



BUSINESS END OF WOOD-WORKING.

THE laws of business are as fixed and exacting as those of nature or science. Violate them, and disaster is sure to follow. Work closely up to their requirements, and, other things being equal, success is assured.

In the engine room the engineer knows that if he neglects even the simplest rules that govern the management of steam or electric power, trouble will come. Every hour in the day he must be on the alert, satisfying himself that there is not the slightest detail in connection with his engine that is allowed to go wrong. Boiler explosions occur when these well-fixed rules of engineering science are violated. They do not occur by accident. So it is all through the workshop. Let planer, mortiser, and tenoning machine be carefully and correctly run and careful and correct work will be executed. Spoiled work comes from a shop, and losses are sustained, when the workmen become careless, and the foreman less vigilant in guarding every interest of his employer.

Neglect of little things, producing waste and destruction of valuable material, and expensive machinery, can be given as the explanation of business disaster in many wood-working concerns. But a careful study of the situation will reveal the fact that the leaks, which eventually sink the ship, exist within the four walls of the counting-house more frequently than in that larger space usually known as the shop or factory. Bradstreet's put down as the first and chief cause of failure, incompetence, and it is no stretch of the word to say that the man, with capital invested in business, who does not watch closely the daily transactions represented in the books in his counting-house, is incompetent to engage in business. A study of business failures will show that capital has become impaired, and losses, that have wrecked the business, made, through bad bookkeeping, or no bookkeeping, more often than in any other way. An examination of the assets of insolvent concerns reveals a heart-rending condition of affairs, oftentimes, in the size of figures opposite the item bad or doubtful accounts. These bad accounts arise through a lack of watchfulness in giving credit, as well as in neglect in rendering accounts and keeping up close collections.

Bad bookkeeping and office mis-management does not stop with losses through bad debts. The history of business tells of thousands, and tens of thousands of dollars, that are lost every year by mercantile concerns through neglect to charge goods, in whole or in part. Let anyone give memory play for a few minutes and he will bring to recollection errors that have been made in accounts rendered, where charges have been omitted, cash neglected to be credited, and various other blunders made, all the result of careless office management.

How many men engaged in the wood-working business take stock regularly, and strike a trial balance to know in what position they stand? When times are good and business is rushing, the ingo and outgo run sufficiently parallel to each other to keep things easy. But those seasons come around that are known as cycles of commercial depression, and here and there, at this point and at the other, business men commence to find the strings tightening. Do they wisely sit down and examine into their business? Too often not. The practice ought to be made as exacting a feature of business management as that the boiler is properly protected for the night before the engineer turns the key in the engine house door.

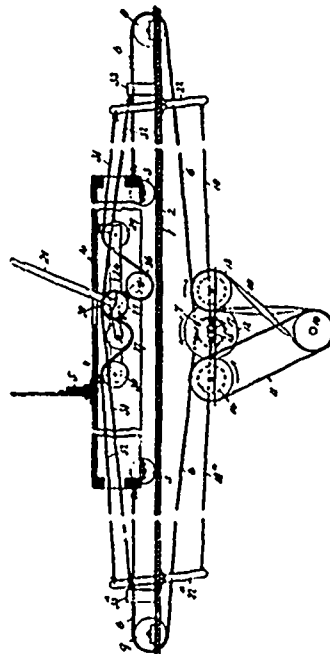
A man eminent in practical science has observed:

"It is astonishing how few people I have met with in the course of my experience who can define a fact accurately." It is astonishing how few men in business can define accurately, or nearly so, the condition of their business at any given time, except when the assignee comes into possession.

These may seem to be commonplace statements, but they are of a character that will bear repetition. Two important considerations come into play in the management of a wood-working industry: (1) That the proprietor himself be a practical wood-worker, or else place the mechanical department of the business in skilled and capable hands. (2) That he be a thorough-going business man, living up to the science of business in all particulars.

It is a good thing when these two conditions can be made to dovetail together, but in the present day of intense competition, and close profits, if one is more essential than another in the wood-working business in Canada, the latter ought to have choice. The mechanical end of the business can, with some safety, be delegated to others. The business end calls for the closest attention of the proprietor himself.

NEW CANADIAN PATENTS.

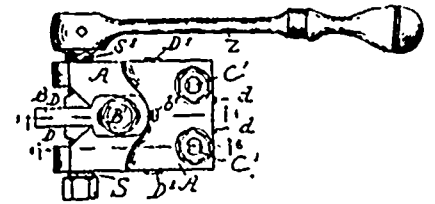


DEVICE FOR OPERATING SAW MILL CARRIAGES.

Patentee: John Hamilton, Stewartville, Ont., 1st March, 1895; six years.

Claim.—1st. The combination with a saw-mill carriage and accessories, means for driving the same and a hand lever fulcrumed to said carriage, said lever having two sets of sheaves and two cables passing in reverse order between said sheaves, said cable secured at the ends to fixtures and to tilting levers, operating said accessory means, whereby the hand lever when inclined effects a pull on one cable, and when inclined in the opposite direction effects a pull on the other cable to reciprocate the carriage when desired by a person riding thereon, as set forth. 2nd. A device for reciprocating or gigging saw mill log carriages by accessory means, said device comprising a hand lever fulcrumed to the carriage and having two sets of sheaves journaled

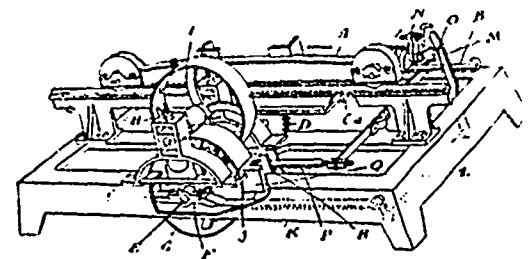
thereto, and two cables, one cable passing between one set of sheaves and the other cable passing in reverse order between the other set of sheaves, and over sheaves attached to the carriage, one end of said cables attached to a fixture and the other to a lever, whereby by an operation of each cable forms a loop which is elongated by a sheave when the hand lever is inclined to effect a pull on either cable, as set forth. 3rd. The combination, with a saw mill log carriage and accessory, means for gigging the same, of a hand lever fulcrumed to said carriage, said lever having two sets of sheaves and two cables, one cable passing between the other set of sheaves in reverse order, whereby each cable forms a loop, one loop being elongated when the hand lever is inclined in one direction and the other loop elongated when the lever is inclined in the opposite direction to effect a pull on the cables, respectively, and to cease when said lever is vertical for the operation of the carriage by accessory means such as a friction gear steam feed, etc., as described and set forth.



DEVICE FOR SHAPING SWAGED SAW TEETH.

Patentee: John F. Pribnow, Mellon, Wis., U.S.A., 12th March, 1895; six years.

Claim.—1st. The combination in a shaper for the points of saw teeth, of the frame work, a stop, clamping jaws, and carrying blocks for said jaws, said carrying blocks being secured to the frame of two-sized bolts, whereby they serve both as pivot and securing bolts substantially as set forth. 2nd. That said carrying blocks having perforations and said frame having slots, through which said slots pass, the smaller portions of the bolts being flattened where they pass through said slots, and said slots being equal in width to the smaller diameter of the bolts, whereby said bolts are prevented from turning. 3rd. The combination, in a shaper for the points of saw teeth, of the frame work, carrying blocks for the clamping jaws pivoted to the framework, and said clamping jaws independently adjustable upon said carrying blocks. 4th. Said clamping jaws secured to said carrying blocks by bolts passing through slots, and into said jaws, and set screwed, whereby the longitudinal adjustment of the jaws may be finally regulated.



SHINGLE MACHINE.

Patentee: B. R. Mowry & Son and Isaac Milton House, Gravenhurst, Ont., Assignee of Asa Mutchinbacker, Rosseau Falls, all in Ontario, 26th March, 1895; six years.

Claim.—1st. In a shingle machine, a pivot on the frame of the machine and carrying a brake-shoe adapted to engage with a pulley geared to the carriage of the machine in combination with the reciprocating carriage, adapted to engage with the lever and apply the brake, substantially as and for the purpose specified. 2nd. In combination with reciprocating carrier carrying a pivoted dog, which may be set to engage with the said lever and apply the brake. 3rd. In a shingle machine, the combination of the pulley G, brake-shoe Q, bar P, fork R, lever G, dog N, and reciprocating carriage A, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

David Cross, employed in Galbraith's sash and door factory at New Westminster, B. C., recently had his hand badly cut by a shingle saw.