

De Laval Separators

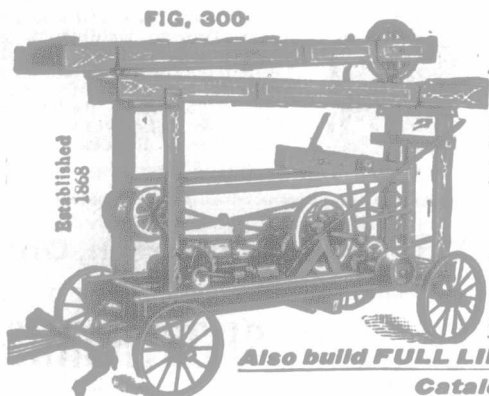
1879-1906



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WHO PAYS FOR FENCE.

A. and B. have quarter sections, side by side, both being willing to have the line fence built between them, but A., not being able to buy his half of the wire, B. built the whole half mile, with A. helping him and agreeing to pay B. for half the wire when able to do so; but A. sold out to C. before the wire was paid for and stayed about two weeks on the place after selling. B. did not demand his pay for the wire from A. nor let C. know about A. owing him for it until after A. was out of the country. Now after four years B. sends in his bill to C., asking him to pay for half the fence. Should he not have made his claim known to C. before A. left the country and demanded his pay from A. or can he compel C. to pay for the fence?

Alta.

W. S.

Ans.—C. is in no way whatever liable to B. for the price of the wire used in the fence. A. agreed to buy the wire from B. on credit and therefore became personally liable to B. but C. is no more liable than he would be for A's debts contracted for food or clothing or any other personal need. The price of the wire is not an encumbrance on the land, and there is therefore, no way known to us by which B. could succeed in an action against C. to recover the price of the wire. Moreover, as you point out the fact that B. stood by for four years until A. left the country, would be morally, if not legally, against him.

THE MILL THE UNIT OF CURRENCY.

Could you tell me the significance of the word mill in connection with municipal taxation. A complete explanation of the term would be much appreciated in this district.

Sask.

"ECONOMIST."

Ans.—In the currency used in Canada and U. S. the mill is the unit although it is so small in value that we do not require a coin worth a mill to facilitate trade. Probably we shall if our industrial conditions ever approach those of Oriental countries. The value of a mill is one tenth of a cent. A unit of this value is useful in fixing the amount of taxes for which a property is assessed. For instance a municipality finds that it requires so much money to carry on its work. The assessed value of its property is then taken and as the dollar is the commercial unit in currency the amount of taxes to be collected upon each dollar's worth of property is determined. This might be done in fractions of cents but as the decimal system is so much more convenient it is expressed in mills. For instance when the rate is eighteen mills the same rate could be expressed in cents by using the vulgar fraction which would be one and four fifths cents.

One can never judge, however, of the costliness of taxes by the rate as expressed in mills for the reason that the property in any two municipalities is not necessarily of the same assessed value. Some municipalities like to have their property assessed high and the rate of taxation in mills low so as to give the impression that their property is valuable and taxation low. Another municipality will want its property valued lower and the rate of taxation higher. In such cases the individual imagines by a low assessment he is escaping a high taxation and human nature is much averse to paying taxes.

WIFE'S DOWRY.

1. I have a homestead but I haven't proved up yet. My wife leaves me. After I prove up can she come in for any part of homestead?

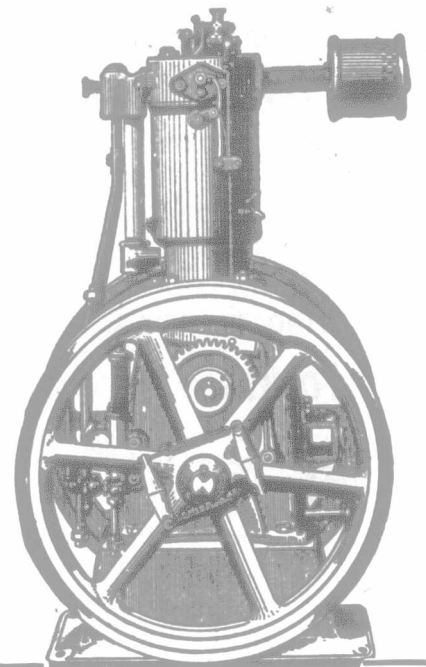
2. If I should sell my homestead would she have to sign the deed?

Alta.

N. N.

Ans.—It is a matter that would have to be settled by the courts. If your wife fixed the blame of the separation upon you her alimony would be greater than if both were responsible.

2. No.



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