

once a sawmill was established—grists to be ground, corn and produce to be sold or exchanged. Timber was got out for new buildings, additional improvements were made for the farm, vehicles repaired and articles of household furniture constructed.

Before the roads were passable for wheeled vehicles and before the iron fittings for wheels were available, the universal means for conveyance, both summer and winter, was the sled. Naturally bent young tree trunks of the harder woods were carefully sought for throughout the forest to furnish the runners and knees for the sleds, while split and dried hickory saplings furnished the most durable shoes for the runners; even these, however, especially in summer, had to be frequently renewed by reason of wearing out.

Naturally the farmers in the earlier days had either to make all their own implements or to obtain assistance from one or more of their neighbors in producing the more difficult parts. Mr. Smith was evidently one of those farmers who from a combination of necessity and natural aptitude had become quite expert with their small stocks of tools. Wood being an ever present raw material, all possible implements were made of it. Even where iron was indispensable, it was used in the most limited quantity possible. Thus the plows were only shod with iron, and as even the iron was soft the plow irons had frequently to be taken to the smithy to be sharpened. All kinds of rakes were made entirely of wood, and even in the case of harrows the teeth were at first made of well-seasoned hickory pegs. Iron, of course, supplanted wood in many cases when the farmer's range of purchase was extended.

When the settlers became more numerous and communication between the settlements practicable, travelling mechanics from the United States, with or without the accompaniment of a peddler's pack, began to pass through the country, stopping here and there to make or mend implements for the farmers or supply their families with various small wares of household convenience.

On January 22nd, 1800, we find the entry, "made a rack and a shaving horse." The latter was a very useful contrivance which served as a combination of work-bench and vice. It was constructed in the shape of a long, narrow, fairly heavy