

followed just when most of the work was done, and the look of the job was spoiled, and our poor man of odd jobs was heartily discouraged, and excused himself by determining in his own mind that he never was intended for a mechanic, and never having learned the trade could do nothing at it, but make a botch, which was almost worse than leaving the job undone.

"His underrating his ability was a mistake. Almost every man has a certain amount of mechanical ability, but the great drawback is *bad tools*. No good workman has bad tools. All the tools of a good workman are clean, free from rust, with good handles, and sharp as a razor. The saw is well set for green or dry wood, or he has one for each kind of work—ripping, cross-cutting or fine work. How then is it possible for an inexperienced person to do work with bad tools, or tools in bad order, when a mechanic, with all his experience, requires tools the best that can be had.

"The first step which any farmer can make towards renovating or repairing his homestead is to get a set of tools—some of each kind for working in iron or wood, not forgetting a soldering-iron for mending kitchen and other tin matters, and small patching. The whole can be got up for forty dollars, and will save their value and cost in one year, besides the satisfaction of feeling independent and of helping yourself, instead of living in a mess or having interminable bills to pay.

"When the tools are got, a convenient, comfortable workshop must be provided, isolated from the farm building and house, as there is always more or less danger from fire. Put up a good solid bench with an iron vice at one end and a wooden one at the other, a block for an anvil, or some substitute for one, and a good grind-stone in one corner, with a foot-crank to turn it with; and then the first wet or stormy day, referring to your memorandum book for the list of jobs that require to be done, select the first that your wife and family require as necessary to lighten their heavy cares and continuous work, and all experience goes to show that the outlay for tools will not be regretted.

"Again. When your sons require employment in bad weather, there is always some little mechanical job to do in which they will soon take the greatest delight. Nothing reconciles a boy or young man more to what he has to do than to be able to do it better than others similarly circumstanced; and if there is any mechanical talent, it will develop itself wonderfully in the amateur workshop. Then in busy times, when plows, harrows or wagons break, the loss of time in going to the tradesman is often much greater than in doing the work.

"We once knew a gentleman who did all this in England for a few years before the family emigrated. On the arrival of the family in the adopted land, there was not one of the sons who could not do any ordinary job, and no part of their education was found more useful and advantageous than the knowledge of the use of tools. Losses took place. Fire destroyed their buildings in more than one instance, but their mechanical knowledge enabled them to build again, when otherwise they must have given up hope, and turned their exertions into a far lower sphere of action."

#### To those who write for the Press.

It would greatly facilitate the labors of editors and printers, all over the world, if persons who write for the press would observe the following rules.

1. Write with black ink, on white paper, with ruled lines.
2. Make the pages smaller than that of a foolscap sheet.
3. Leave one page of each sheet blank.
4. Give to the written pages an ample margin all round.
5. Number the pages in the order of their succession.
6. Write in a plain, bold hand, with less respect to beauty than legibility.
7. Use no observations which are not to appear in print.
8. Punctuate the manuscript as it should be printed.
9. For italics, underscore one line; for small capitals, two; for capitals, three.
10. Take special pains with every letter in proper names.
11. Review every word, to be sure that none is illegible.
12. Put directions to the printer at the head of the first page.
13. Never write a private letter to the editor on the printer's "copy," but always on a separate sheet.
14. Don't depend upon the editor to correct your manuscript.
15. Don't ask him to return the "copy."
16. Don't press him to tell you why he refused to publish your article.—*American Artizan*.

#### Richard Arkwright.

Richard Arkwright was not a beautiful man; no romance-hero with haughty eyes, Apollo-lip, and gesture like the herald Mercury; a plain, almost gross, bag-cheeked, pot-bellied Lancashire man, with an air of painful reflection, yet also of copious free digestion; a man stationed by the community to shave certain dusty beards at a half-penny each. His townsfolks rose in a mob round him for threatening to shorten labor—to shorten wages; so that he had to fly with broken wash-pots, scattered household, and seek refuge elsewhere. Nay, his wife too rebelled; burnt his wooden model of his spinning-wheel; resolute that he should stick to razors rather; for which, however, he decisively—as thou wilt rejoice to understand—packed her out of doors. O reader! what a historical phenomenon is that bag-cheeked, pot-bellied, much-enduring, much-inventing barber.—*Carlyle*.

#### A "Jaw-breaker."

As an instance of the abominable system of terminology at present adopted by chemists it may be mentioned that Mr. M. H. Schiff, in a monograph on some derivatives of ethylidene, states that he has succeeded in obtaining a chloride of *dimercuriodiethylidinediphen-ammonium*. If any one out of the laboratory can pronounce this awful term, we shall be very much surprised.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.