

SKILLFUL WOODWORKERS

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the Northeastern Lumberman as follows:

There is just as much room for the expansion and development of mechanical ideas in the wood-working trade as in that of metal working. It is a mistaken idea that any one can run a saw or a planer who knows enough to feed the material to the machine, and is sufficiently experienced to keep from losing his own limbs in doing the work.

Wood-working machinery as it has been perfected at the present time requires skill and a considerable degree of mechanical knowledge and ability to operate successfully and profitably. There is something more to be considered than the ability of the operator to crowd the stock through. The profits of a mill cannot be reckoned by the amount of work done in a single day.

Wood-working machinery, more than any other, needs the attention of a skilled mechanic, from the fact that, as a rule, it is run at a very high speed, bringing greater strain and wear upon the running parts than those of machinery run less rapidly. For this reason the operator should be a man with some knowledge of mechanics, capable of detecting the least sign of a defect or an injury to the machine, and able to set it right before a more serious injury occurs.

It only requires a visit to some of the wood-working plants, where the only idea is to get out stock, to show the necessity of more skilled mechanics in the operation of the machinery. Belts are patched up until they are unfit for use and require more time to look after and fix up than a new one would cost; the machines are allowed to become clogged with dust and sawdust, and poor stock is the rule rather than the exception.

There is no more reason why a man without mechanical ideas, skill and experience should be employed to run wood-working machinery than there is why such help should be employed in a machine shop or a factory. The quality of work, as well as the durability of the machinery and the profits from its operation, depend largely upon the skill with which it is operated.

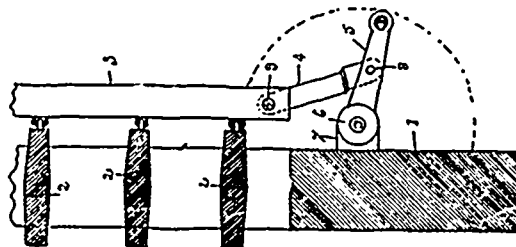
Main strength and ignorance are poor recommendations for any one employed about machinery. Good judgment, backed by skill and experience, will accomplish more, cost less and last longer.

The formation of a company is in progress to build a pulp mill at Greenfield, N. S.

A match-cutting machine is quite an automatic curiosity. It cuts 10,000,000 a day and then arranges them over a vat, where the heads are put on at a surprising rate of speed.

NEW WOODWORKING PATENTS.

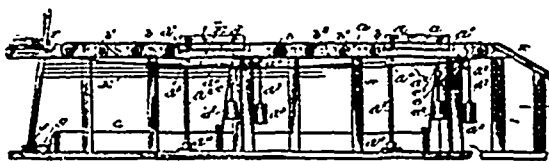
The following patents have recently been granted for Canada:



BLIND SLAT HOLDER AND FASTENER.

Patentee: Alfred Harley, Albany, N. Y., patented 4th November, 1895; 6 years.

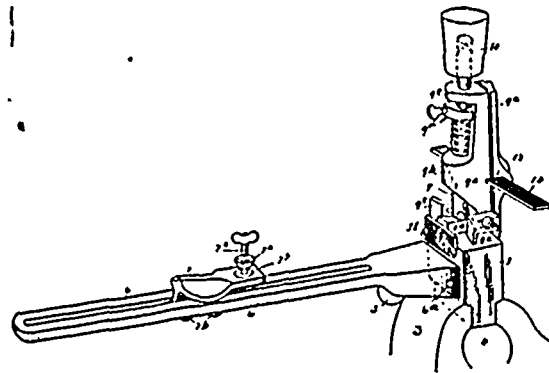
Claim. - 1st. A blind stop having a movable arm 5, pivoted to a base 7, said arm 5 being arranged to have an uninterrupted movement throughout its sweep, and a resilient device 10, 11, 12, 13, arranged within the chamber 6, to exert an unvarying automatically controlled resistance to movement of said arm 5, and a connecting rod 4, pivoted to the arm 5, and movably attached to the movable portion 3, of the blind, said connecting rod 4 having an offset therein arranged to allow the connecting rod to pass the base, as and for the purpose described. 2nd. A blind stop having a movable arm 5, pivoted to a base 7, the pivoted end being corrugated forming a plate spring and arranged to exert constant unvarying automatically controlled frictional resistance to movement of the said arm, and having a connecting rod 4, pivoted to the arm and movably attached to the movable portion 3, of said blind, substantially as described.



CONVEYOR AND ASSORTER FOR LUMBER.

Patentee: Wm. A. Leary, Norfolk, and John F. Hostetter, Suffolk, U. S. A., patented 19th November, 1895; 6 years.

Claim. - 1st. A conveyor and assorter having a passage-way, conveying means in said passage-way, one or more deflectors capable of being thrown across said passage-way, and operating means connected thereto and extended to one end of said passage-way. A conveyor and assorter having a passage-way, a series of rollers therein, means for rotating all of said rollers, a series of shunt-arm pivoted each at one end, a shaft therefor, a bell-crank lever on said shaft, a pivoted locking lever, means for returning said shunt arms to their normal positions when unlocked, and means for operating each of said shunt arms independently from a single point, substantially as set forth.



SAW SET AND JOINTER.

Patentee: Wm. I. Simmons, Northville, Mich., U. S. A., patented 19th November, 1895; 6 years.

Claim. - 1st. In a saw setting machine, the combination of an anvil and its support, with an upright arm adapted to carry a vertically moving setting punch, a track arm hinged to the anvil support and adjustable through a vertical angle with respect thereto, a saddle adjustable along the track arm and adjustable with respect thereto through an angle in the same plane with that of the angular adjustment of the track arm, a reversible setting punch provided with facets on each end, and a collar on said punch having one side flattened and adapted to bear against the upright to prevent the punch from turning in its bearings, substantially as described. 2nd. In a saw set and jointer, the combination of a main support, a jointing file secured thereto, an arm hinged to the main support, a bearing screw adapted to adjust the angularity of the hinged arm, a centring device comprising a saddle adapted to slide along the hinged arm and adjustable with respect thereto, and means for securing the saw to the tabular piece, substantially as described. 3rd. In a saw jointer, a centring and holding device comprising a saddle convex on its under side, an overhang projecting therefrom and provided with a socket and a conical fillet plug and means for clamping the ollet plug in the socket, substantially as described.

FORESTRY AT THE EXPERIMENTAL.

Prof. C. S. Sargent, director of the Arnold Arboretum at Jamaica Plain, near Boston, Mass., visited the Experimental Farm at Ottawa during the past summer, and was so gratified with the progress which has been made in forestry that he asked Mr. W. T. Macoun, who is in charge, to go to the Arnold Arboretum and make a selection for the Ottawa station. These have been safely received, and include 179 varieties of trees and shrubs, and cuttings of 24 species of willows, nearly all of which are new to the collections here. Prof. Sargent's collection is especially rich in rare species from Northern Japan and China, countries which he has twice visited.

The Farm has also received recently from Siberia, from Prof. Max. Sievers, of Roemershof, six species of trees and shrubs from that country, also some tree seeds. Among the trees sent are specimens of the Siberian larch and the Siberian spruce, both new to the Farm collection.

When these additions are planted in the spring, the Arboretum will contain more than 1,000 varieties of trees and shrubs under test. Thus far a large proportion of those tried have been found hardy in this climate. The information gained in this branch of the work is proving of great value to the country generally, by showing the capabilities of the Canadian climate and by supplying valued information to lovers of trees and shrubs in all parts of the Dominion.