



### Stair Cover.

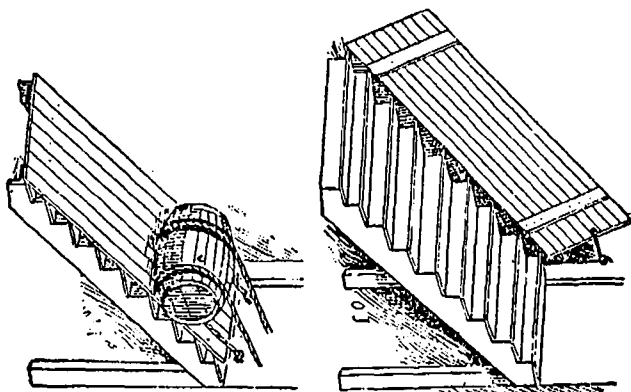
We cull the following from the *Orange Judd Farmer*:—In barns, cellars, &c., where heavy articles are to be moved up or down stairs, the device represented in the illustration will be found very convenient. It consists simply of a door of strong hard-wood so attached to the wall that it will fit down snugly over the steps when in use. When not needed, it is turned up against the cellar wall and held in place by means of a catch. This contrivance makes the lowering of barrels into cellars or the elevating of the same into upper stories comparatively easy. Bags of grain, potatoes, farm machinery, &c., can thus be readily taken into a hay mow or second story of a granary.

### A Handy Movable Shed.

A HANDY movable shed for brood sows, or any desired purpose, can be made as follows: For the roof take 4 2x4 pine scantling 12 feet long; for rafters, and nail to each end, a 2x4 pine scantling 8 feet long; place upon these shingling lath or sheathing, and cover with shingles or other material in the ordinary way. For the ends: The lower end will require 2 scantlings 8 feet long and two uprights of same scantlings 2 feet long. Hinge this on lower inside edge of lower end of roof so it will turn inwards. The upper end arrange the same way, only use 3 scantlings 8 feet long and uprights of the same, only 6 feet long. The sides fit in with similar framing and so hinge that each side will turn inwards over the ends, and board upright all around. In tearing it down carefully tip it over on roof, wrong side up, on a sled, fold down ends and sides, then move where desired; put up again and fasten at corners with a spike or two, leaving the heads out so as to draw out easily, and it is complete. Often it need not be let down at all, only tipped on the end of a sled as needed. Such a convenience will many times pay for itself.

### A Sugar Barrel Feed Chest

SUGAR barrels are much larger than the ordinary flour barrels and are more substantially made. The accompanying illustration shows one of these barrels converted into a very convenient and useful feed chest for stable use. Where one has room, it is well to arrange several barrels in this way, each for a different kind of feed, which makes it convenient for indulging the horses or cattle with occasional changes in their bill of fare—a change which is always gratefully appreciated by them. These receptacles keep the feed free from dust and dirt, and vermin cannot easily effect an entrance save by gnawing through.



Stair Cover.

### Corn or Oats for Horses.

At the Utah experiment station, in a test to determine the comparative feeding value of oats and corn for horses, it was found that the weight of the animals was more easily maintained on corn ration. A summary of these experiments shows that during the summer a ration of corn and timothy was not as good as one consisting of wheat, oats and clover. During the winter corn and timothy did as well as oats, clover and timothy in maintaining the weight. During the spring and summer corn, wheat or bran, and mixed hay produce more gain than oats, wheat or bran, and mixed hay.

### A Handy Farm Truck.

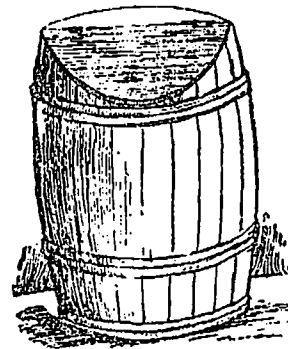
THE low-down truck shown in the illustration, from a sketch by J. H. Brown of Michigan, is cheaply made, costing about four dollars for iron, lumber, and blacksmith work. The frame is made of 4x4 inch and 2x4 inch seasoned white oak. The wheels may be taken from two old mowers, those used on the rear axle being somewhat larger and stronger. The steel shafts from the same mowers may be cut and made into stub axles, bolted on each end of the 4x4 inch oak axles. Collars are to be put on, holes drilled, and cap washers made to hold the wheels in place. The axle, *c*, above, is two feet nine inches long; axle, *b*, four feet three inches long. The reach, *a*, is 4x4 inches by ten and one-half feet long. It rests on top of the front axle, and a hammer strap, *p*, below, runs underneath.

A kingbolt, one inch in diameter, runs through all three, holding them securely in place. About one-half inch is cut out of both rear axle and reach, at their intersection, making a tight, square joint. A one-half inch bolt is put through the centre. The reach projects three feet back of the rear axle. The cross-pieces, *d*, 2x4 inch by four feet six inches long, are next bolted on at right angles to reach. Two pieces, *e*, above, are next laid on top of the three cross-pieces, *d*, and bolted about four inches from the ends. This leaves room for mortices, *f*, to be made for stakes. Now level up the

sure for the braces, *s*. These are made of flat iron bars one-half by one-fourth inches. This stiffens the whole frame and makes the platform solid. It also prevents the front end of the platform from twisting. A truss rod may be put under the reach, but long experience finds no need of it. About three-fifths of the load rests on the rear wheels. The outside pieces, *e*, 2x4 inches, are bolted on edgewise. Side boards should rest on top of these pieces and against the stakes, *f*. The stakes may be raised full length when hauling rails, and lowered when not in use. At right is shown one corner of platform; *w* shows the two clamps made of bolts with heads cut off, and curved around to hold the stake. The lower clamp holds the stake in position. The upper clamp is to hold the side board when needed; *x* represents the flooring, one inch thick. The platform of this truck is seven and one-half feet long and four feet two inches wide. As made, one can turn very short in front of platform. The tongue was taken from an old binder, and braces attached, as shown. The seat, *u*, and spring, *o*, come from an old reaper, and is about forty years old. Tool box, *i*, holds wrenches, clevises, nails, pinchers and oil can. In the rear of the truck is a ring, *m*, for attaching drill, disc harrow, or other implements, if needed to save extra trips.

### The Care of Farm Implements.

THERE are farmers who leave their tools exposed to the action of the weather for twelve months of the year, but, fortunately, these are



INEXPENSIVE FEED CHEST

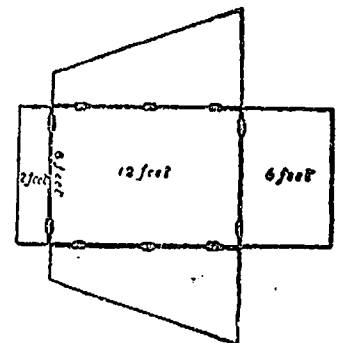
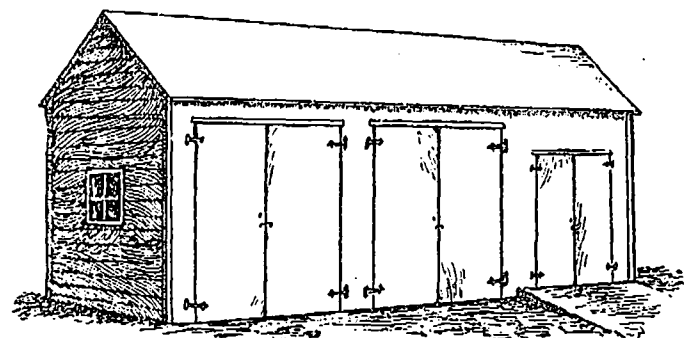
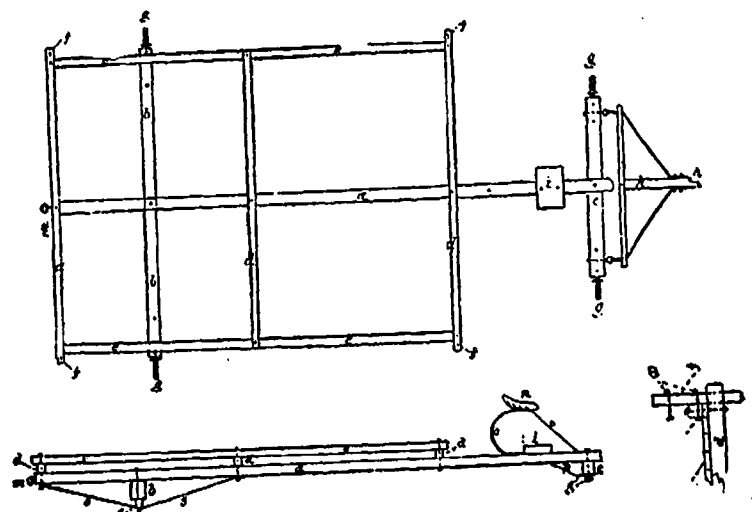


DIAGRAM OF MOVABLE SHED



CONVENIENT TOOL HOUSE.



FRAME FOR FARM TRUCK.