

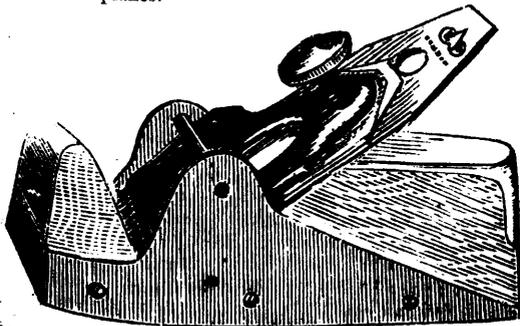
**NEW CROSS-POT BAIL OVAL POT.**

Messrs. T. and C. Clark & Co., of the Shakespear Foundry, Wolverhampton, are now bringing into the market a most acceptable invention for domestic purposes, namely, a newly-patented stop bail-handle for oval and other pots. As will be seen from our illustration, the handles of this new cooking utensil are so fixed that when the bail is not needed it is not in the way, while the jug handles at each end will do duty in the place of bow handles. This is a great advantage, since the objection to the ordinary bow handles has always been that when they are riveted to the body the rivets are liable to rust. The bail is so constructed that in the emptying process the vessel is stopped at just half-way instead of its top edge falling on the hand of the person using it, so that there is no risk or danger of persons pouring hot water out of the pot being scalded or burnt. Another advantage this cross-stop bail oval pot possesses over the long bail is, that when a steamer—now much used for cooking turkeys and hams—is put on it, the jug handles can be used to move the pot about with. The makers have recently added to their potato steamer a tinned fish strainer, which supplies a new use for these improved oval cooking pots, namely, that of a fish-kettle—an article only to be found in the best of furnished houses. The general utility of the oval pot just described will be obvious to ironmongers, as it will save them the labor and trouble of keeping a stock of two kinds of pots, one for the open fire, and the other for the cooking range.



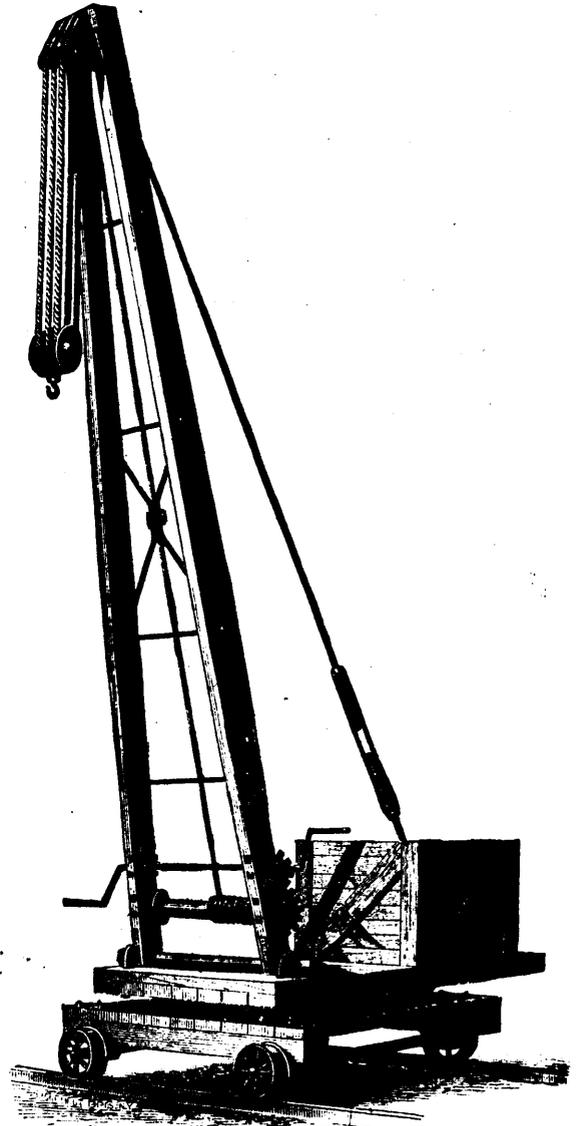
**CHEAP SMOOTHING PLANE.**

The subjoined illustration shows a new pattern iron smoothing plane, manufactured by Mr. E. Preston, of Birmingham, for which he has found a ready sale. We are not surprised at this, for it seems a really strong and well-made tool, specially designed to meet the wants of joiners, carpenters, and wheelwrights who do not care to go to the price of the more costly wrought iron planes. Considering that about two-thirds of the composite plane is made of iron and steel, the article is comparatively light, and we are assured that it will do its work equally as well as the higher priced planes.



**PORTABLE BALANCED DERRICK.**

Almost every one is acquainted with the common derricks used for hoisting building material for the erection of fronts of houses; they are still of primitive construction, troublesome to move about, and the ropes intended to keep them in position are inconvenient, as they always require an attachment by back guys to a kind of anchorage in the rear; but the principal inconvenience is that the material has to be brought just in front of them, as they can only lift, but are incapable of sideward transportation.



PORTABLE BALANCED DERRICK.

A derrick in which these defects are corrected is represented in the adjoined engraving. It is the invention of Mr. Frank Lyons, who recently obtained a United States patent for the same. The first improvement is that it stands on a second lower platform, which is supported by wheels running on rails laid down for temporary use. By this arrangement it is easily moved about sideways, even while a load is hanging on it. The second improvement is that the ropes supporting it in position, or the

*Specimen of telegraphic writing by E. Couper Westminster*