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Paper belting for the purpose of transmitting power is the next thing which is going to astonish the manufacturing fraternity, says the Tradesman. The inventor was the assistant for five years to the superintendent of power in one of the great factories in Lowell, Mass. It was while in this position, in which he had much to do with lacing and tightening belts, that he conceived the idea that being made of paper they could be made to do better work than either leather, rubber or cotton. He argued that this as a thick piece of pasteboard can be made to take on a firm, smooth and durable surface by holding it against another moving surface for several minutes, a larger piece of paper made in the form of a belt and permitted to run upon the surface of a pulley day after day would create upon its surface a firm, hard, shining coating that would last a long time. In making the belt, links made from paper pulp are used. As soon as a belt is put into working order a hard, shining coating appears upon the surface next the pulleys, and this becomes harder and harder as the months slip by. It becomes so hard finally that only the cold chisel can cut into it. Such a surface works well on the pulleys.

DO YOU CROWD YOUR COLLEC-TIONS!

A theme oft written, yet never exhausted, is the subject of collections. Its very importance, as the Denver Commercial Tribune remarks, renders it a subject that cannot be considered too frequently. The collection department is to every merchant what the boiler is to an engine; it furnishes steam wherewith to keep the business machinery in operation. Close collections are vital to the success of any house, large or small. To make out bills the first of the month and present them for payment, will not suffice. If they are not paid on first presentation, call again, and yet again. Keep up the collections at all hazards. Do it systematically, do it with tact and judgment, but be sure that it is done. Don't be afraid of losing patronage; it will be no worse to lose the customer than to lose his book account for goods already sold to and consumed by him. Make a practice of almost enforcing cold words as fast as they are printed.

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