THE Wood-Worker and Retailer

ANNUAL MEETING OF LUMBERMEN.

The next annual meeting of the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association will be held in Winnipeg on Wednesday, March 2, 1904.

DEVICE FOR CUTTING SPIRAL MOULDINGS.

A subscriber writes that there is a device that can be attached to a "sticker" or "shaper" that will cut out rope or spiral mouldings, and asks that the device be described in these columns.

There was a device invented a number of years ago by a Mr. Pendell, but which has been very much improved by a Mr. James Long. It is made as follows:

The stock should be sawed out and struck round a sticker, or run through a hollow rounding chuck. Over the cutter-head of any machine you wish to use, fix a movable table with a opening in the bottom, through which the knives can come up. Then take a block of wood 1½ inches thick by 6 inches wide, 16 inches or 18 inches long, and bore, say, a seven-eighth inch hole to one side and through the block, letting the bit cut out be about one-eighth inch (as in Fig. 1.) Fasten this block on the table over the knives, so that a rod in the block will lie at an angle of about 45 to the cutter-head. Then run bed of machine up until knife will cut a full bead or beads. The best to experiment on will be the three-strand when cut with a common stocker knife, with three beads one-half inch or thereabout, with the centre head dropped back a little. The next thing to be considered is the arrangement for twisting the stock through the block. Take a block of hard wood 4 inches wide, seven-eighth inch thick, and 8 inches long; slot each end about 2 inches. Take two thin pieces of steel (old band saw blades will do), make them sharp on the back, and drive them into the block lengthwise in saw kerfs about one-fourth inch apart (see Eig. 2); the object of the slot is to make the beads intersect. Fig. 3 shows the twister in position. The stock is twisted through by hand. In case the knives do not cut out the feed marks, move the twister until they do. The tighter you have the twister the more positive the feed.

Fig. 4 and 5 show improvements originated By Mr. James Long. Fig. 5 is an end view of the form, which is V-shaped in order to lessen the friction and cause the work to feed easier; at the same time it keeps the piece tight in the form. The diagram also shows a three-eighth inch piece, which is fastened to the form by screws. This three-eighth inch is cut out just enough to let the bead cutters come through in the center, and it is secured to the table of machine by iron hand screws. Fig. 4 shows a plan or top view of the wooden form. It will be seen that one of the V-shaped pieces is secured to the three-eighth inch piece by wood screws, and is stationary, while the other V-shaped piece is adjustable and is held in place by a spring, which is secured to the outside square piece and also to the V-shaped piece. The arrangement for twisting the stock through

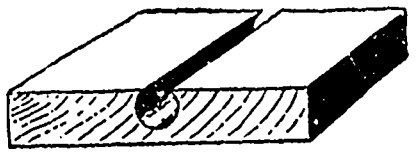

Fig 1

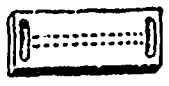

Fig 2

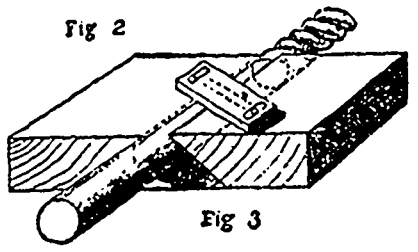

Fig 3

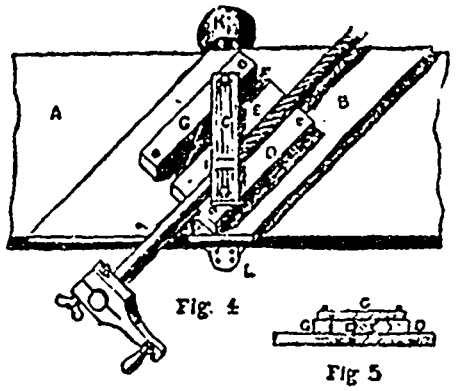

Fig. 4

Fig 5

FOR MAKING SPECIAL MOULDINGS.

the form is the same as Mr. Pendell's. The whole arrangement is very perfect, producing first class work, and even cypress can be turned out finished without sandpapering. The arrangement of this form is such that it can be easily adjusted if the idea is understood and a little patience exhibited until satisfactory results are obtained. A crank handle about 8 inches long, with a thumb-screw to tighten the crank on the stock, is shown in Fig. 3, and is a great help in twisting. There is nothing neater or prettier in appearance than a small rope moulding placed in the corners of panels and other ornamental cabinet work and the general run of joiner's work, and the cheap and simple manner in which these mouldings can be made, after the plan here described, commends them for a great many purposes. Fig. 1.—Block bored out right size to receive stock. Fig. 2.—Piece of wood showing slotted ends for adjusting screws; Dotted lines are saw kerfs to receive pieces of steel for feeding stock. Fig. 3.—Fixture complete, with work in place. Figs. 4 and 5.—A table of machine; B, base piece, three eighth inch thick; C, the holding down piece, in which are inserted the two pieces of steel on the under side, for feeding the stock along; D, stationary V-piece; E, movable V-piece; F, spring; G, spring support piece; K, driving pulley on spindle; L, spindle-box.

WASTE IN HANDLING LUMBER.

I wish to call the reader's attention to the wasteful manner of caring for seasoned lumber, particularly hardwood. When it is received from the mills or yards it is in good condition, but of mixed lengths of from 12 to 16 feet. Often, after being delivered, says a writer in the Wood-Worker, it is allowed to lie exposed to the weather, sometimes for days, finally being piled by men whose height of ambition is measured by the height of the pile; for men of ambition and energy soon graduate from the roustabout list. The pile is generally started in the most convenient place, without any reference to its future use, with any kind of foundation nearly level. Let me repeat it, nearly level. This is one of the marked peculiarities of a poor pile. This lumber is generally piled as it is picked up, with most of the long boards near the bottom. As the pile goes upwards numerous ends are seen projecting 2 to 4 feet. The top is covered with knotty, shaky scrap, picked up from anywhere and fastened down with a couple of cross pieces and stones.

Let us note the result with such a constructed pile. A good share of the long boards, after six months' exposure to the sun and rain, have from 2 to 4 feet of firewood attached. It it profitable for the laboring man to cut up such piles at any time; in the winter they can use part of it for fuel to warm the shop; in the summer, where wood is sold to the men, their wives can use it to cook their dinners. If any one is skeptical as to these statements, let him take a piece of hardwood and expose it to the weather for a short time. The results will prove the statements.

Now let us look to the cover and see its results. Being of almost anything that but a short time ago were good boards, this cover has been shifted by the wind, leaving the lumber exposed to the rain, sun and snow. Where