

### MAY MEETING

Eighty eight wood collectors met at the Talcotville Congregational Church on the 5th of May. Bob Sutter's samples of 12 kinds of wood quickly went from his large paper bags to many smaller bags as people arrived and picked out their samples. Betty Downes and Dwight and Carol Burritt handled registrations and dues collecting. Two new members signed up. Doug and Caroline Hayes had set up the needed tables, set out the doughnuts, and had the coffee ready to resuscitate members as they arrived.

As business, Dwight Burritt reported on finances, chiefly that we have a little more in our treasury than last year at the same time. Bill Downes announced that Joe Link will be Chairman of the Nominating Committee, for the Fall election. The two-year terms for the officers and the directors expire at the next meeting. The President, Vice-President, and three of the Directors cannot be re-elected, according to our by-laws, having served two consecutive terms.

Bob Sutter started the wood session by holding up large pieces of each of the woods of which we had samples. He pointed out the unique characteristics of each, and then we tried to select the right one from our samples. There was much comparing of choices with neighbors. Don Armistead supplemented Bob's talk with some samples of very oddly marked Poplar wood. He also showed two woods that fluoresced beautifully when illuminated with ultra-violet light (and some rocks, too). Bill Downes showed some slides of wood veneers, and tools made of the same woods. Al Staebner circulated some tools that we disagreed about, as to what wood was involved. At this point we got up and examined the tools that Bob and Bill had brought to show off the various woods to advantage. There were also wood samples to examine that had been brought by Joe Link, Jack Gorlin and Floyd Atkins. What we learned, if nothing else, was to be cautious about claiming to recognize any wood.

After lunch, Joe Link held up various tools for us to guess about. We seemed to do a little better than usual in identifying these What'sits. Meanwhile Doug Hayes and others were trying to get rid of our sunny day. We met in a basement room, with only small, curtained windows; but the sunlight kept our room a little too light for good viewing of slides. We did what we could to add barriers at the windows and door. Bill Downes showed the slides of the exhibition and demonstrations that were part of the E.A.I.A. meeting of May 1978, at Albany. Ann Link suggested that we have such a show of our own collections. A showing of hands indicated strong support for the suggestion.

### BAWDEN AUCTION - SEPTEMBER 22, 1979

With a go-ahead from Elsie Bawden, we are planning an auction of Frank's fine collection of tools on September 22 at Branford, which is east of New Haven on I-95. For various reasons we are hiring a professional auctioneer, Richard Crane, who is knowledgeable about tools of course. We are making all the arrangements and will supply the supporting

auction staff. Joe Link, Lee Murray and Frank Dorion have already been very much involved, particularly in locating a suitable location. Joe is now at work on a catalog. It will be sent to over 400 members of the New England tool societies and others. It will be an open-to-the-public auction. Viewing will be on Friday and early Saturday. When you receive the catalog and other details, you'll find that there are a lot of fine and unusual tools in Frank Bawden's collection.

FALL ATTIC MEETING

We are expecting to have a regular ATTIC meeting later in the Fall. Plans will be finalized at a Director's meeting in the near future.

WARNER VERSUS WARREN

Lee Murray called your editor to thank him for the "plug" in the last Attic Tool Chest for Lee's new shop at Warner, N.H. He also pointed out that the article put his location in Warren, N.H., some 30 miles north of Warner. A check of the article showed that your editor/typist had certainly used both names. It seems that Warner became Warren when my "flying" fingers reversed the ner in Warner, and proof reading didn't catch it.

NEW MEMBERS

- We have nine new members to welcome:
- Morgan Miner, 75 Clark Lane, Waterford, Conn. 06385
- Walter Phelps, Williamsville, Vt. 05362
- David Fox, 144 E.Main St., Clinton, Ct. 06413
- Edward Oddie, RFD 1, Gager Rd., Bozrah, Ct. 06334
- John V. Marino, 2A Ridge Drive, Uncasville, Ct. 06382
- Edward Dombkowski, RFD 1, Edmond Rd., Jewett City, Ct. 06351
- Warren C. Pilling, 23 Somerset St., E.Greenwich, R.I. 02818
- Larry Cooke, 436 Werster St., Needham, Ma.
- Harry Caroline, Quinebaug Camps Rd., Jewett City, Ct. 06351

Antique Tools and Trades in Connecticut - ATTIC

President/Editor, William A. Downes; Vice-President, Harvey Jeacock; Secretary, Peter Coope; Treasurer, Dwight Burritt; Directors: George Campbell, Virginia Coope, Frank Dorion, Thomas Elliott, Jack Gorlin, Douglas Hayes.

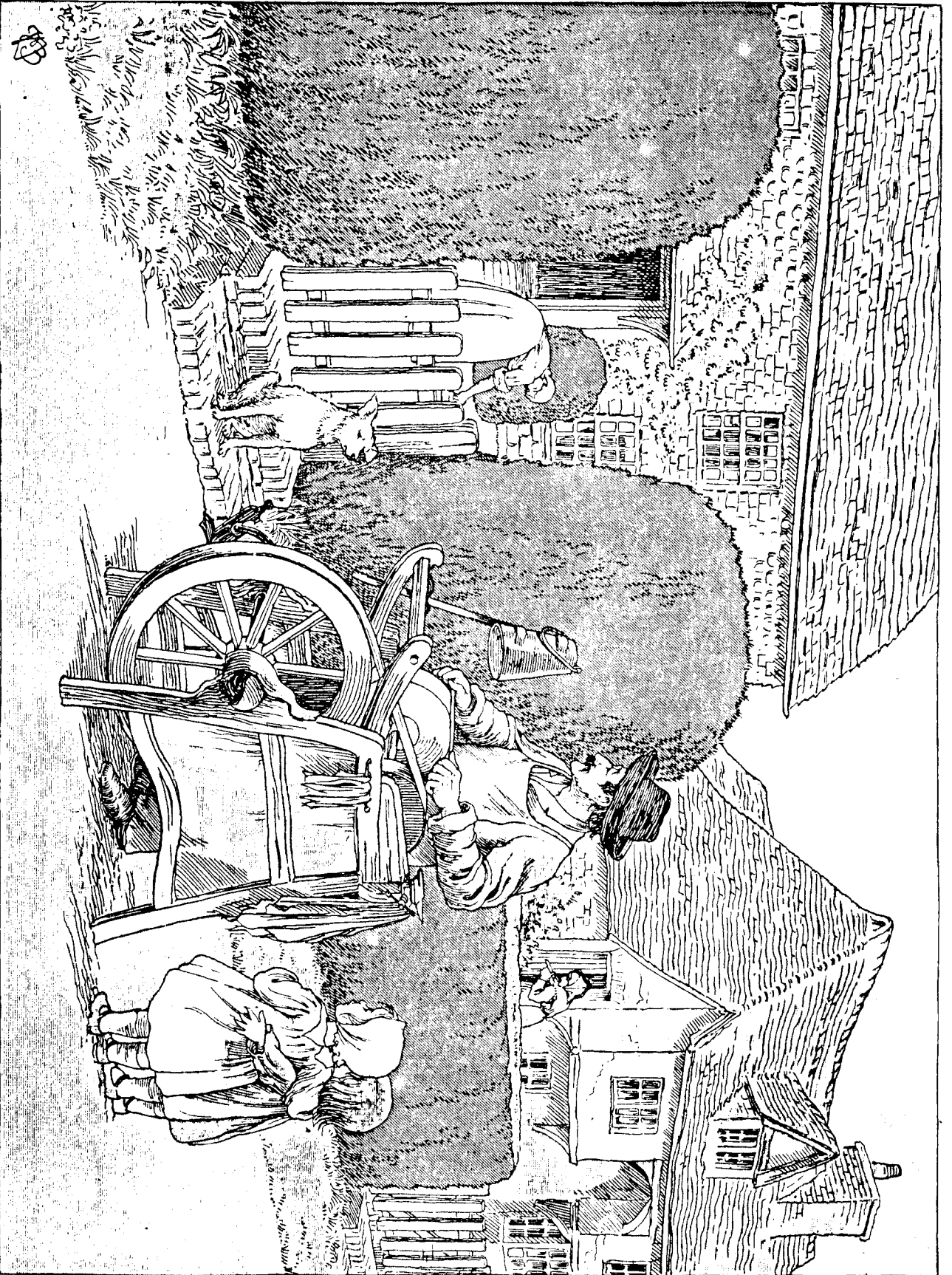
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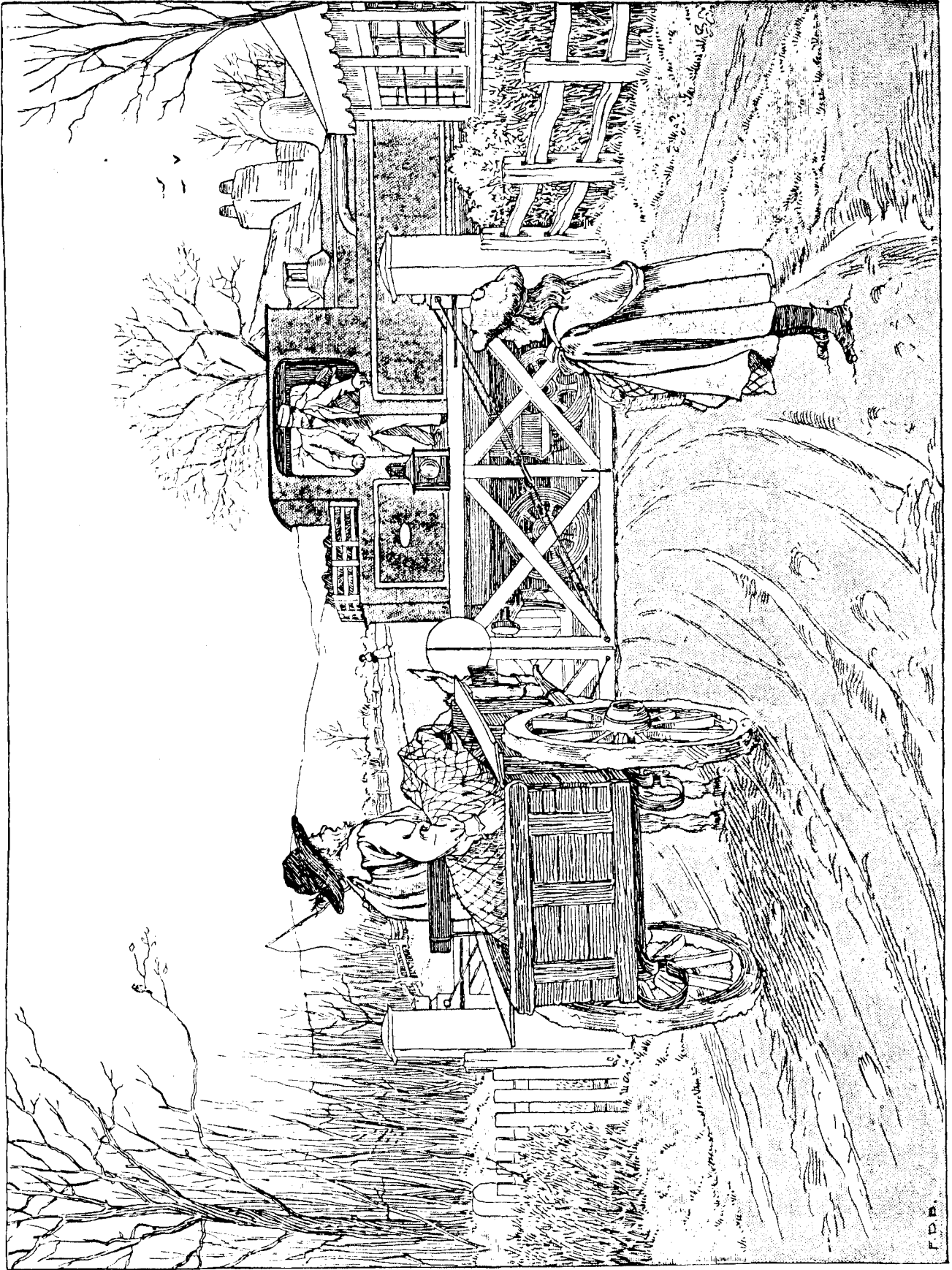
PROCESS OF COINING.

From a wood-cut engraved by order of the Emperor Maximilian, and published in his Life (Der Weiss Kung) by Keiser.

FROM: *The Pictorial History of England* 1839



The itinerant knife sharpener was discovered by Harriet Corlin in a thin book devoted to trades, titled "Four and Twenty Tollers" by Bedford and Lucas. The pages in Harriet's charming book are in color. As space permits, more pictures will be used in the future. The sharpening rig is worth studying. How did the man move his rig from house to house? Did he roll it on the flywheel, like a wheelbarrow?



FROM: *The Technical Educator*  
*An Encyclopedia of*  
*Technical Education*  
*(19th century, late)*

THE LATHE.—XI.

By HENRY NORTHCOTT, C.E.

HAND-TOOLS FOR TURNING IN VARIOUS MATERIALS.

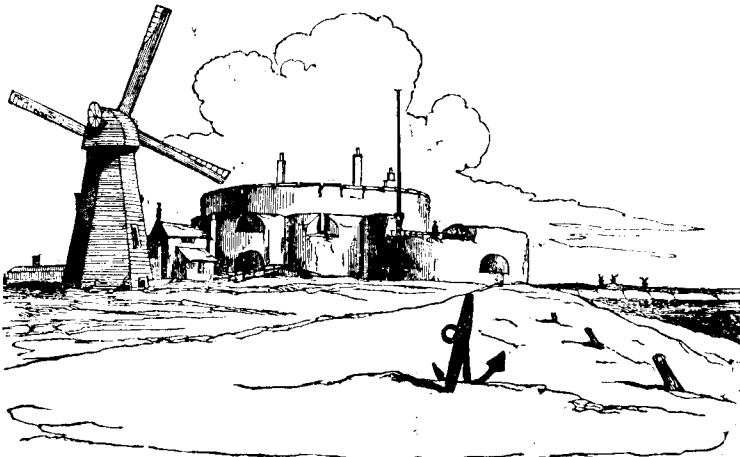
THE hand-turning tools for soft woods consist of gouges and chisels. The gouge is shown at Fig. 32, and the flat-edged chisel at Fig. 33. With tools of this sort almost any kind of work can be produced when one knows how to use them. They are employed of many different sizes, and sometimes the flat chisels have different angles for more convenient application to the work; but these two tools are the soft-wood turner's most powerful auxiliaries. Indeed, they may be called the only soft-wood turning tools, because they are not only applicable to almost every kind of soft-wood turning, but they are in form, cutting edges, and mode of using, quite different from all other tools employed by the wood-turner. It may sometimes be advisable to use a tool of some other shape; but in all such cases the tools will be similar to those used for turning hard woods, with the cutting angle ground rather more acute. The gouge is used for taking off the first or main portion of the superfluous wood, technically termed "roughing down." An expert workman will very considerably reduce the size of a piece of wood at a single cut, and will raise a heavy shower of shavings which fly in all directions from the tool's edge. He will first roughly and rapidly reduce the article in this way to nearly the required shape, and then with a sharper tool of the same sort, and with more care, will go again over the turned surface, and with a few light cuts leave the whole article very nearly the proper shape and size. The chisel is then carefully applied to the work, and the comparatively rough surface left by the gouge is replaced by the smooth glossy surface of the well-turned article.

The hand-turning tools for hard woods are shown at Figs. 34 to 70. These tools are nearly all known as chisels, and are only distinguished by the shape of the cutting edge. Fig. 34, for instance, is the flat chisel; Fig. 35 the diamond-point chisel; Figs. 37 and 38 the round-nosed and half-round chisels; and so on with the others. Fig. 34 is chiefly used for turning cylindrical articles; Figs. 35 and 36 for turning angular shapes, corners, and flat surfaces. Figs. 37 and 38 are useful to produce curved forms, round grooves or channels; and Fig. 37 is also generally used for roughing down the harder woods. Fig. 39 is not a very useful tool, because it will only produce one particular form and shape. Fig. 40 is rather more useful. The two last are employed to produce round beads or mouldings. Figs. 42, 43, and 44 are sometimes called "parting" tools. They are useful for very small work, but chiefly for "parting," or cutting off pieces of work from the main cylinder or log. Figs. 45, 46, and 47 are termed "internal tools," as they are chiefly used for turning out holes, and for hollow work. Tools of this sort, but with a keener cutting edge, are sometimes useful for turning soft woods. Figs. 48 and 49 are "holing tools." They act more like drills than turning tools; but they are very useful instruments. Figs. 50 to 54 are chiefly useful for internal work and for side cutting. Some of them cut towards the right, and some to the left, and they are distinguished as right-handed or left-handed side tools according to the direction of the cutting edge. Figs. 55 to 61 are cranked tools, and are very useful for turning internal grooves, and otherwise shaping work not accessible to the straight tools. The hard-wood turner uses them of several sizes, and cranked towards both the right and left hand. Of these tools Figs. 56, 57, 58, and 61 are the most often in request. Figs. 55, 59, and 60 are less useful. Figs. 62, 63, 64, and 65 are also very useful tools. They are employed for turning fancy work, and for touching out corners difficult of access. Figs. 66 to 70 are beading or moulding tools. They are used for producing definite forms or set mouldings upon the turned articles. Any of these forms can, of course, be produced by the ordinary turning tools, and it



SPINNING WITH THE DISTAFF. Harl. MS. 4274.

FROM: *The Pictorial*  
*History of England 1839*



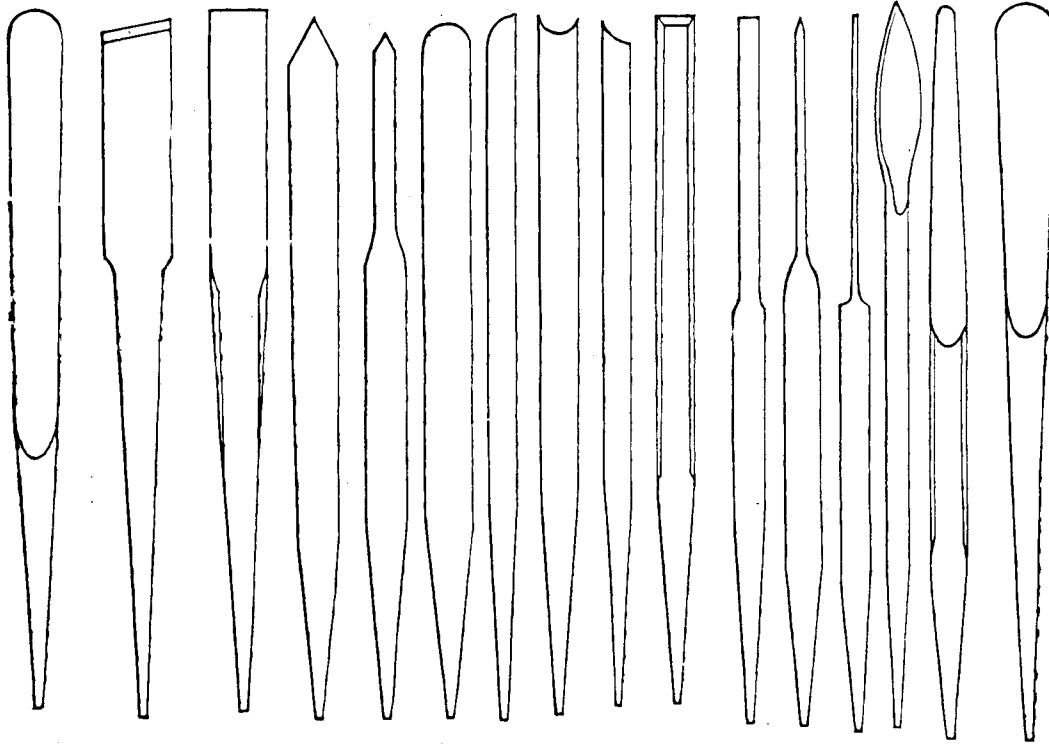
SANDOWN CASTLE, NEAR DEAL.—One of Henry VIII.'s Fortresses.

is only when many articles of the same shape are required that it becomes worth the workman's while to obtain these special tools for the work. Mouldings produced by these tools are, of course, more correct, and more likely to be uniform, than if the curves were separately turned out with the ordinary tool.

The figures show most of the tools in general use, but many of them may be dispensed with altogether: indeed, it is surprising how few tools some workmen use, and it is very often the case that the largest assortments of tools and instruments are found in the workshops of the least efficient turners. For soft-wood turning the gouge and flat chisels (Figs. 32 and 33) are quite indispensable. For hard-wood turning Figs. 34, 35, 37, 44, 45, 47, 48, 56, 57, and 58 are the most necessary tools. Many of the others are sometimes very useful, but most of them can be dispensed with. For fancy and ornamental turning it is often necessary to have tools made expressly to suit the work, and such tools are generally useless except for such

Most of these tools are used after the same manner, but the efficient use of some of them is much more difficult to learn than of others. The two soft-wood tools are truly cutting instruments. The tools for turning hard woods and brass are scarcely of this class, as their action upon the materials is more akin to scraping than cutting. Some of the turning tools for iron also act incisively. Figs. 71 to 76 are of this class; but the tools used upon cast iron act chiefly as scraping tools. As a rule, the tools which act by cutting are more difficult to use than those that act by scraping.

The gouge and flat chisel for soft woods are held with the cutting edges above the centre of the work, and with the handles of the tools lower than the cutting edges. The hard-wood and brass-turning tools are nearly all held with the cutting edges just level with the lathe-centres, and with their handles also on about the same level. All the tools are supported against the cuts by a tool-rest of some sort, and this



Figs. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47.

work. Some of these special tools will be illustrated in connection with the work they are designed to effect, and these will be sufficient to indicate how special tools for other work should be formed.

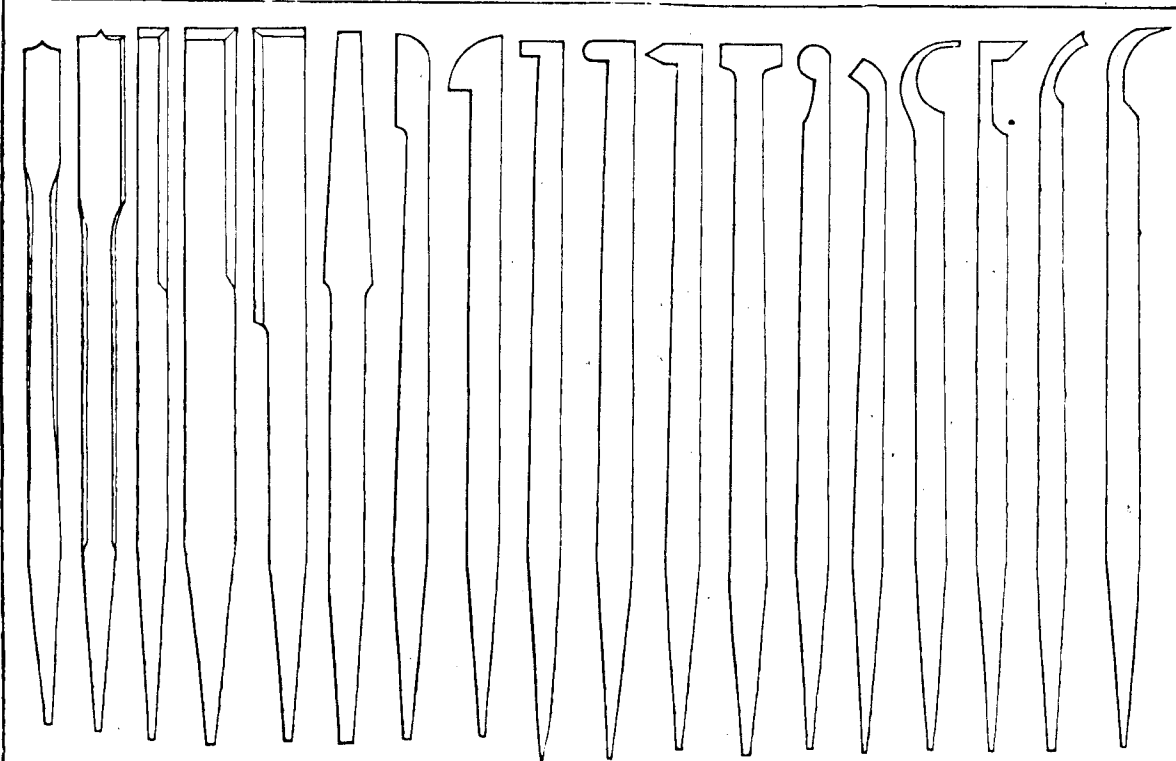
The tools used for turning wrought iron and steel are given at Figs. 71 to 76. Figs. 71 to 74 are used for roughing down the article. Figs. 75 and 76 are side tools for turning ends and side surfaces. The finishing cuts are usually taken by chisels somewhat similar to Fig. 42, but made much deeper and stronger, to withstand the increased strain put upon them.

Fig. 74 is also used for taking the roughing cuts off brass articles, and the finishing cuts are taken with the tools shown at Figs. 77 to 81. These tools in outline are much the same as those used for turning hard woods; but the angle of the cutting edge is, in the tools for brass-turning, made more obtuse than in the tools for wood. The blades also are made stouter towards the handle, and the steel is tempered rather harder. In addition to these tools, the brass-turner occasionally requires the use of cranked tools, and special tools of much the same shape as those already given amongst the wood-turning tools, but with a cutting angle adapted to brass, and which is about 90 degrees.

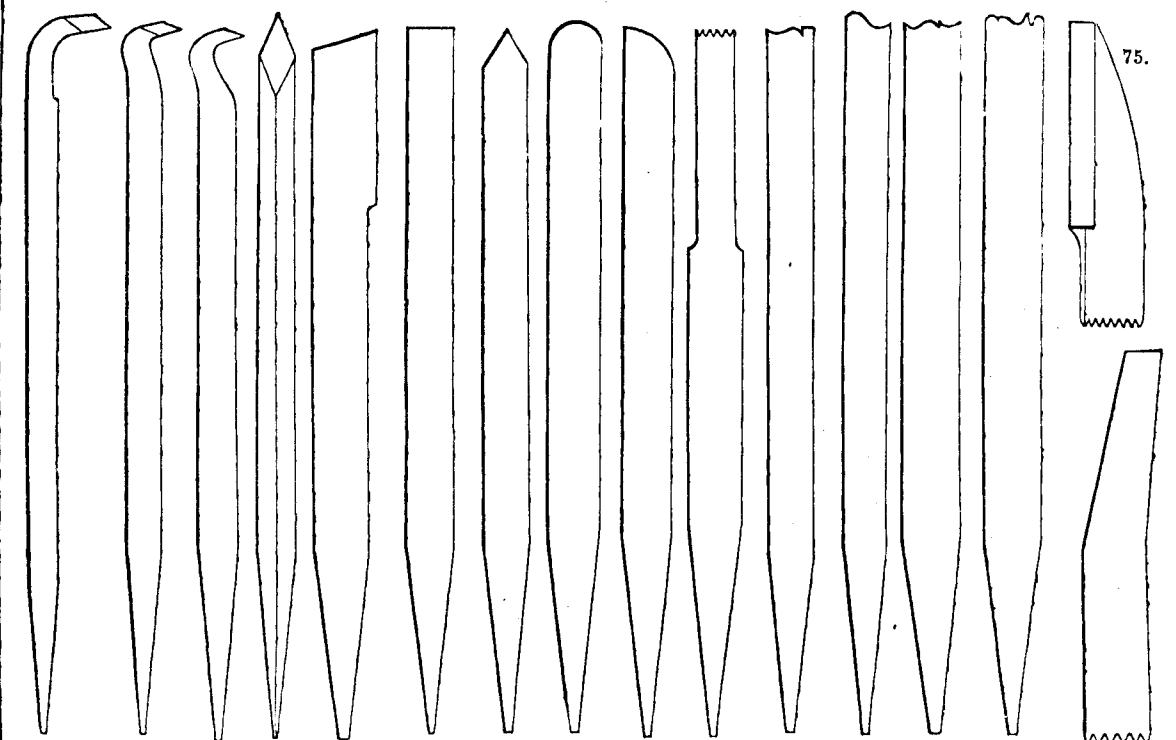
support is generally placed as near the work as possible. The tools are held by both hands, and generally the left hand is employed to guide the edge along the work in the required direction for shaping it, whilst the right hand is employed to regulate the height and inclination of the tool's edge, and the depth of its cut. It should be explained that the term "scraping," applied to describe the action of some of the tools, is, to some extent, an incorrect term, or rather, a term likely to be misunderstood. All of the tools act by cutting the substances they work upon, but in some of them the incisive action is more marked than in others. The chief points to be observed in the use of hand-turning tools are, first, that the tools shall be properly shaped, and kept in good order; second, that the tool-rest or support shall be placed near the work, so as to reduce the leverage acting against the workman as much as possible; third, that the tools shall be maintained in proper position upon the rest, and kept firmly up to their work.

The first point is very frequently neglected even by old hands at turning. The tools are first of all, perhaps, properly shaped and in good order; but as they wear dull on the cutting edge, they are sharpened by removing a small portion of metal near this edge. And as no metal can be removed from the cutting edge alone without gradually altering the shape of the whole tool, it follows that the tools in a short time become much injured. The proper plan is to grind the whole cutting part of the tool when any part requires grinding; but the keenness of the edge may be maintained by slight applications of the oil-stone.

The position of the tool-rest should especially be attended to by young workmen, as the whole operation of turning is rendered much easier by having the tool properly supported. The steadiness of the tool is chiefly affected by the position of the rest, and to produce good work it is obviously necessary that the tool shall be perfectly under the turner's control.



Figs. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65.



Figs. 71. 72. 73. 74. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 70. 69. 68. 67. 66. 75. 76.