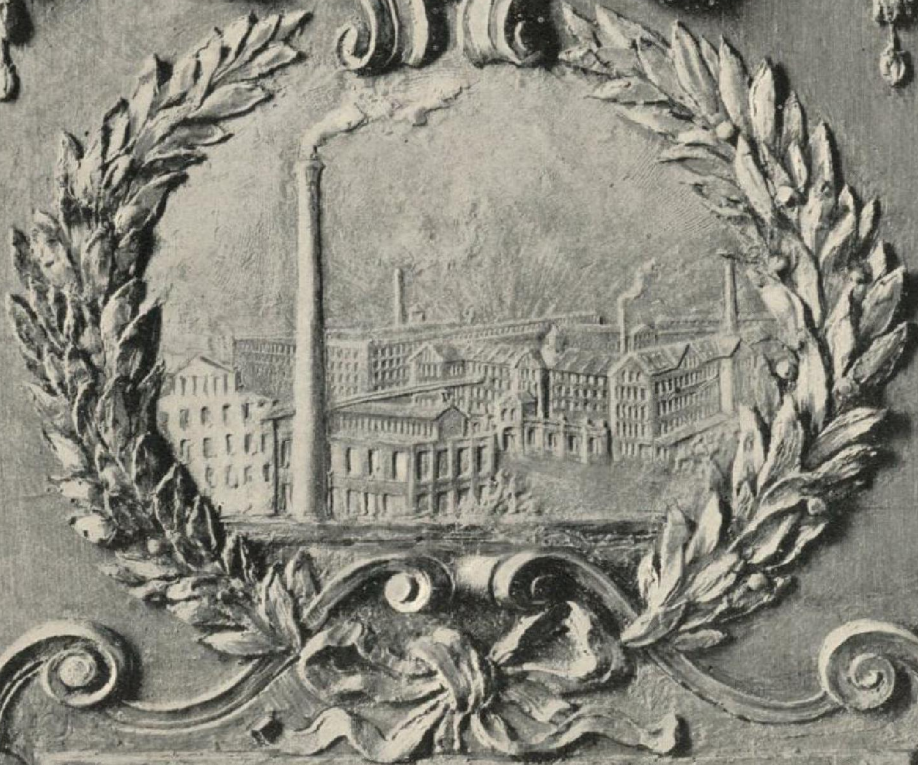


THE ORBIN



VOL. II

NO. 7

NOVEMBER, 1903

Doing nothing for others is the undoing of one's self.

—Horace Mann.

CONTENTS

	Page
"Colonial" - - - - -	99
In a Library - - - - -	101
Mortise Locks Replaced by the Corbin Unit Lock	102
"Shut That Door" - - - - -	103
Editorial - - - - -	104
Ornamental Hardware of To-Day Compared with that of Twenty-Five and Fifty Years Ago	
Just Between You and Me - - - - -	106
As Usual - - - - -	107
The Corbin Binder - - - - -	107
Ornament in its Relation to Builders' Hardware	108
A Reversible Legend - - - - -	109
Ye Dolefulle Tale of ye Combination Locke -	109
Casement Windows and Their Trim - - - - -	110
In Three Parts Part III	
Corbin's Duplex 1903 Model New Departure Coaster and Brake - - - - -	111
Illustration of Empire Building, New York -	112

The Corbin

99

A Monthly Chronicle of Things as We See Them

VOL. II

NOVEMBER 1903

No. 7

“Colonial”

By W. P.

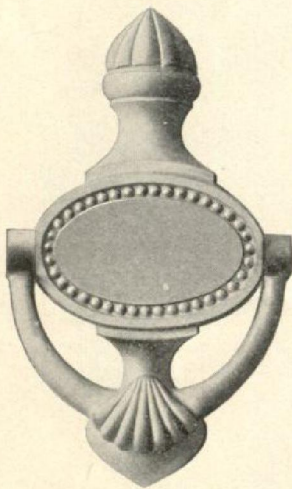


No. S 1538

NO better illustration of the tendency of the new to follow the old can be found than in the growing demand for Colonial houses. It is the boast of many a rich man that he has one of the oldest mansions in the country, and in rebuilding he must have hardware to conform to that now on the house, which was made generations before the days of such factories as P. & F. Corbin's. Not long since a man paid us a large amount for a lot of wrought iron thumb latches to conform in pattern to those on his hundred and fifty year old mansion,

and the originals of which had been hammered out by a blacksmith.

Women have brought us old door knockers on which they placed a high value with request to refinish to conform with

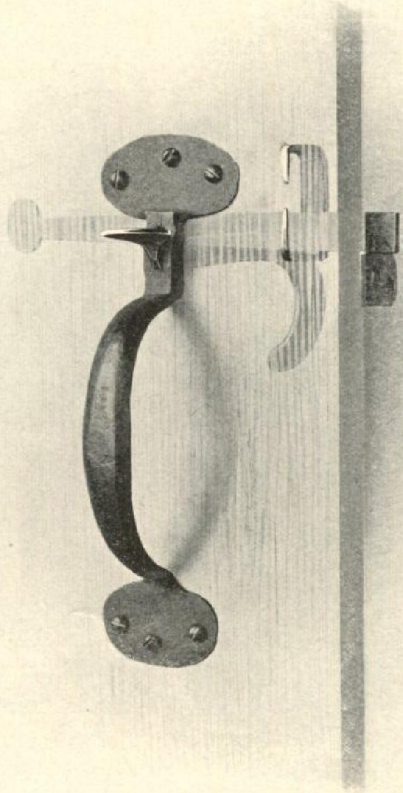


No. 1893

the finish of their Dutch door hardware. We all know the value placed on a grandfather's hall clock of the days before the Revolution, and the families fortunate enough to possess a pair of candle

snuffers display them on the parlor table. It goes without saying, that the historical novel, the Colonial Dames, and the societies of the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution have done much to foster this growing interest in the things of the past, as they have

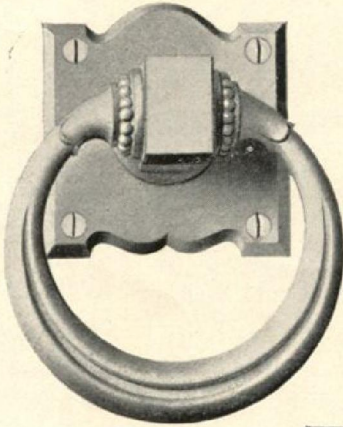
to preserve so many of our historical landmarks. To show that we are prepared to duplicate the hardware of our great grandfathers, we illustrate a few of the many patterns



Colonial Handle and Latch Reproduced from Wrought Iron Original

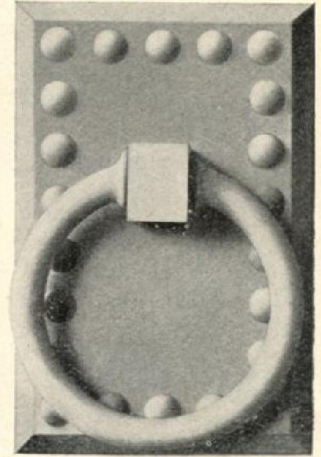
of latches and door knockers we have made from time to time, and which may be of interest to architects and others who are looking for the antique rather than the new.

The No. S 1538 is patterned after a door knocker taken from a Colonial house in New Hampshire, and this and the No. 1893 are among the oldest patterns in the country. The originals of many of the others have seen generations of service, and doubtless have echoed to the knock of many a Pilgrim father in the days when push buttons and electric bells were things undreamed of. None the less quaint are some of the door latches. The



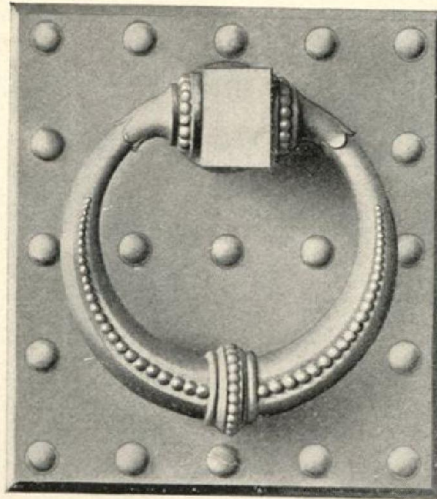
No. S 1108

original of the Colonial handle and latch illustrated on page 99 is in wrought iron evidently hammered out by a blacksmith and nailed to the door from which it



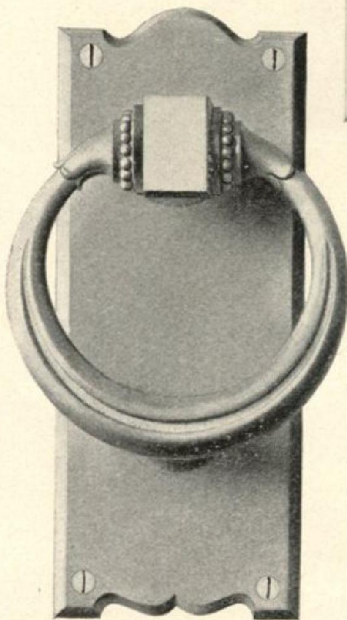
No. S 1736

was taken, by wrought iron nails, made in the same manner. Another we have made is more modern and was furnished for a large mansion in the Normandy style of



No. S 854

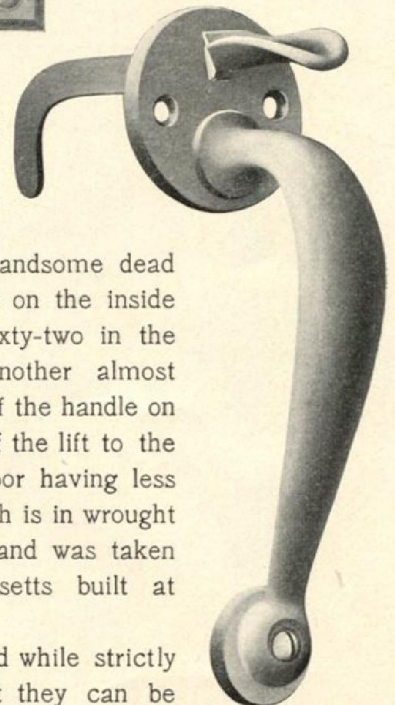
architecture, and recently built in the state of Connecticut. This latch with wrought iron barrel bolts and wrought iron T hinges, all furnished in a handsome dead black, completes the furniture on the inside doors of which there are sixty-two in the building. We have still another almost exactly like the illustration of the handle on page 99 with the exception of the lift to the latch on the inside of the door having less curvature, the original of which is in wrought iron roughly hammered out and was taken from a house in Massachusetts built at



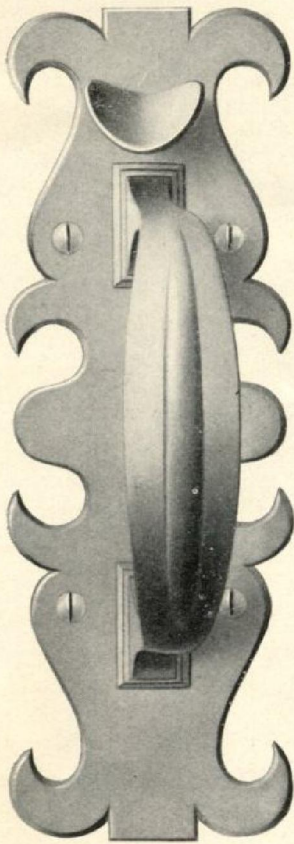
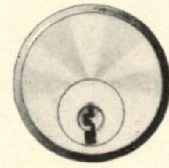
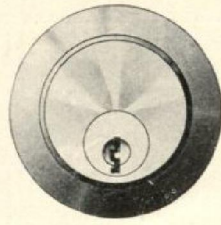
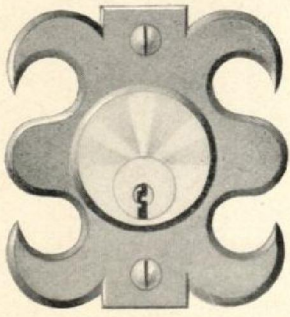
No. S 208

least one hundred and fifty years ago.

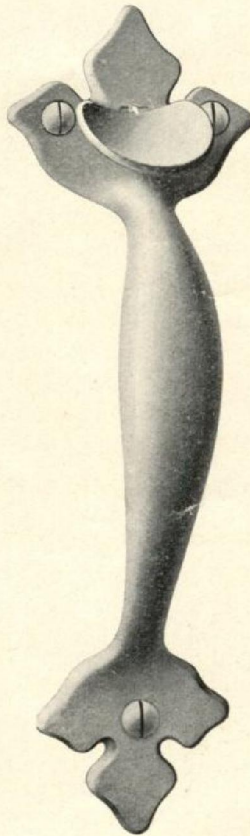
Nos. S 1381, 1137, 1138 are in polished brass and while strictly Colonial, have an added advantage in the fact, that they can be



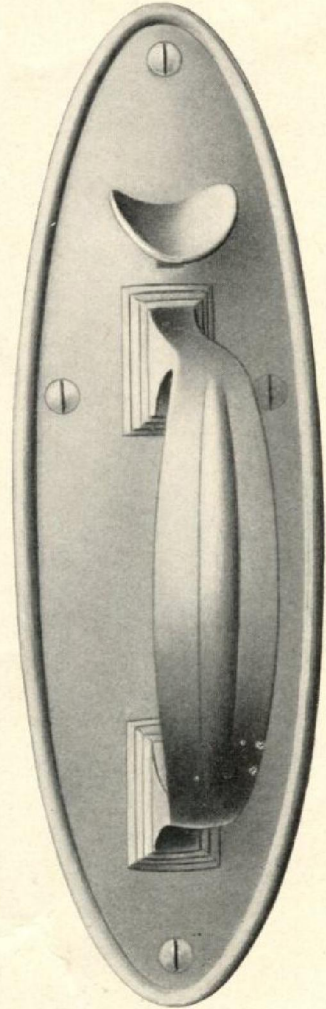
No. S 1454



No. 1125 x 188



No. 1137



No. S 1381

adapted for use with our No. 1347½ cylinder front door lock, thus combining all the appearance of a Colonial latch with a degree of security unheard of in the days of the Puritan fathers.

IN A LIBRARY

"The living oftentimes vex us—
The wise old dead are best—
When life's vain games perplex us
'Tis here we turn for rest."

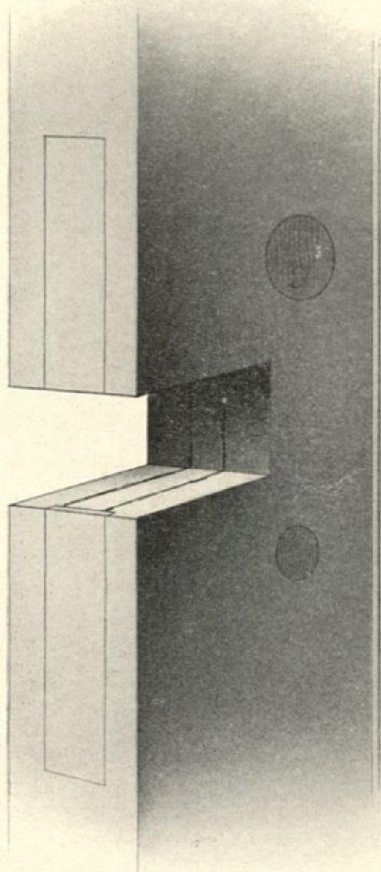
"For here in the library's shadows,
Where the famed and fameless be,
I roam in forgotten meadows
With the centuries over me."

Mortise Locks Replaced by the Corbin Unit Lock

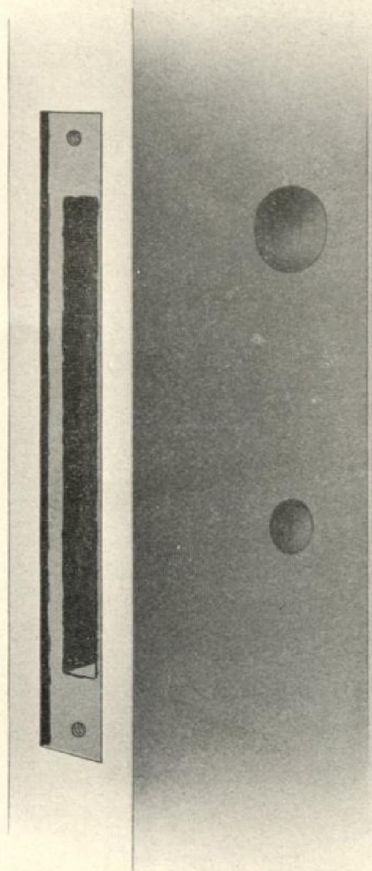
102

THE ease of applying the Corbin Unit lock is one of its many good features. So many of them are sold to replace other locks, especially the 2045 and 2067, on front, vestibule and side doors, we have been asked the best way of application on a door where a mortise lock has been used. We illustrate here a simple and effective method.

Fill up the old mortise with a rough piece of wood—not necessary to be closely fitted—to within about one-half inch of the front edge of the door. Then fit neatly in the mortise which held the front of the old lock a piece of wood, tacking it in at top and bottom with slim brads, having it face off even with edge of stile. With this neatly done there is but a faint trace, not at all noticeable, of there ever having been

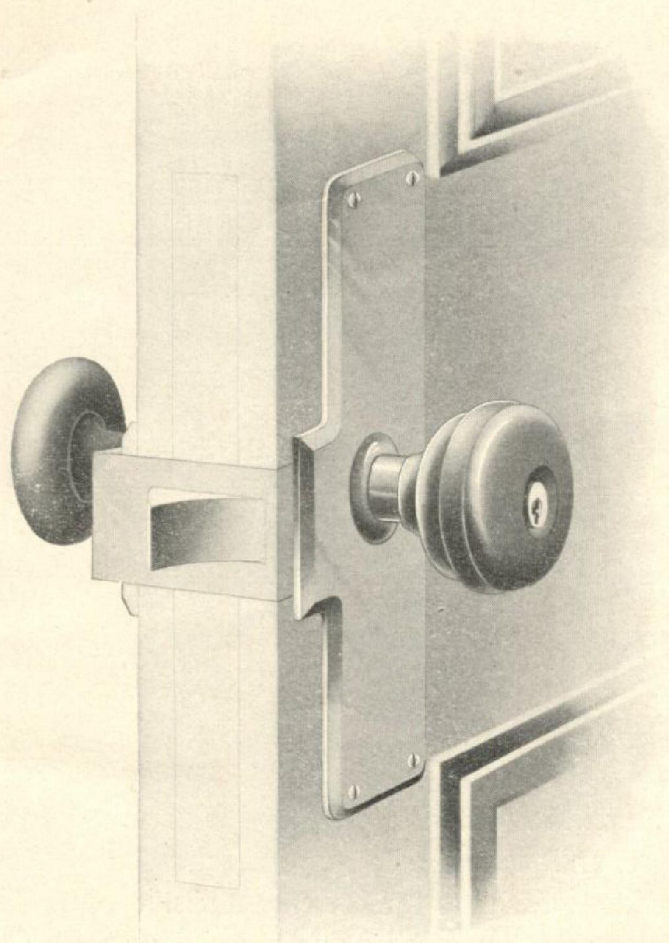


Made Ready for Unit Lock



With Mortise Lock Removed

a mortise lock in the door. After this is done follow the usual rule for attaching the Corbin Unit lock. Shellac, stain or varnish the edge of stile to suit. The escutcheons will cover up the key and knob holes made for the old lock. The time required to so install a Unit lock will be only about one-third as much as it took to put on the mortise lock, and for the door is secured all the convenience, elegance and security afforded only by a Corbin Unit lock.



Showing Unit Lock Applied on Door when Mortise Lock
has been Removed

“Shut that Door!”

The cool November days have come,
As they have done before;
And now we hear the oldtime cry,
“Say, WILL you shut that door?”

—*Cincinnati Times-Star.*

Faith, friend, and you could never blame
A careless wight on gusty days.
Had you bethought you of the fame
Of Corbin Door Checks, and their praise,
Small need were then that you'd implore
Forgetful souls to “Shut that door!”

And when the “Corbin” has been bought,
No more unnerved by troubled thought—
Now close the doors with magic ease
On gusts that chill or draughts that tease;
On cool November days, no more
We beg our friends to “Shut that door!”
The Corbin Door Check closes fast,
Tempers and colds are in the past.

The Corbin

Published by P. & F. CORBIN

Manufacturers of Everything in Builders' Hardware

Main Office and Factory, New Britain, Conn.

Philadelphia	- - - - -	925 Market Street
Chicago	- - - - -	104-106 Lake Street
P. & F. Corbin of New York	- - - - -	11-13-15 Murray Street

Agents in All the Principal Cities

All communications intended for this publication should be addressed to "THE CORBIN," in care of P. & F. Corbin, New Britain, Conn.

Ornamental Hardware of To-Day Compared with that of Twenty-Five and Fifty Years Ago

THE builders' hardware manufactured in this country fifty years ago was looked upon and treated as a mere mechanical device. Little, if any, effort was made to develop the ornamental side of it. The better class of ornamented goods then used came mostly from England. The faint attempts of American manufacturers at making ornamental hardware were confined to the production of a few patterns in low relief, chiefly in so-called Eastlake and Japanese designs. Nobody, not even the well-to-do, called for really artistic hardware that was in conformity with the style of architecture of the buildings, perhaps for the reason that there was no style at all to the average red brick front or "dry-goods box" style of houses built in those days. Exceptions to this were, perhaps, the few residences of the Stewarts, the Vanderbilts, and other prominent families in New York and the larger cities of the country, where competent architects and unlimited means secured a thorough and artistic execution of even the minor details in a building and the ornamental part of hardware also received proper consideration.

It was not much before 1870 that American manufacturers felt the necessity of producing artistic hardware in different schools of design. H. H. Richardson and his many imitators were just then introducing and popularizing a modified form of Romanesque architecture which found expression in some of the most notable churches, libraries, public buildings and business houses erected during that period, and a

consequent demand for Romanesque hardware was the result which manufacturers were quick to meet.

The next decade brought the Queen Anne and Colonial styles into public favor for private residences and cottages, the former to be discarded soon—the latter to stay and flourish. For the more luxurious city houses, theatres, hotels and other prominent structures, Renaissance and Neo-Classic architecture came into favor, and the demand for hardware in these schools of design, as well as in Flemish, Elizabethan, Rococo, Empire, and Adams, which became favorites during the later '80's and through the '90's, had to be met as it arose, until the leading manufacturers of hardware were in a position to furnish goods in more than a dozen different schools of design. All the leading American architects had by this time fully realized the importance of hardware as an ornamental feature in a building, and in most cases gave it personal attention, either by making special designs or selecting themselves the proper styles from stock. The education of the American public in art matters, too, has made such rapid progress that the average home builder is now-a-days filled with a desire to have his house, his every room and corner tastefully decorated and embellished, and is quick to realize that doors trimmed with attractive and artistic hardware enhance the appearance of a single room as well as of the entire house.

And why should not hardware generally receive as much and more consideration than chandeliers or electric fixtures or railings, and be made a thing of beauty as well as usefulness, since everyone in the house looks at it and handles it many times each day? Indeed, many a building of quite indifferent appearance can be made attractive, or at least interesting, by trimming it with good, new hardware. This is particularly the case in most of our larger eastern cities, where the dismal rows of once fashionable brick and brown stone houses with high stoops and cast iron railings have absolutely nothing to attract the eye of the passer-by, or distinguish one house from the other. There, a set of artistic new door trimmings will give the house a distinction which will at once separate it from its languid and dreary looking neighbors. Here, indeed, is a good field for the wide-awake dealer in builders' hardware to get the owners of such buildings interested in the subject, and to convince them that the outlay for new and up-to-date hardware on his property is one of the best investments he can possibly make, and it is to be hoped that ere long those primitive looking styles of hardware which filled the bill in the days when any old thing would go, will disappear from sight and be replaced, even in the humbler homes, by hardware that is what it should be, a thing both of usefulness and beauty.

Just Between You and Me!

106

I N the blessed list of good things there are to be included some half dozen days when it is made a man's bounden duty to enjoy himself, and Thanksgiving Day easily heads them all. There is no casting about for some worn-out unattractive folly that we can safely spare to swear off as at New Year's; no such reckless expenditure as at Christmas; no conflicting tangle of thoroughly chastened sorrow and strenuous enjoyment as

on Decoration Day; nor are we in an agony of uncertainty as to whether our neighbor's boy will kill ours or our scion blow the lad next door off the

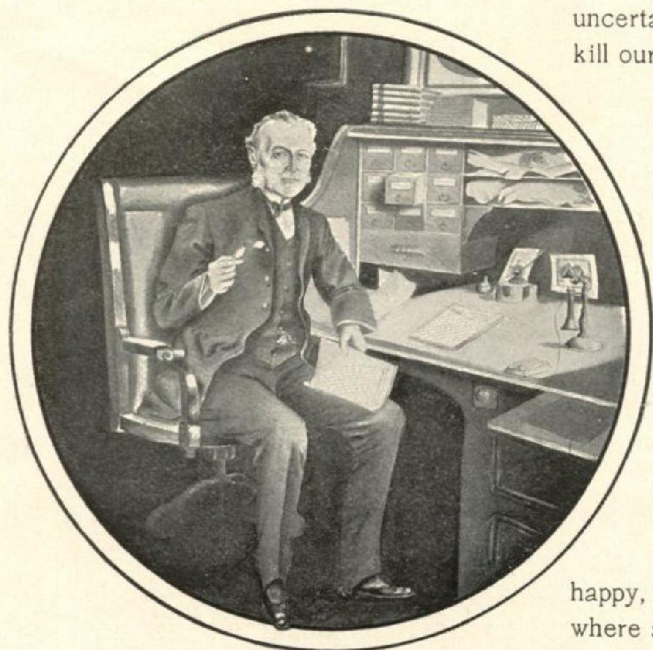
earth with gunpowder and a fool killer cannon. No! We get up an hour later than usual, eat a scant breakfast, see that the nuts are properly cracked, the big pan filled with red apples with polished cheeks and the jug of cider properly disposed—and then there is nothing to do for the rest of the day except to feel good. Just *good*—good clear through and so thankful for everything that it is a sheer impossibility to see

anything wrong in the universe anywhere. Never was so good a dinner cooked on any other day in the year; never was such a happy, jolly, carefree and good looking crowd anywhere as that about a Thanksgiving dinner table; and no day so chock full of enjoyment ever had so

little of a reactionary effect upon those who joined in its pleasures. Thank Heaven for Thanksgiving!

The ordinary man can't help being filled to the brim with thankfulness. He has been unconsciously training for the event for weeks—ever since his wife began to plan the dinner and figure on the number of extra leaves to put in the table. He has been called upon to decide whether oysters shall form a part of the turkey dressing; does he think there should be two kinds of pie as well as the pudding—pumpkin and mince, or mince and apple with a bit of cheese; would he serve the coffee with the dinner or with the nuts—and which would be better, *consomme* or blue points on the shell; can he get some of the extra nice celery from the old gardener on the big road; does he think Jim's wife will like her, and shall she do her hair low, and he *must* remember that the gravy goes on the meat and not on the potato. If by this time he is not thoroughly filled with the spirit of the day—but he is. No sane man could be otherwise.

In this world of sin, where the natural heart of man is evil, it is not often that duty and inclination are in full accord; hence the fact that it is laid upon him as a sacred charge to eat until he can hold no more, with the knowledge at beginning that the last swallow will taste just as good as the first and that no one was ever the worse for eating a rousing Thanksgiving dinner, makes the event peculiarly enjoyable. It is not on record that anyone ever was the worse for a good, honest American Thanksgiving dinner taken in any quantity.

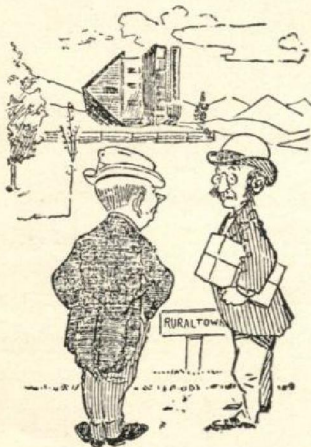


Another thing that makes the day so universally enjoyable is that it is so easy to be thankful—and the spirit that belongs especially to this festival is so natural to the healthy, normal human being. The person who cannot count up enough blessings to make it worth while is scarce. Mrs. Wiggs was thankful she hadn't a hare lip; the old darkey "thanked de Lawd dat he ain't nebber done los' his religion, dough he'd been a powahful sinnah an' bruk all dem ten comman'mints many an' many de time." I am glad that I am I, and Jones and Smith and Robinson are glad they are not I. I have an asset in my wife and boy that I would not exchange for Carnegie's millions—and he, doubtless, would be just as greatly disinclined to swap. There is a hope for the future—a chance ahead—for which I am thankful, and the months that have passed since last Thanksgiving have shown me so much of friendship and fellowship that I could blot out all that has passed before and still feel rich. He is poor indeed who has not a true friend, and if he has nothing else to be thankful for he can feel grateful for friends.

There is only one cloud on the horizon. It is rumored that the turkey crop is a failure. But this does not signify much, for Dame Rumor has it every year that there will not be turkeys enough to go around, just as she spreads the report each spring that the Delaware peach crop is killed. Yet there are always job lots of turkeys left over in the meat markets, just as there is a plenty of peaches in their season. And the bare possibility that there may be a disappointment will give us an added pleasure in the sight of the beautifully browned national bird resting on his back in the biggest platter, fairly bursting with "stuffin" and with his giblets chopped up in the gravy beside him.

THE MAN IN THE CORNER.

AS USUAL



Wesley. "Why, Louis, what's the matter with your house? Did it blow over?"

Louis. "No; I bought a book called 'Every Man His Own Architect,' and got the drawings upside down."

Our attention has been called to the fact that we inadvertently stated in our September issue that the Massachusetts State House was equipped with Corbin hardware throughout. It seems we were in error, having been misinformed in regard to the exact facts. Corbin hardware was used on part of the building, goods of various other makers being used on the rest.

THE CORBIN BINDER

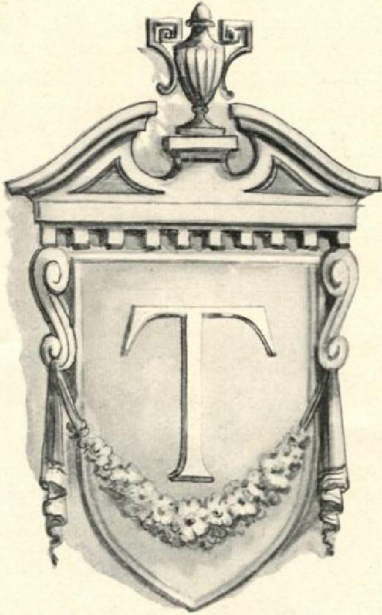


This is a very strong, neat binder made especially to fit THE CORBIN by the Barrett Bindery Co., of 180 Monroe street, Chicago, who have agreed to send them post-paid to purchasers for fifty-three cents each. One binder will securely hold four or five volumes.

Ornament in its Relation to Builders' Hardware

By C. J. M.

XVIII. COLONIAL STYLE



THE COLONIAL style as it presents itself to-day in our more modern buildings, especially private residences and country houses, is essentially an American product, for although its beginnings can be traced back to England and Holland, it is through the efforts of American architects and artists that it developed into what it is at present.

In the older Colonial work we notice two distinct types, namely the Dutch of the earliest Colonial times

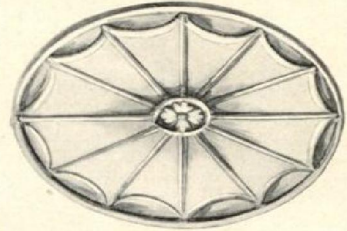
and the English of the the 18th century, the so-called Georgian. The work of the former period is commonly called "Dutch Colonial" and is noted for extreme simplicity and soberness, reflecting the tastes and character of the early Dutch and Puritan settlers, while the latter type of work, the Georgian, though chaste and moderate in its ornamentation, shows the Neo-Classic notions of Christopher Wren and his contemporaries, which prevailed in England during the greater part of the 18th century and it is from this source that most of the ornamental elements of the modern Colonial style have been drawn.

The general features of Colonial Art, as it comes under our observation in architecture, are a plain and dignified character and

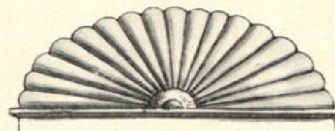
severe outline, somewhat akin to the Greek, in the ornament, however, although mostly made up of classical detail, it shows a more gingerly treatment and less elegance and vigor of line than its antique prototype.

Ornaments commonly used on Colonial hardware are the urn, light festoons of flowers, beads or tulips, wreath of laurel, and most of the Greek and Roman borders, like egg and dart, Lesbian cymatium, honeysuckle, etc.

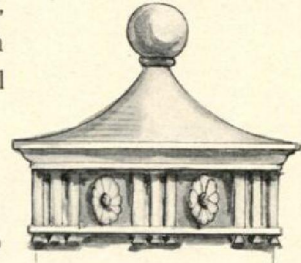
Some exceptional Colonial patterns are shaped after old hand-forged hardware of



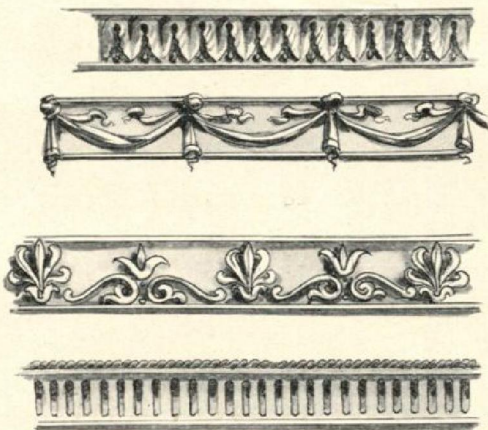
Oval Rosette



Sun Burst



Column Cap



Borders

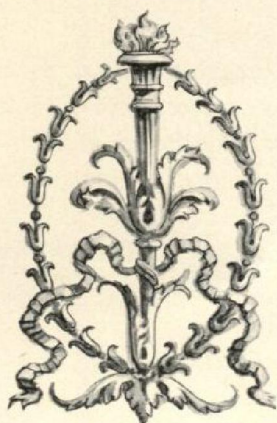


Typical Urn

much earlier periods, the Elizabethan and Dutch-Flemish in particular, and these of course show no connection with the antique neither in design nor treatment. Into this class belong those with plain open scrolls, hub nails, etc., and the old door latch patterns now very fashionable for Colonial buildings, and which are for the greater part, fac-similes

of hardware on old mansions and homesteads of New England and Virginia.

Most all plain hardware is appropriate for use on Colonial houses, but if ornamental goods are desired and a substitution must be made, an Adams or a plain Greek pattern will best go with Colonial.



Composite Ornament



Composite Ornament

A REVERSIBLE LEGEND

A Philadelphia judge was recently invited to deliver an address before the graduating class of a Southern law school. As he entered the commencement hall he read on the swinging door the word "Push." "That's a good text for my speech," he said to himself, as he related the story afterward. He began his remarks something like this: "Gentlemen of the Graduating Class: As I entered this beautiful hall a word met my eye which I would wish you all to take as a motto in your professional careers." Every one instinctively turned to glance at the door, the orator among the rest. There, on the inside, in letters only too easily read, was the inscription, "Pull." "It was a clean give away," said the judge later; "I'd let the cat out of the bag then and there, and there wasn't a thing to do but to confess."—*N. Y. Tribune.*

YE DOLEFULLE TALE OF YE COMBINATION LOCKE

There lyved a Freshe, a goodlie wighte,
Whose arme was softe as doughe;
Onne New Yeaere's eve he swore each daye
He to ye Gym wolde goe,
To gette ye brawne, ye goodlie brawne,
To laye ye Soph fulie lowe.

Untoe ye Clerke he smylng came,
And asked for hys keye,
"That I maye now my locker ope,"
Thus guilelesslie spake he.
Ye Clerke didde laughe a merye laughe,
Quothe he, "No keyes there be."

Ye Clerke hym gave a written carde,
Ywrit with numbers three,
"You turn ye knobbe this waye and that,
It wille ope easilie."
He left ye ladde, hys harte full sadde,
To think on whatte wolde be.

Ye Freshe he monkeyed with ye dore,
Yt yielded not one bitte;
He tore hys hare and through hys teethe
He madly murmured "Nit!"
Belyke ye guy who helde ace high,
He colde notte open itte!

I wiste whatte words ye Freshemanne spake
Were better lefte unsaide;
Hys reasonne tottered onne its throne,
He wildly shrieked fore aide.
And onne ye grounde in lyfeless swounde,
He laye as one stone deade.

E'en now inne padded celle he lyes,
And inne fancie ye knobbe turnes he.
Ye oathes that flye from hys foaming lippes
In soothe they manye be.
O! Freshemanne meeke, withe beardlesse cheeke,
Beware, leste suche you be.

—*Yale Record.*

Casement Windows and Their Trim

By J. D. B.

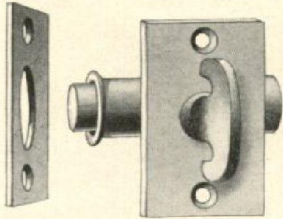
In Three Parts. Part III

IT should not be supposed, however, that the selection of suitable hardware for casement windows is necessarily confined to the particular numbers mentioned in this article. There is such a wealth of various articles made that can be used that it would almost seem like recapitulating a large portion of the catalogue to mention them all and consequently each individual must exercise a certain amount of discretion in choosing the most suitable material.

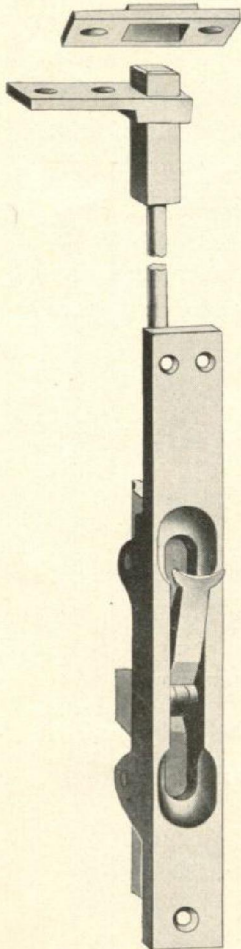
If the casement is very high and a bolt necessary at the top, the handle of which should come within easy reach, 01582 would answer nicely, for other sash a bolt like 0654 $\frac{1}{4}$ is sometimes used. And in place of Cremorne bolt 1993 there could be substituted bolt 1986 which is considerably less expensive. Where it is desirable to have a bolt on the edge of the sash that will lay perfectly flush use 2659.

What we say in relation to bolts would be true in regard to other styles of fastenings. It sometimes requires considerable force to properly close a casement and where something of this sort is desired we suggest pulls No. 4363 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 4366 $\frac{1}{2}$. To simply close the casement employ knob lock 1532 or 1533.

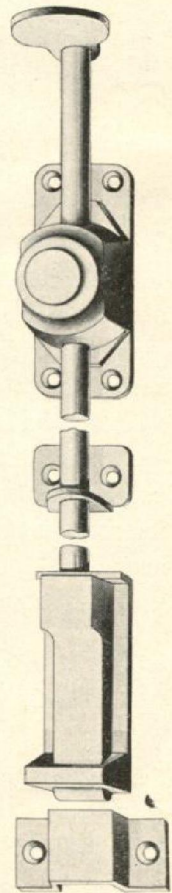
This is not intended by any means as an exhaustive article, simply suggestions of a number of our products suitable for this style of window. Everyone who has occasion to trim a building realizes how much care must be exercised to supply hardware that will work satisfactorily to the occupant. More trouble is probably experienced with casement windows than with any other portion of the house. If the hardware is unsuitable and prevents the sash being tightly closed or held firmly in place more or less trouble will inevitably follow and it will pay every time to take proper precaution to supply these windows with all the needful as well as absolutely suitable hardware material. To do this one must exercise good judgment and I have no hesitancy in stating my belief that the man who can successfully trim casement windows will have the good wishes and good will of architects, builders and owners alike.



No. 0654 $\frac{1}{4}$ Sash Bolt



No. 2659
Flush Sash Bolt



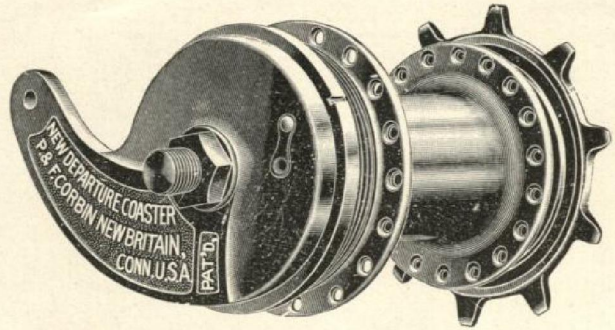
No. 01582
Surface Bolt



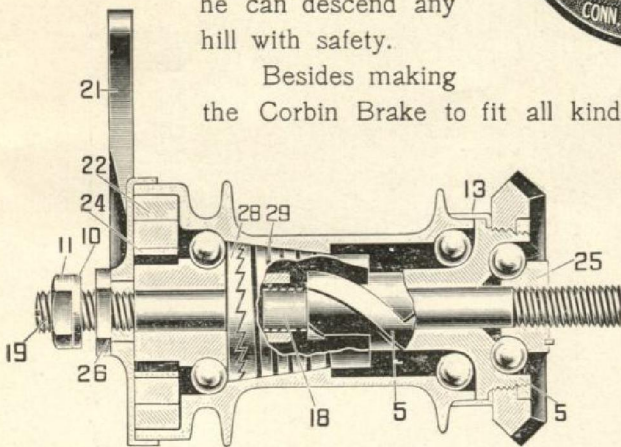
No. 4366 $\frac{1}{2}$
Window Pull

Corbin's Duplex 1903 Model New Departure Coaster and Brake

THE rider using the Corbin New Departure Coaster Brake soon learns its true value and finds it absolutely indispensable. He would as soon be without a wheel as not to have it so equipped. With this device he has perfect control of his wheel at all times, insuring freedom from accidents. His feet are on the pedals at all times, he can coast at pleasure, and the brake acts with such certainty that he can descend any hill with safety.



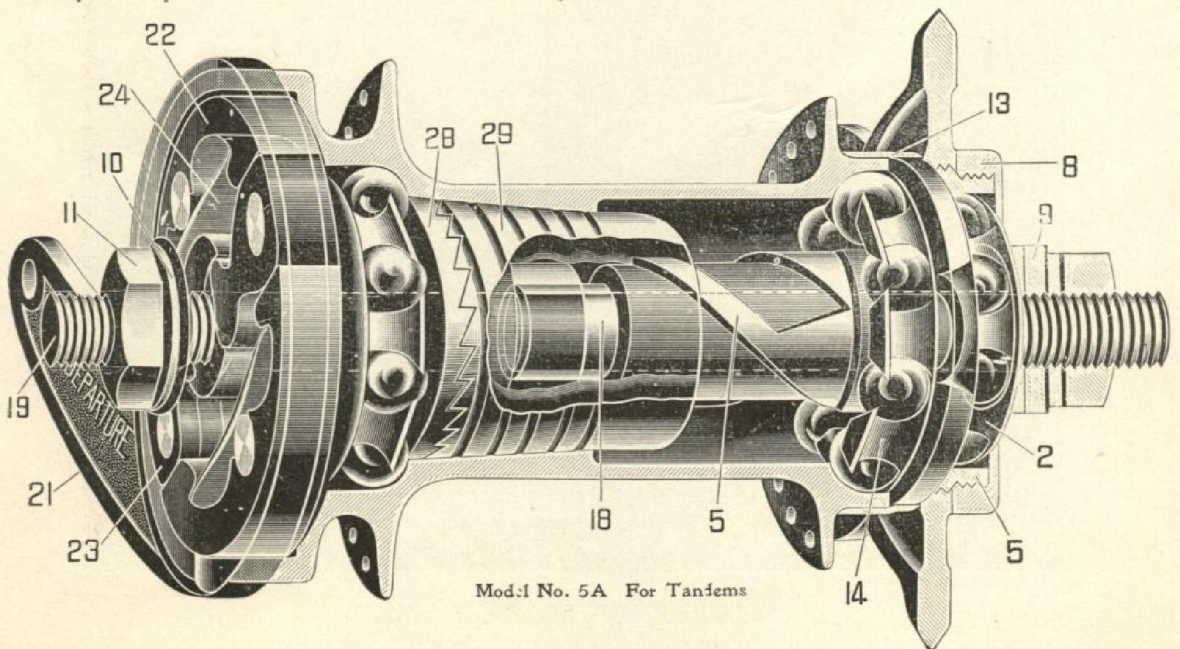
Besides making the Corbin Brake to fit all kinds of sprockets for chain wheels, we make them for chainless wheels, as here illustrated and described.



Model No. 5 For Chainless Wheels, Showing the Mechanical Construction

The chainless model differs from the chain model in the substitution of a gear for the sprocket, and the adjustment is on the left side instead of the right side, as on the chain model. Manufacturers of chainless wheels will apply the "Corbin Duplex" Brake when specified.

Also, we make a special model, No. 5A, illustrated below, for tandems. The construction of the Tandem Coaster Brake is the same as our Duplex Model No. 5. Catalogue containing full description will be sent upon request to The Corbin Screw Corporation.



Model No. 5A For Tandems



EMPIRE BUILDING, NEW YORK

Located at Rector street and Broadway

KIMBALL & THOMPSON, ARCHITECTS

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