

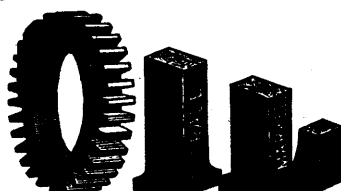
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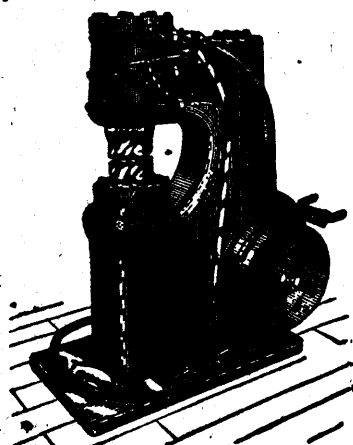
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LEATHER BELTING.—At a meeting of the leather belting manufacturers of Canada, held in Montreal on December 2, it was resolved that on account of the high price of hides it was necessary to advance prices 20 per cent. For the same reason, we are told, the belting manufacturers in the United States, have advanced their prices to the same extent.

CANADIAN IRON AND STEEL IN GREAT BRITAIN.—Over 13,000 tons of pig-iron from the furnaces at Sydney, N.S., were sent to Glasgow during the month of August. It is expected that, before long, supplies of Canadian pig-iron will also be shipped to Liverpool and Manchester. The quantity of iron forwarded to the Clyde in August is double that exported from Canada in 1900, and nearly equal to the entire export for the last five years. There are now in Canada seven companies making pig-iron: The Dominion Iron & Steel Co., Sydney, N.S.; the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co., New Glasgow, N.S.; the Canada Iron Furnace Co., Midland, Ont.; the Canada Iron Furnace Co., Radnor, Que.; the Hamilton Steel & Iron Co., Hamilton, Ont.; The Deseronto Iron Co., Deseronto, Ont.; and Messrs. McDougall & Co., Drummondville, Que. There are eight furnaces in operation, two of them being at Sydney. At the last named place, three will be in operation in a few weeks, and still another is to be added before the works will be complete. It is expected, says the Daily News, that steel-making will begin in November, and that the whole plant will be in operation early in the New Year. The money invested at the principal iron works in Canada is estimated at \$24,500,000, which will be increased to \$35,000,000 when the new plant now building at Sault Ste. Marie, for making pig-iron, steel, and steel rails is finished.

SKI STICKS AND WHISKEY.—Of the hundreds of farm and household utensils which the Swedish settlers brought to the State of Maine when they came there more than twenty-five years ago, every one has disappeared except the graceful and handy ski, which stayed and multiplied many fold, until to-day they are as common among the Yankee residents as they are with the immigrants.

Little change has been made in the shape of the ski, although the ski stick, formerly a cudgel of hardwood with a knob at one end for the purpose of steering the ski over the snow, has undergone great improvement. It is no longer a stick except in name, for it is made of metal pipe, while the terminal knob is a hollow ball of polished brass.

Until two years ago the ski sticks of brass and steel were not common beyond the Swedish settlement. In 1899 the new sticks began to be seen in villages along the Canadian line. It was also noticed that as metal ski sticks became more plentiful the price of good whiskey grew less, and there was more of the liquor