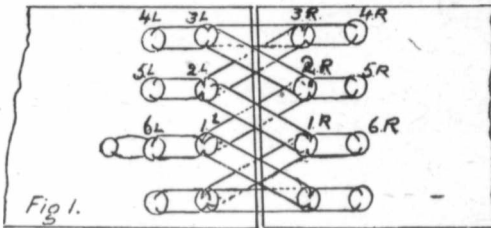


MANY articles have been published from time to time dealing with different methods of belt lacing and much discussion has taken place as to the several merits of patent fasteners versus lacing, but it seems hard to get any standard writings on the subject. Yet it is one of the small things that count for efficiency in the field and in the shop.

In the writer's opinion, for small belts such as 1½ or 2 inch



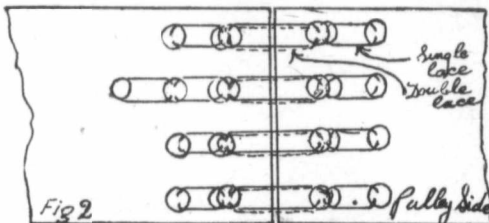
wide, the patent fastener is an ideal method of joining ends and certainly possesses the advantage of being quickly and easily installed.

But for belts of larger calibre than that, there seems to be nothing to oust the old fashioned lacing from its place. Belt lacing is an art and study by itself, almost, and like most other things something can always be learned.

I have read a number of articles dealing with this problem, but few that seem to be authoritative. One of the best I have come across is Prof. J. McGregor Smith's in the August number

shown in Figs. 1 and 2 for belts of 5 inch or over), I have found superior to any method that I have run across to date. I have

used a Gandy belt (8 inch) for two whole seasons threshing with two of these laces in it without replacing. This lace runs very smoothly over the pulley owing to the single lace striking the pulley before the double. Many men think they are putting in this lace when they put in a common double lace, (as in Prof. Smith's article fig. 10) and then lacing the ends alternately through each of the 1st and 2nd rows of holes. This looks similar but has not the strength, as the pull is all on the first row of holes and the second row only tends to weaken the belt. An-



of the "Canadian Thresherman" which I have just been reading (we threshermen don't get much time for reading in threshing season) and as Prof. Smith invites others to air their ideas and experiences, I will endeavor to describe a few methods that I have found good in the field, where it is such small things as these properly done and maintained that keep the wheels turning. If they don't turn, you all know someone is losing dollars: is it you?

Both the methods herein described I have tried out (among many others) and have had excellent satisfaction from them, though some practice is necessary to get exactly the same tension on each and every strand which I may say is the foundation of a good lacing. The lacing

other advantage of this lace is that when it becomes necessary to shorten the belt either one or two rows of holes may be cut off as the second row is immediately behind the first.

To put in this lace, assuming you are lacing an 8 inch Gandy or Rubber belt.

First cut two strips of lace a good full half inch wide and the full length of the hide. (Lace bought by the side is as a rule superior to ready cut, to say nothing of always having the width you want, as the lace should be in proportion to the belt in width.) It is only a second's work to cut it with a lace cutter, bought at most any hardware store for the sum of 50c., and is one of the handiest tools to have in separator tool box. This will cut any width you want.

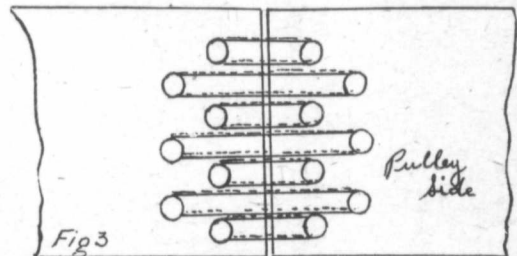
BELT LACING

A Practical Thresherman's Experience

(We commend the following article to the careful perusal of all readers interested in Belt work. It is contributed by James M. Dill of Herschel, Sask., who has been moved to write it by Professor Macgregor Smith's observations in the August issue—Ed.)

Having cut the laces, join the two thick ends (the neck ends) of the laces by cutting a slot about ¼ inch long about 2½ inch from the end of each, pass no. one through the slot in no. 2 and the long end of no. 2 through the slot in no. 1 (fig. 5.) Pull tight. Be sure and leave ends long enough so they may be tacked in in finishing, and also see that slots are cut in the exact centre of lace.

Next stretch the lace by passing one end around something handy and solid, usually



the spoke of a separator wheel and saw back and forth and pulling at the same time. Don't be afraid of breaking it. If you can break it this way, it is of no use in a belt.

Next punch the holes 1¼ inch from end of belt (for a narrower belt 1 inch is sufficient) and 1 inch apart, the first and last holes being ¾ inch in from edge of belt. Punch second row 1 inch immediately behind the first row, being careful to get them in line as you may next time you cut the belt, want them for the first row. Cut first row oval by taking ½ width of punch offside

in lace on side of belt away from pulley. Referring to (fig. 1) put first end of lace down through hole 1R, then up through hole 1L, then

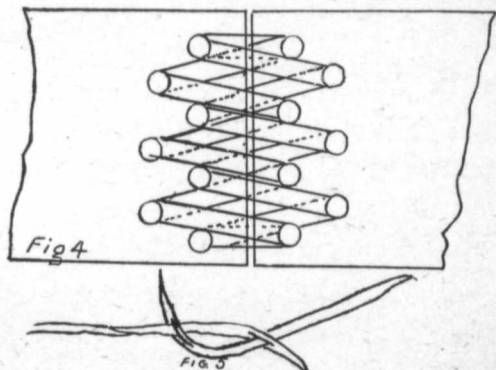
" 2R, " " " " 2L, "
" 3R, " " " " 3L, "
" 4R, " " " " 4L, "
" 5R, " " " " 5L, "
" 6R, " " " " 6L, "
" 1R, " " " " 1L, "
" 2R, " " " " 2L, "
" 3R, " " " " 3L, "
" 4R, " " " " 4L, "
" 5R, " " " " 5L, "
" 6R, " " " " 6L, "

The other half is done in exactly the same manner, so needs no explanation. Lace is shown here starting from third hole instead of second to give three sets of holes for explanation.

When you finish with end no. 2 you will come to hole 1 L, again. Put down through 1 L, and up through 6 L, pull both ends tight. Now punch another hole one inch behind 6 L, put the two ends through from their respective

sides, pulling both in tight at the same time and cut off, leaving about ½ inch. Now tack joined ends of lace down through the nearest holes and cut off.

Care must be taken for instance, as in going from hole 3 L to hole 4 L, to not pull the loop thus formed tight, till lace is passed up through 3 L, the third time; then tighten loop and then pull, pull the end tight, this puts the "cinch" on it, giving it the name of the lock lace. This lacing if properly done will run for a considerable period, even when after several strands are worn through or broken, though it is advisable



next second row as shown in cut.

Now start as you would for an ordinary double lace. Starting in centre of belt and keeping joint

to relace it at the first opportunity after a broken strand is noticed. Do not be afraid to run this lace

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