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until they stop and the hammer bounces on them. In driving piles through shell rock or soapstone or hard pan, where piles require shoeing, the best way is to use old arch bar iron, welding four pieces together and drawing the end to a point and flaring the four pieces out to fit the four sides of the pile. Have some holes punched in the strap to fasten the points on the pile with boat spikes; this kind of a point will go through hard substances where the round cast-iron point will not work. These kinds of points have been used by some of your committee to drive through concrete around piers to great advantage, and any one having occasion to drive piles through hard substance too hard for piles, should not neglect to shoe them with points made out of old flat iron. A little practice will soon teach one how to make them.

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