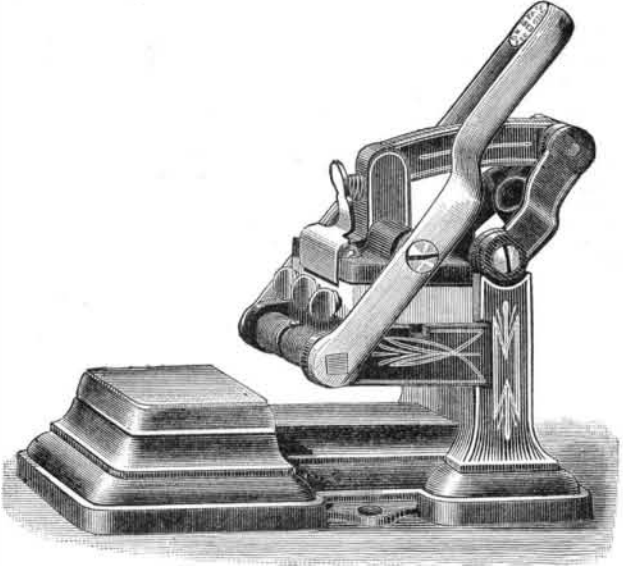


**IMPROVED COUNTING-HOUSE STAMP.**

We herewith illustrate a printing stamp of novel construction, which possesses many important advantages, the chief of which is that its printing is of superior quality. It does not require to be replenished with ink oftener than once in six months or a year. It is noiseless and almost frictionless in action, and instantly adjusts itself to a change from one die to another, either with or without changeable dates, and is especially fitted to use the well-known interchangeable metal-bodied rubber type, by means of which any required printing die may be quickly set up on the spot for immediate use. The ink fountain is so

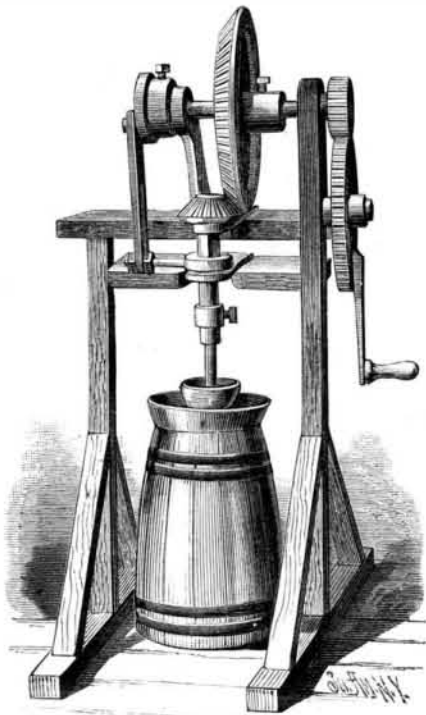
**IMPROVED COUNTING-HOUSE STAMP.**

formed that by properly charging it the stamp is capable, it is stated, of giving fully 200,000 fine impressions, while the ordinary ribbon dating stamp will give from an inking ribbon of best quality not over 10,000 impressions, and to obtain those the ribbon must be moved along to a fresh spot fully 200 times, each of which moves requires as much time as to reverse the inking cushion in the new stamp, which need be done not oftener than once for each 10,000 to 20,000 impressions. To print with this stamp, instead of striking a blow or pushing down a plunger, a lever is pulled forward by thumb and finger, moving the printing die, which is guided by a parallel motion, from the inking cushion to the impression bed, and, upon releasing, is instantly returned to place by a spring, restoring the printing face of the die to contact with the inking cushion.

The engraving shows the stamp as adapted to general use; another style is made, especially adapted to the use of banks and bankers. It is the invention of Mr. R. Hale Smith, and is manufactured by the R. H. Smith Mfg. Co., 295 Main Street, Springfield, Mass., who may be addressed for further information.

**AN IMPROVED CHURN.**

A butter making apparatus which is simple in construction, easily operated, and can be readily adapted

**LUCAS & DOOTSON'S IMPROVED CHURN.**

for use in any ordinary form of churning vessel, is illustrated in the accompanying engraving. The head of the dasher shaft is made in two parts, connected together by a sliding coupling, and a pitman with a collar and arm is connected to the crank head to act upon the lower end of the dasher shaft head, so that when the crank handle is turned the dasher blades will be

given both a rotary and a reciprocating motion. The dasher blades may consist of the usual crossed pieces, the number depending upon the amount of cream or the size of the churn barrel, and by simply alternating the direction of rotation, by throwing the crank back and forth in the arc of a circle, the agitation may be somewhat increased.

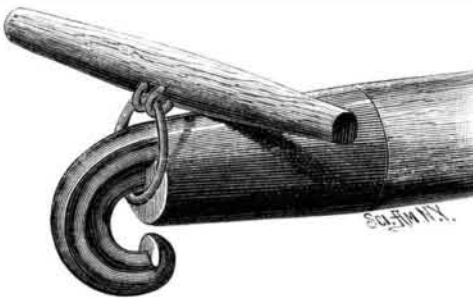
This invention has been patented by Messrs. Robert Lucas and William Dootson, of Athens, Ga., the former of whom should be addressed for further particulars.

**Poultry Breeding in France.**

The illustration gives the following statistics relating to poultry in France; it appears from these that the poultry yards in that country represent a very large capital. The number of fowls is estimated at 45,000,000, which, valued at 2½ francs each on the average, would amount to 112,500,000 francs. The number of laying hens is taken at 34,000,000, and taking the number of eggs laid by each at an average of 90 yearly, the total production of eggs in France would not fall short of 3,000,000,000, which, at an average of 5 cents each, would amount to 150,000,000 francs. Of this number it is calculated that 100,000,000 of eggs are hatched, of which 10,000,000 die as young chickens, 10,000,000 serve for reproduction, while 80,000,000 of chickens serve for food, which, valued at 1½ francs each, would represent 120,000,000 francs. To these figures must be added an extra value of 6,000,000 for capons. Altogether, the value of poultry and eggs produced in France may be taken at 300,000,000 francs, or \$60,000,000.

**AN ATTACHMENT FOR POLES OF TWO-HORSE WAGONS.**

This device consists of a hollow metal cap or socket applied to the front end of the pole or tongue of a wagon, with a downwardly and backwardly projecting hook, for use in connection with the neck yoke, a ring or loop through the hook safely connecting the neck yoke with the pole, which can with this device be made shorter than heretofore. The neck yoke is thus prevented from working off the tongue in case of accident to the harness, and the lines or reins are not so liable to work over the end of the pole, as often occurs when

**COOK'S NECK YOKE ATTACHMENT.**

loosing the reins to allow the horses to drink from streams or troughs. The attachment should be made of the best iron, that it may be light and neat as well as strong.

This invention has been patented by Mr. Richard T. Cook, of Virginia City, Montana Territory.

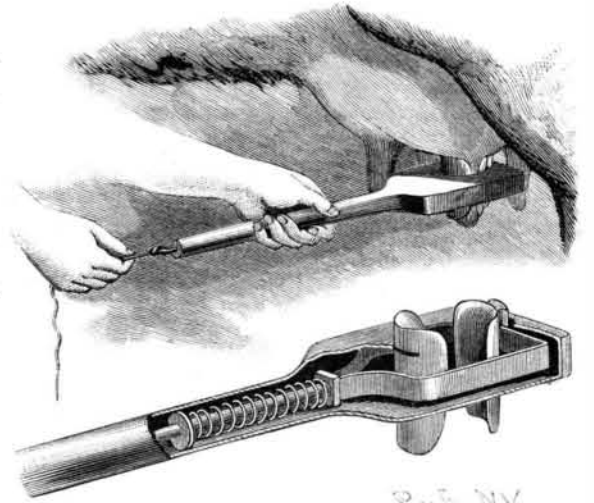
**A Curious Shipwreck.**

A daily paper gives the following account of a singular shipwreck from the lips of Captain White, of the brig *Ada L. White*, which was abandoned and lost on her recent voyage from Rio Janeiro to this port. Captain White said it was fine summer weather, with the mercury standing at 80 degrees in the shade, when they left Rio, December 16, with 11,248 bags of coffee on board. The voyage continued without incident until the brig was off Jamaica, when a gale came howling from the northwest, and lasted for three days. But it was several days later, when 160 miles out at sea, off Hatteras, that the great storm which wrecked them was encountered. The waves ran high; the wind blew almost a hurricane, and lashed the ocean into foam; wave after wave broke over the ship, and finally enough water got below to wet the cargo. Then the coffee began to swell, the bags burst, and more water got in. The coffee, which was forced out of the open sacks, floated into the pumps, and soon disabled them. It was now impossible to reduce the water in the hold.

Meanwhile the fury of the storm increased, and the sea was terrible to behold. In the midst of these scenes of peril, a new and terrible danger appeared. Because of the disabled pumps, which were choked with coffee, the eleven thousand bags of coffee became completely saturated, and the whole mass rose like yeast. With a shock that shook the vessel to her center, the decks burst open with a crash of thunder. The hatches were wrenched off as if they were but paper, and great seams opened in the vessel, which admitted the sea in torrents. All hope was now lost. Nothing was to be done but leave the ship as speedily as possible, for she was already settling in the white waters.

**A NOVEL DEVICE FOR MILKING COWS.**

The engraving herewith so fully illustrates the working of a novel milking device that may be used by unskilled persons, that but little further description is necessary. The apertures through which the cow's teats pass have India-rubber clamping plates on their sides, of a general semicircular form, so that, as the jaws are worked by pulling back and releasing the spring, their surfaces will press upon the teats with an elastic and springing motion, intended to be an imitation of the pressure exerted by hand milking, that will not distress the animal. Two, three, or four of these milkers may be adjusted and held in one hand, where

**ROTH'S COW MILKER.**

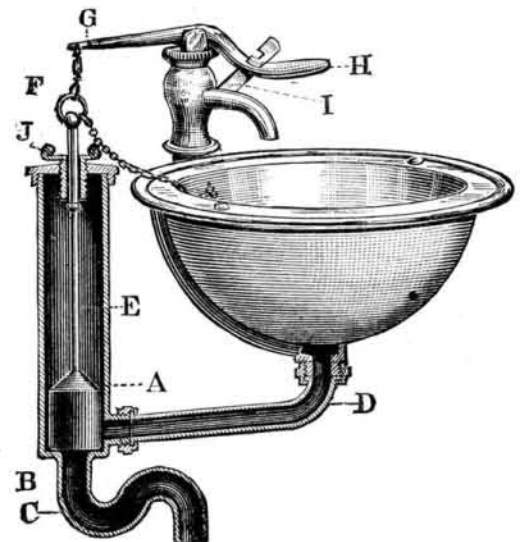
the cow is sufficiently gentle, and the spring cords pulled simultaneously, thus greatly shortening the time of milking. This invention has been patented by Mr. Reuben D. Roth, of Mummasburg, Pa.

**Discipline.**

In the long run, says President Carpenter of the Drake University, it will be found it is early, thorough, and persistent discipline that tells. Now and then, genius, aided by extraordinarily favorable conditions, blazes forth into some kind of temporary success and notoriety. But the possessors of such fame are almost certain to eventually settle back to their merited place of mediocrity. No man can truly be said to be great when fame rests upon an accident or upon a single achievement. It is the slowly but well-built tower of work and character, reared piece by piece, during a whole lifetime, that forms the enduring monument of real greatness.

**SANITARY VALVE FOR WASH BASINS, ETC.**

The engraving shows a simple attachment for wash basins, the use of which most effectually prevents the escape of sewer gas into the apartment. The waste pipe, D, enters the valve cylinder, to the bottom of which is attached the pipe leading to the sewer. The valve seat is below the outlet of the pipe, D, so that when the valve, A, is seated, there is no inward escape of gas. The upper end of the valve stem, E, is united by a chain with the end of a lever, G, pivoted so as to operate the valve controlling the water supply. The notched bar, I, passes through a slot in the opposite arm of the lever, and is used to hold the valve at any desired height. When seated, the valve can be locked

**SCHUYLER'S SANITARY VALVE FOR WASH BASINS, ETC.**

in place by the screw plate, J, and when so secured it forms a permanent seal, which may be left for an indefinite period.

This attachment is the invention of Dr. W. D. Schuyler, of 264 W. 57th St., New York city, and, in addition to its simplicity and reliability, it may be easily applied to any basin in use.