

# THE AGRICULTURIST

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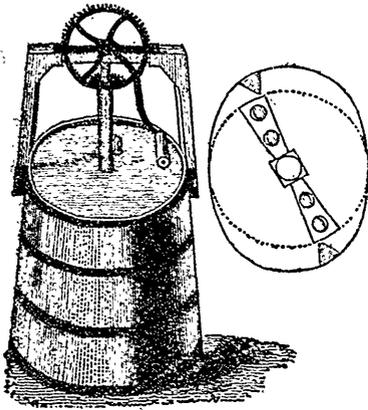
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FRAER'S PATENT CHURN.

If the Churn of which the above is a representation, do as well in practice as it promises in theory, it may truly be called a "labor-saving machine." No doubt some of those wicked people who would deceive us into the belief that *they* are fond of hard work, "not having the fear" of the ladies "before their eyes," will denounce this churn as encouraging laziness! We have heard such objections when it was proposed to lighten the labors of the housewife! Send such a man to the tread-mill for a month, feed him on *buttermilk*, and then he will be too well treated. "Them's our sentiments." Melancthon studied grave points of theology with a book in one hand and the edge of a cradle, which he incessantly rocked, in the other; and now, thanks to Mr. Fraer, the housewife can carry on this latter domestic operation at the same time that she is making the "butter come"—an achievement not less important to mankind, and heretofore, under such circumstances, quite as difficult as the study of polemics.

The main points in which this differs from all previous churns, are the oval form, and the triangular pieces of wood projecting inwards from each end, or rather side of the barrel. We have seen round churns, with a shaft, to which arms were attached, and wheels for giving it a rotary motion similar to the above, but after two or three turns the cream acquired the same velocity as the arms, and would whirl for hours, without being broken or producing butter. Here the cream is set in motion and driven against the breaks, (as seen in the sectional view,) from which it is thrown back upon the wings or arms of the shaft. These are flat, the front edge being lower than the back, so as to lift or throw up the cream, thus exposing every part of the contents to the action of the air, which is found very essential to the speedy and profitable production of butter. The lid is divided into two parts; the

frame is readily taken off, and the butter easily got at. The cut, (the section shows the appearance as you look down into the churn,) explains every thing else about it with sufficient plainness.

A great number of respectable farmers in the Gore District have used Mr. Fraer's churn during the last season, and testify to its superiority over every other. It took the first prize at the last Provincial Fair, but we have not tried it, and therefore can't say more in its favor till the grass comes and the cows give a little more milk, when we hope to put the one in our possession to the test; in the meantime, any person, by calling at our office, can see the article, and if they will bring three jugs of cream, we will give them two to try it with.

The ground plans, explanations, &c., of the Italian Cottage presented in our last, not being quite ready, will appear in our next number. We have heard of several builders and others, who have expressed high approval of this beautiful design, and are anxious to see the internal arrangements.—They shall be gratified.

**TRANSPLANTING FERNS.**—Make choice of spots of ground which have a partial shade from large trees in the summer months, say in half acres, and have them trenched; should the land be very strong, a good layer of peat or bog earth should be laid on, so as to be mixed with the soil previous to planting. The plan I have found to answer best is this—I have the land in readiness to receive the roots, either in March or April; I then go into the woods, where I have seen ferns thriving in the summer months, and have them dug up in large square masses; these are planted immediately at about three feet apart.—In addition to the *Pteris aquilina*, I would also recommend *Aspidium aculeatum*, which is perfectly evergreen—the fronds continuing through very severe winters, and if not destroyed by cattle, they linger on till the following summer. It will be necessary to enclose the patches so planted with park hurdles, for the purpose of preventing the cattle from spoiling them, or until the plants are well established.—*Gardeners' Journal*.

**FOWLS**—M. Saccé, of Neufchâtel, in Switzerland, gives an account of some experiments in the feeding of domestic fowls. He states, first, that fowls to which a portion of chalk is given with their food, lay eggs, which are remarkable for their whiteness. By substituting for chalk a calcareous earth rich in the oxide of iron, the shells become of an orange red colour. Secondly, he informs us, that some hens fed on barley alone would not lay well, and that they tore off each other's feathers: he then mixed up with the barley some feathers chopped up, which they ate eagerly, and digested freely. By adding milk to the food, they began to lay, and ceased plucking out each other's feathers. He concludes that this proceeding arose from the desire of the hens for azoted food.

**WHITEWASH FOR WOOD.**—1 bushel lime, fresh burned; 1 lb. white vitriol; 1 quart salt, to be well mixed with warm water. This whitewash is scarcely affected by weather.