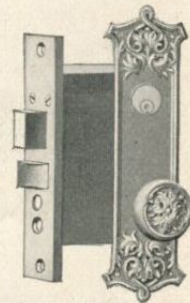
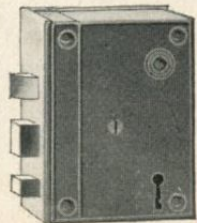
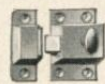
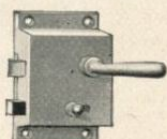
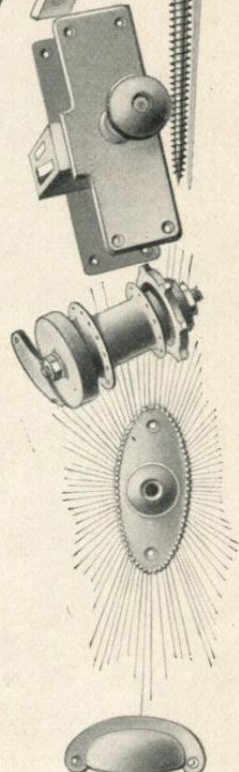
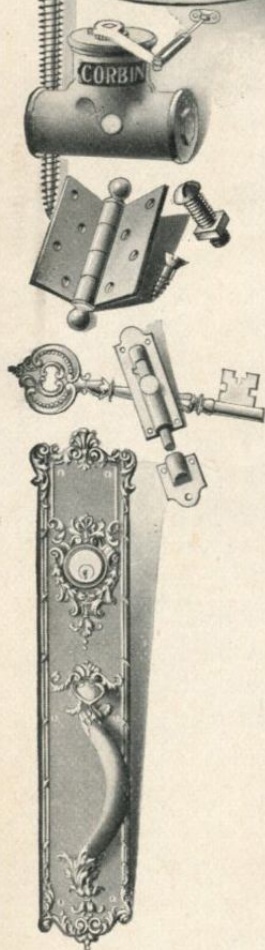




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The trees
that bear fruit
are alone
pelted with
stones.

The Corbin

A Monthly Chronicle of Things as we see them 35

VOL. I

JULY, 1902

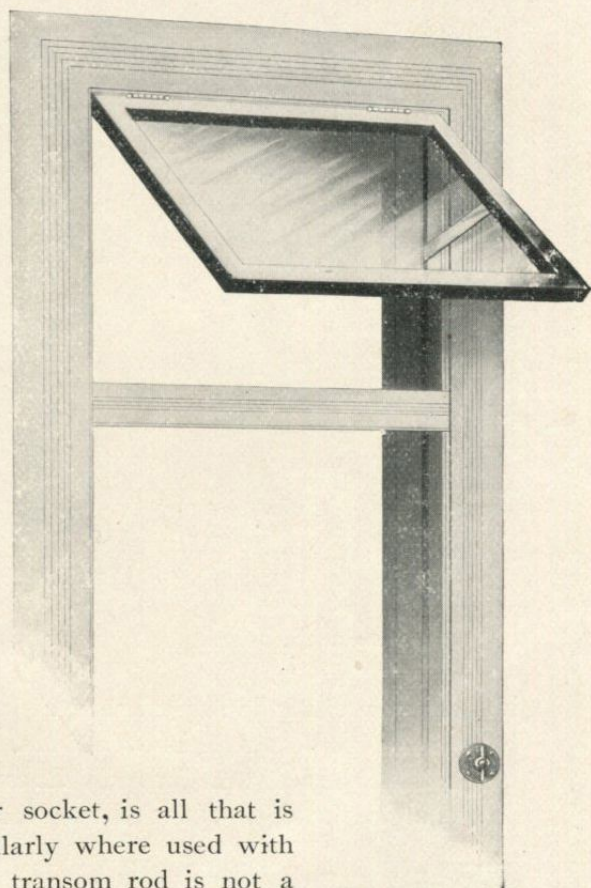
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The Corbin Concealed Transom Opener

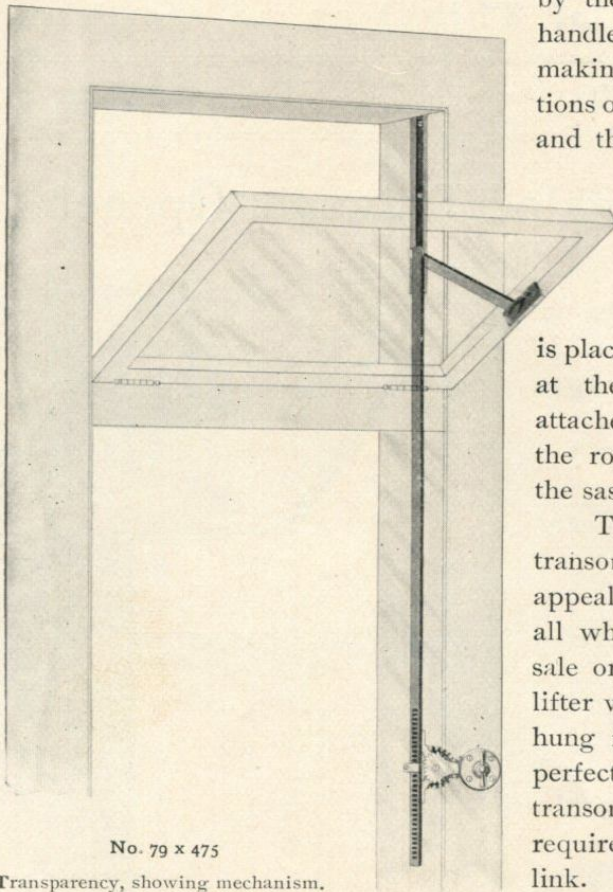
A RADICAL departure from the methods generally employed in governing the action of transoms is shown in the accompanying illustrations of our new concealed transom lifter, which is now for the first time brought to the notice of the trade. It is a new invention reaching the desired result in a new way rather than an improvement of the old style of transom rods, with which it has little in common, save the result attained. It is a logical conclusion of an original idea, carefully worked out along original lines.

The difference between this and lifters of other types that is most readily apparent is its invisibility. When the transom is closed, nothing is seen but the finely finished bronze metal handle on the side of the door or window casing. When the transom is opened, a flat steel bar or arm appears supporting the sash at one end. This, with the end plate or socket, is all that is seen—a fact of distinct advantage, particularly where used with fine wood or cabinet work. The ordinary transom rod is not a thing of beauty, however perfectly it may do its work. It is not capable of ornamentation except in color, and is distinctly out of harmony with the general effect. With the new Corbin lifter, it is possible to use handles and plates of various designs and finished to match the other hardware, and the harmony of the effect is enhanced instead of impaired by its use.

The mechanism at the top of the lifter gives other advantages. At the upper end of the rod, a guide slides up and down in a track and is connected with an arm, the outer end of which terminates in the plate attached to the transom. As the slide is moved up and down by raising and lowering the rod, the arm opens and closes the transom. There are no angles and turns in the arm. An increased rigidity and evenness of action are gained, a greater strength and more direct application.



The lower end of the rod is engaged by a gear which is connected with the handle pinion. As the handle is turned the rod is raised or lowered and the motion is communicated to the transom. The weight of the opened transom is sustained



No. 79 x 475

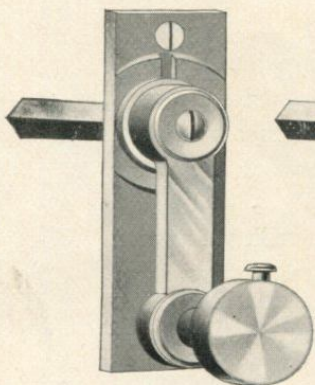
Transparency, showing mechanism.

by the gears and the pressure upon the handle is practically uniform at all times, making it easy to operate. Five revolutions of the handle fully open the transom, and the different handles lock the sash at 10, 20 or 40 points, as desired.

To apply the Corbin lifter a track is set in the transom frame under the stop, flush with the surface of the frame. The gear is placed within the door or window frame at the proper point, and the handle attached. The stop is recessed to receive the rod, and the end plate is attached to the sash.

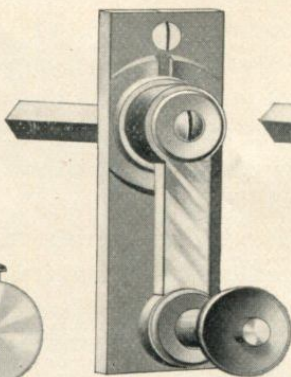
There is one feature of the Corbin transom lifter which will particularly appeal to the dealers, and is of value to all who have to do with its manufacture, sale or application,—and that is that one lifter will answer for all sizes of transoms hung from either top or bottom and is perfectly adjustable for all needs. For transoms hung on centers, the only change required is a shortening of the arm or link. By a simple reversal of parts it will swing a transom either in or out,

hinged from either top or bottom, and can be attached to transoms over windows hung on weights as well as over doors. The adjusting device in the gear permits the handle to be set in the center of the casing, the adjustment of the lifter as regularly made ranging from $\frac{7}{8}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches from face of frame to center of casing or handle plate.



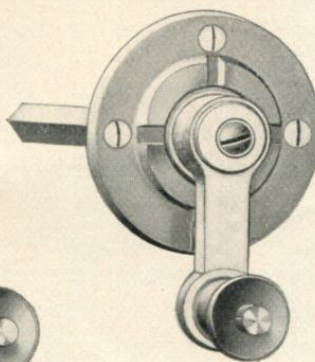
No. 476 $\frac{1}{2}$

To operate, press upon stop and turn.



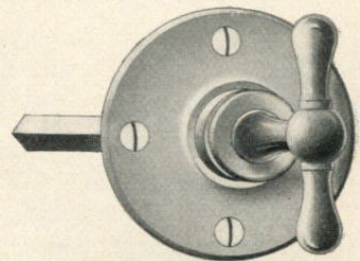
No. 476 $\frac{1}{4}$

To operate, press upon stop and turn.



No. 476

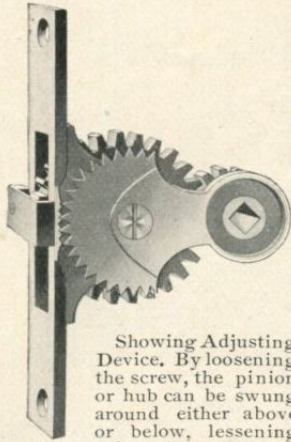
To operate, press upon stop and turn.



No. 475

To operate, pull upon handle and turn. Very rigid and positive in action.

HANDLES FOR THE NEW CORBIN LIFTER



Showing Adjusting Device. By loosening the screw, the pinion or hub can be swung around either above or below, lessening distance from face to center, as may be dictated by width of door casing.

Although this lifter is now first presented to the trade, it has for some time been "on private view." It has been shown to many of the leading architects, and its merits have secured for it favor where shown. It is in use upon a number of fine edifices, including the Union Trust building in Cincinnati, The Land Title & Trust Building in Philadelphia, the Continental Trust Building in Baltimore, and the residence of Mrs. Alfred Corning Clark, on Riverside Drive, New York. It has a field of its own, and it will soon become the standard device for governing the action of transoms upon buildings of all kinds of the better grade.

Prices will be quoted upon application.

Briefly summed up, the advantages of the new lifter may be stated thus :

- 1st. Hidden mechanism.
- 2nd. Opportunity for ornamental effect.
- 3rd. Increased strength and rigidity.
- 4th. Even and easy action.
- 5th. Perfect adjustability.



Land Title and Trust Building, Philadelphia
Equipped with the Corbin Concealed Lifter

Ornament in its Relation to Builders' Hardware.—II. Roman

By C. J. M.

Greco-Roman

ANCIENT Roman Art stands in closest relationship to the Greek, so much so that both are designated under the common name of "Classic Art." The Greeks, indeed, were the ones who transplanted their art on Italian soil and, during the first four hundred years of Roman history, all temples and buildings of any note were constructed mostly on the lines of Greek tradition. Thus the ornamental forms of the earlier Roman period are naturally almost identical with the Greek, hence the name "Greco-Roman."

Imperial Roman

It was only later, under the reign of the emperors, when, with Rome's undisputed mastery over the world, came a thirst for gorgeous display and splendor, which was not satisfied with the serene simplicity of the Greek conception of beauty, that ornament began to be more lavishly employed and enhanced as can be noticed on the capitals, friezes and mouldings of the Roman Imperial period.



Composite Husk Acanthus Husk



Combination Ornament of Acanthus
and Rosettes



Acanthus Leaf and Water Leaf



Framed Anthemion with Acanthus
Vine and Husk



Acanthus Leaf and Rosette

The Acanthus ornament in its various forms is then given a fuller, richer treatment, the vines often terminating in human or animal figures instead of flowers. The Egg and Dart, during the Greek epoch almost uniformly designed after one pattern, becomes more varied under Roman handling (see Egg and Tongue, etc.,) the Fret or Meander is interlaced with rosettes, stars or other figures; in short almost everywhere we encounter the tendency to elaborate the original Greek forms. The introduction of new deities from Egypt and other countries into the Roman cults brought into use a great number of symbolical and other ornaments, like the Sphinx, etc., that had not been employed during the earlier Roman



Sphinxes and Festoons

epoch, and helped to swell the store of ornamental forms of Greek and Roman art to that immense treasure from which posterity drew the greater part of its inspiration and as mentioned in a former paragraph, most of the succeeding schools of art, the Renaissance in particular have largely made use of the classic, i. e., Greek and Roman ornament.

Greek and Roman buildings, strictly speaking, are not being built to any extent at the present time, owing to the difficulty of adapting them to modern requirements.



Oak Leaf Border



Egg and Tongue Border

The use of Greek or Roman hardware confines itself, therefore, mainly to buildings in Neo-Greque or Neo-Classic, respectively, also to the so-called Hellenic Renaissance, and those modern composite styles where the Classic forms the main component part, (such as we see it in many of our modern public buildings, libraries, museums, art galleries, savings banks, etc.,) but its use is also permissible on the plain utilitarian buildings and business blocks that, owing to the absence of ornamental features, cannot be classed under any particular school of architecture, and where a moderately ornamental pattern is preferred to entirely plain goods.



The Corbin Prize Contest

At the time of going to press we are still receiving requests for plans and specifications and have issued nearly two-hundred sets. Among those expressing a willingness to enter the contest are good Corbin hardware men from all sections of the country, many of them of more than local repute. We are gratified to note the willingness of so many of the worthy members of the big family to give of their experience to help their younger brethren, and are sure the result will be of lasting value.

Before this issue reaches you, the contest will have closed, and the work of making the award will have been begun. As soon as a decision has been made, contestants will be duly notified, and the result will be published in the next issue of the Corbin. Measures have been taken to conceal the identity of the writers of the different articles, and the award will be made in accordance with the best judgment of men who are past graduates in the school of hardware experience.

An English Camp

There has lately been built by the English War Department at Salisbury Plain, a camp of one story buildings, for an army corps. The buildings are 534 in number, covered with corrugated iron, lined with felt. The iron, if laid out flat, would cover 47 acres. The hardware dealer will be interested to know that there are on the buildings 40,000 locks, bolts and latches, 7,000 hat and coat hooks, and screws by the million.

The Corbin

Published by P. & F. CORBIN

40 Manufacturers of Everything in Builders' Hardware

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104-106 Lake Street

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.

Help us to Help You!

IN these days of rush, when every energy is employed in an endeavor to keep from doing yesterday's work to-morrow, every false movement or bit of unproductive effort assumes an importance it does not have in ordinary times. Corners are cut close in every direction, new methods devised, and non-essentials lopped away, and everything possible done to facilitate the speedy handling of the business, and the improvement of the service.

Those things which are within our own establishment we can in some measure control—so far as the burden of the times will let us—but there are some other things which come under your jurisdiction in which a little thought and attention would aid us in serving you better and thus we would both be benefited.

From the salesmen and the branches comes the repeated request to THE CORBIN to "urge our customers to send in contract orders early." There is every reason why we should have all the time possible on work of this kind. Every departure from the regular order of making and packing goods requires special and separate treatment and takes time. Then, there is a vast increase in the use of special hardware requiring alterations in dimensions, new patterns, new designs, and at times the invention of entirely new articles to suit special needs. All of this takes time, even with the amount of experience in special work which the Corbin men in all departments have, and care used to get orders placed early will help to satisfy you and us and all concerned with the jobs, from owner down.

Again, care to give all the necessary information when requesting estimates or placing orders would save correspondence and delay. There is no portion of the hardware business which involves so great an amount of detail and technical knowledge as builders' hardware, and it is not surprising that vital particulars are often omitted from hardware schedules and orders, that numbers are wrongly written, and that specifications for special work are not always explicit. Still, absolute accuracy is necessary and no pains to secure it should be considered too great. 41

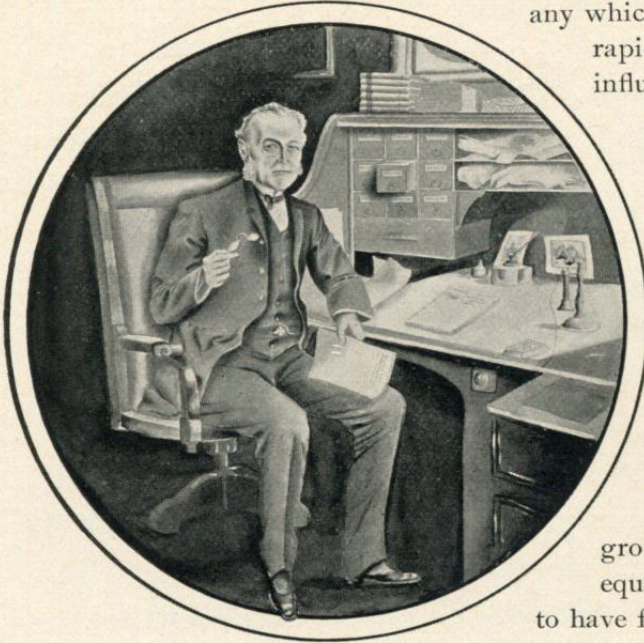
Again, it will often expedite matters if you will confine your letters to us to a single subject. Our business is in charge of two or three men, through whose hands it all passes, but the detail and the magnitude of it make it necessary to divide the work into departments. Thus matters relating to finances, orders, prices, purchases, manufacture, advertising, etc., are referred to different subordinates for attention, and a letter relating to several topics must be copied, torn asunder or passed from hand to hand, and each method causes loss of time.

And time is money these days, wherever a factory turns a wheel. There never was such an era of prosperity in this country and in the lack of precedent it could not be fully anticipated and provided for. Who could know that the re-bounce from '93 would be so sudden, that the hunger engendered in the lean years would so eagerly consume the country's stock of manufactured goods, and keep it so long on a hand-to-mouth basis? Even if we had known, what good would it have done? The country could no more have prepared for the flood of trade in the limited time since the last calamity than the mints could have replaced our bills with cold coin in the same period. We can only sit tight, do our best, increase our facilities as fast as possible, and work together in a spirit of rejoicing that the trouble is not one of "no demand" instead of one of "no goods." When the time comes (may it be far hence!) for the trade pendulum to swing the other way; when cancellations outnumber orders and it is like pulling teeth to collect outstanding accounts; when the merchant, standing in his warerooms, can almost hear the drop in prices and see his goods shrink in value—the fact that the factories did not keep his shelves piled high with goods will not seem so serious a matter as at present.

Just Between You and Me!

42

IF I were a young man in a hardware store, the possessor of a sound body, an active mind, an ambition to rise, and an insatiable appetite for work, I should try to take hold at the builders' hardware end of the business. There is no part of the trade that requires greater capacity, and few if any which offer equal inducements in the way of rapid promotion and a steady position with influence and responsibility. It is a separate and distinct calling with its own honors and advantages, and second in importance to no other.



There will never be too many really first-class builders' hardware men. The houses where they receive their training cannot educate them fast enough to supply the demand. The country is practically rebuilt thrice in a century, and each time on a more extended basis and a more magnificent scale. The rapid growth of American cities, never before equaled in the world's history, seems only to have fairly begun, and will continue so long as the country's resources are being so rapidly

developed. With the increase of riches comes a growth in refinement, and a higher ideal of living that finds expression in better buildings, with better hardware. Judging from the improvements of the past few decades, and the trend of the times, the builders' hardware man of the immediate future will have opportunities and advantages which will double-discount those of today and will give him all the chance for distinction he can desire.

The young fellow looking for a "snap" will do well to pass on, for he will find the builders' hardware business too strenuous to suit him. There is an endless amount of routine to the work, a wearying repetition of numbers and details, an endless succession of unfinished jobs to follow through to completion and anxieties which never leave the builders' hardware man free from chances to worry. If he is cast in a petty mould he can fret himself into an early grave. If he is made of the right stuff, and filled with the spirit that leads to success, he will look upon the hard plugging as a part of the day's work, getting out of it the pleasure there is in the meanest task well done, and finding compensation in the more agreeable features of the position.

It is this very abundance of detail, and the amount of technical knowledge required, that create the scarcity of good men and make the struggle worth the while. It is far easier for a builders' hardware man to pick up the rest of the business, if occasion requires, than it is for the man versed in the balance of the line to take up builders' hardware. There is very little in the entire establishment with which he does not have something to do at one time or another. Thus he gains a knowledge that stands him in good stead when men are chosen to fill the few places at

the top, although there are very few places in the establishment more to be desired than his.

A good builders' hardware man is a good fellow, and a gentleman. He must be to succeed, for he comes in contact with a class of people who will not tolerate boorishness. Architects and the most of their clients are people of education and refinement, and the man who wins their confidence must approach them with tact and courtesy. He may know his goods as he does his A-B-C's, but it will avail him nothing if he cannot show them aright and in a pleasing manner, and prove himself to be a man of discernment and taste. There is no part of the business where a pleasing personality and address are of such value.

A good man wields a great deal of power in his own field. He is deferred to by those among the architects who have learned that they can rely upon his judgment and his knowledge of the goods. The factory whose wares he handles likes to receive his orders, finding them free from incoherencies. His house finds it advantageous to let him carry the detail of his department without undue interference, and he is practically untrammelled. Matters find their level in the hardware business as elsewhere and merit has its proper recognition.

A good builders' hardware man must be backed with good goods, or his efforts are all thrown away. In fact if he is a good man he will insist upon having a good line, rather than stultify himself by trying to sell inferior goods by false representations. He cannot long be a good man if his statements are not backed up by the goods, but he either becomes known as tricky and loses his fair repute or is honest in his statements and gets no trade. Therefore, it is important for a young man embarking in builders' hardware to see that he is in a house whose goods he can cordially recommend. Such a line is Corbin's. It is comprehensive, covering everything required to trim any building of any kind; it is worth the price asked, the old rule of furnishing "something a little better than the other fellow for the same money" never being forgotten for a moment; it is modern in every particular, and its originality is proven by the great number of patents under which the goods are made. A good man and the Corbin hardware form a combination hard to beat.

THE MAN IN THE CORNER.

The Plans for the Negro Building at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis will be drawn by negro architects, the building will be erected by negro mechanics, the exhibits will be collected and classified by negroes, and the management of the building will be entirely in the hands of the negroes.

A Binder for the Corbin

The Barrett Bindery Co., of 180 Monroe St., Chicago, have made an Emerson Binder of special size to hold the Corbin, and have given it a number—No. 1589. They will mail one of these to anyone sending them fifty-three (\$0.53) cents, to cover cost and postage. It is a neat and strong binder with the title of The Corbin in gold leaf upon the front, and holds the copies as perfectly as in a book.



The Ramsey Swinging Pedal

THERE is perhaps no bicycle accessory, the use of which is optional with the rider, that is more universal than the Ramsey swinging pedal. Wherever cyclists congregate it is in evidence in goodly numbers, showing the wide-spread appreciation of its advantages by the man awheel. The old trick of uptilting a

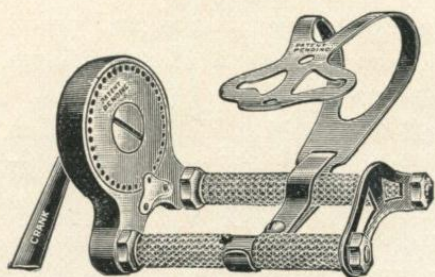


Figure 1.

Model A Pedal with Model 1 Toe Clip

pedal by a kick and slipping the toe into the clip as it came uppermost has gone out of fashion, and the straight push on the pedal with a stiff ankle has given way to the graceful ankle motion made easy and natural by this device. With the single exception of the coaster brake, the Ramsey Pedal has done more to reduce the fatigue of long rides than any other single invention of recent years. The coaster brake reduces the amount of pedalling; the Ramsey pedal halves the labor of the remainder.

Besides the manifest advantage of having a pedal which is always right side up, there is a great gain in the amount of leverage obtained and the grace and ease of movement. With the old style of movement with the old style of pedal, having the pivotal point below the ball of the foot, the rocking of the pedal increases the leg action with no compensating gain in power. In the Ramsey pedal, the swinging of the pedal, which is below the pivotal point and in direct alignment with the line of push increases the impetus, gives greater leverage and decreases the reach or lift of the knee. The increased power makes it possible to use a high gear, with less fatigue than with a low gear and the straight pedal. The rider has greater equilibrium because he sits nearer the ground, and he has a greater control of his wheel.

There are many other advantages which this pedal offers its user. There are different models for frames with different drop; the knurled tread bolts shown in the illustration can be furnished in four lengths for different widths of shoe, and the connecting plate on the end can be bent to give a closer fit. Tread bolts can be turned to present an unworn surface or covered with a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch rubber tube. The rat-trap patterns can also be equipped with rubber treads. Toe clips are made for all styles, and screws with different threads permit the use of the Ramsey Pedal on wheels of all makes.

Figure 2 illustrates the positions of both the old and the new pedals where a strong "pull" or "drive" is exerted at the lower portion of the circle of the crank or when the leg is at full reach. It is obvious that the downward rock of the old pedal increases the reach of the leg and foot practically about three-quarters of an

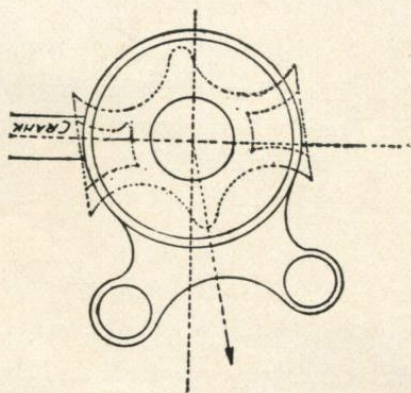


Figure 2

Illustrating the difference in reach, swing and push between the Ramsey Swinging Pedal and the old straight type.

inch and, that the movement of the foot, in order to obtain this position, is backward or directly opposite to the natural momentum of the foot in describing the circle. These two defects rob this important position of its practical effectiveness

on the old pedal. On the other hand, the Ramsey Pedal swings up instead of rocking down, thereby decreasing the reach of the leg and foot about three-quarters of an inch until the two pedals are practically on the same level. Again, the movement of the foot in obtaining this position on the Ramsey Pedal is in harmony with the movement of the foot in describing the circle, thus increasing the momentum instead of decreasing it and rendering possible and far more effective this strong hill-climbing position.

When it is remembered that on a wheel geared to 76 the pedals revolve about 250 times per mile, the importance of the above points becomes wonderfully apparent.

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate the difference in natural ankle motion between the Ramsey and the ordinary pedals. The backward rocking motion of the ordinary pedals as shown on the preceding page makes it difficult to acquire ankle motion, while the forward under swing of the Ramsey Pedal makes the use of the ankle natural and easy. It is not uncommon for a rider when climbing a hill to apply a pressure on the pedals for 250 degrees of the circle. Over 25 per cent. more propelling power can be obtained than by the best ankle motion on other pedals, and the average rider, who does not acquire ankle motion, gains over 40 per cent. propelling power.

The marked contrast in propelling power obtained from a given pressure shows a startling result. The average leverage of a six and a half ($6\frac{1}{2}$) inch crank from 12 to 6, with the line of pressure as indicated in Figure 2, is only about four and three-twentieths ($4\frac{3}{20}$) inches. Moreover, an average pressure of fifty pounds applied on the swinging pedal develop more propelling power than one hundred pounds applied on any other. Hence, it will be seen that the direction of the pressure is equally as important as its magnitude. The shaded portions of the diagrams show the portion of the circle over which power is applied. It will be seen that with the Ramsey Pedal more than half of each revolution is used in driving the wheel forward, the pressure upon one pedal beginning before the pressure upon the other is ended, making propulsion continuous.

With the old style of pedal, power is applied for less than half of each revolution, leaving a perceptible interval between the ending of the pressure upon one pedal and the beginning of the pressure upon the other, causing a "dead center."

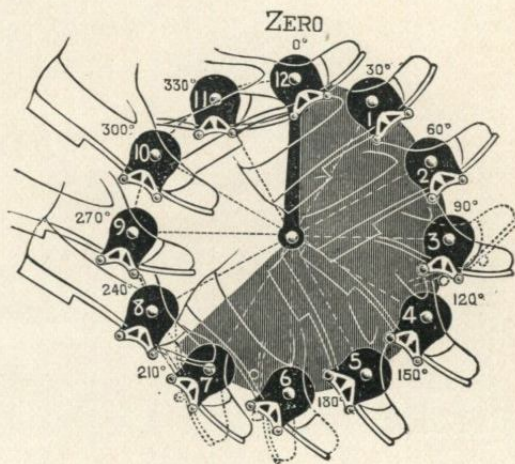


Figure 3

Twelve positions of the foot on a Ramsey Pedal in describing a circle, with automatic ankle motion.

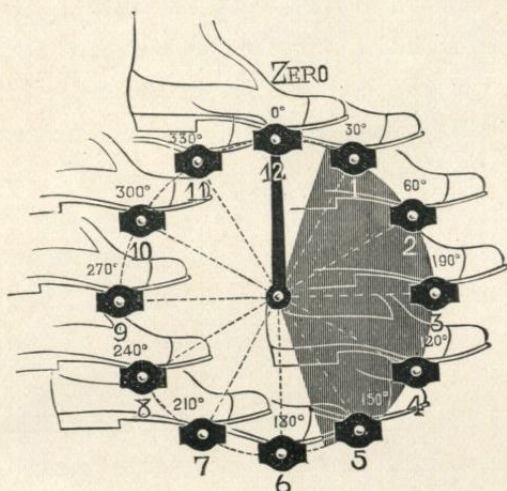
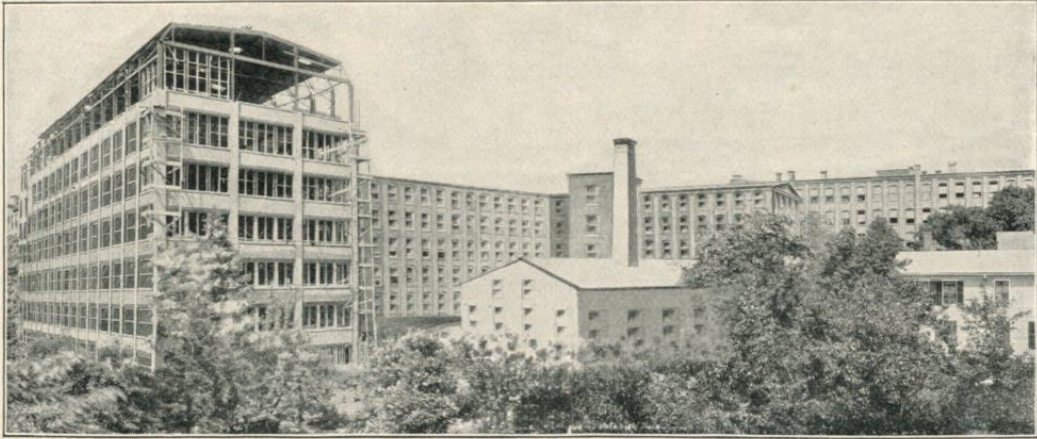


Figure 4

Twelve positions of the foot on an ordinary pedal in describing a circle, with straight push.

Our Newest New Building

46



The building as it appeared June 1st, 1902

EARLY in January last, work was begun upon an addition to our factory which will materially enlarge its capacity; a steel frame and brick building 200 feet in length by 60 feet wide, and seven stories high, connected on all floors with other buildings. The illustrations showing the stage of construction at two dates so near together serve to indicate the energy with which the work is being carried on. It is hoped to have the building occupied by July 5th.

This is probably the largest and tallest factory building in the state, and the fact that it is the third large addition to the Corbin plant in three years, demonstrates the efforts that P. & F. Corbin are making to provide facilities for the proper care for the wants of their friends in the trade in these busy times. It will provide sufficient room to allow for the expansion of all departments where increase of capacity is needed, for new packing and shipping rooms and for the new work which is being constantly added to the scope of Corbin operations.



Showing stage of operations on March 15th, 1902

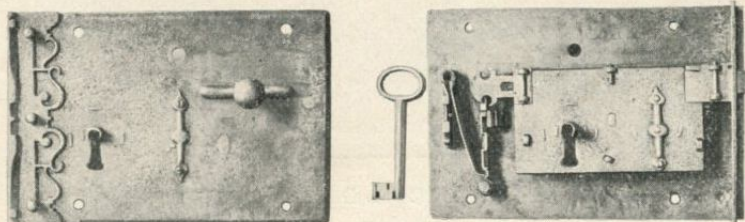
The building is of fire proof construction, and the staircase and main elevator are placed in a fire proof stack in the center of the building. The floors are seven inches thick and made water-proof. To gain all the light possible there is but two feet of space left between windows, and a row of skylights just under the roof gives additional lighting surface on the top floor.

Two Sixteenth Century Locks

WE have lately come into possession of two interesting old locks from Heeswijk Castle, in North Holland. They are strong and massive, with hand-forged parts throughout, including the plates and knobs, the marks of the hammer being plainly discernible. The locks are pitted with rust and bear the marks of the centuries of use, but they are in perfect working order and show no signs of repairs.

The knob is affixed to the bolt in each, and slides with it as in the ordinary modern cupboard catch. When the knob of the lock in figure 2 is pushed back to

47



Inside

FIGURE 1

Outside

This lock weighs 16 pounds. It is $9\frac{1}{8} \times 14\frac{3}{8}$ inches in size, and measures $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches from the inside surface to the end of the tube on the outer side.

The key weighs $6\frac{1}{2}$ ounces; it is $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the bow.

withdraw the bolt a hole is uncovered into which a pin can be thrust to hold back the bolt. There is no knob on the outside of either lock, a second turn of the key withdrawing the bolt and performing this knob-function as in some modern front door locks. When the key is turned to lock the door the bolt is thrown forward double the distance when used as a latch, rendering the knob inoperative. A pressure upon the end of the bolt will not force it back, the key being required to withdraw it.

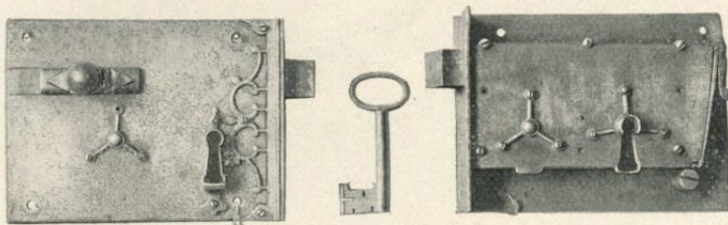


FIGURE 2

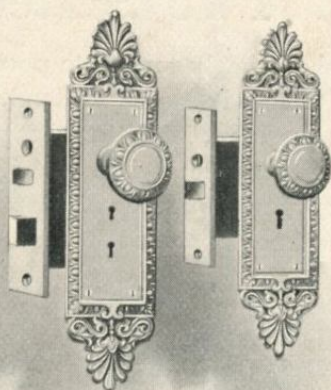
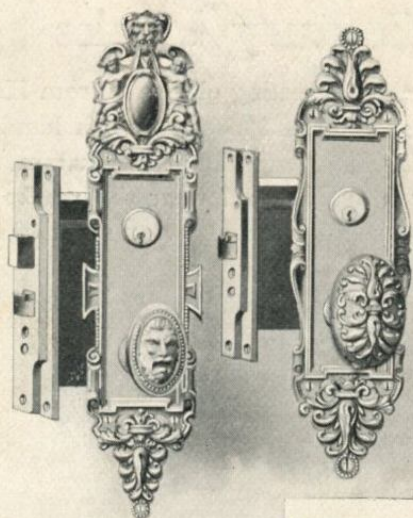
This lock weighs 16 pounds. It is $8\frac{1}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches in size and measures $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches from the end of the outside tube to the inner surface of the lock.

The key weighs 8 ounces. It is $5\frac{7}{8}$ inches in length and $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches across the bow.

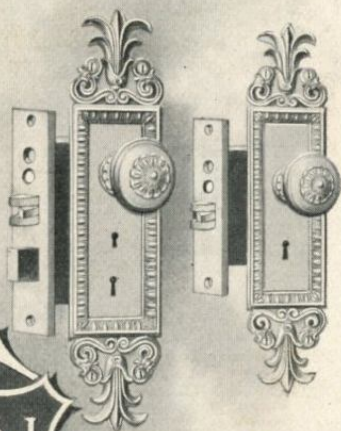
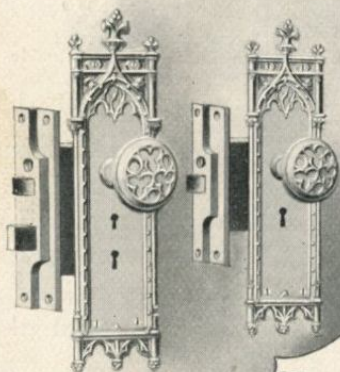
Each lock has a lip on the face engaging the inner edge of the strike. The slots in the rude screws are cut with a chisel.

The keys have drilled bitts, and are hand-forged and the bitting shows the form of the wards in the lock designed to give security.

These were evidently good locks for the 16th century; placed beside the 20th century Corbin Unit lock they form an interesting basis for comparison. Both are fitting exponents of the ages they represent,—one, the product of an age of force, strong to withstand assaults but giving little protection against cunning; the other giving a greater solidity with the minimum of bulk, and absolutely proof against guile or force. The world “do move.”



Some Corbin
FRONT AND
VESTIBULE DOOR
LOCK SETS



ORBIN

