

THE CORBIN



VOL. 1

NO. 9

JANUARY, 1903

"A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market."

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The Corbin

131

A Monthly Chronicle of things as we see them

VOL. I

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Corbin Ball Bearing Pulleys

W.R.C.

PEOPLE in general are better acquainted with window sash hardware than perhaps anything else in the mechanical line.

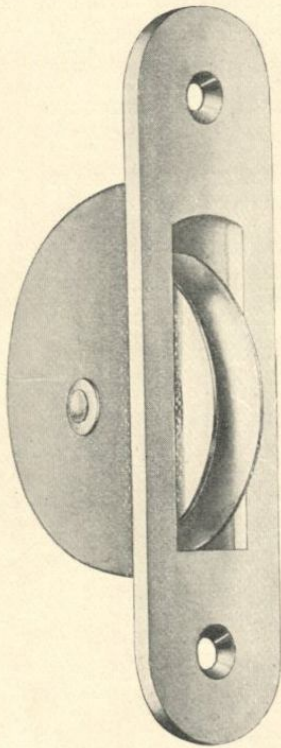
Few persons pass a day of their lives without opening or closing a window or locking it. If it does not operate right it is a perpetual annoyance. If the fault lies in the sash fastener or in the sash balance it will start the inventive mind to thinking of improvements. The fact that this is constantly happening is evinced by the number of patents that are being taken out for sash fasteners, pulleys, lifts and balances. These are in most cases worthless because, while they may satisfy the one condition that has bothered the inventor, yet he loses sight of the fact that there are many other conditions of which he is ignorant.

No radical change has been made in sash hardware for a good many years. Windows are almost universally balanced by a weight concealed in the casing connected to the sash by a rope or chain which goes over a pulley. Spring balances are used in places where it is desirable to use a plank frame instead of a box frame in order to gain a little in the width of the window.

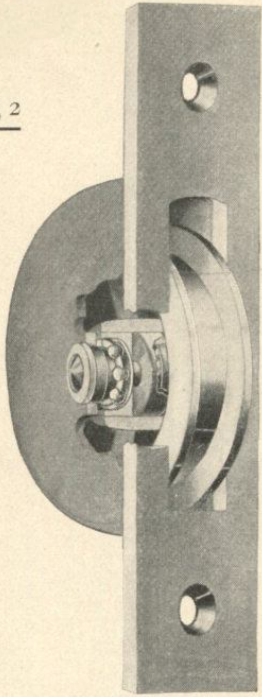
In raising or lowering a window balanced by a weight, the pulley must make from three to five rapid revolutions. No one ever thinks of oiling it unless it squeaks and even then the excuse might be offered that it is a good burglar alarm. If the pulley wears so that it does not turn freely and true, it will cause the rope to jump the flange of the pulley and wedge between the case and the wheel. If the pulley sticks it will wear the rope, besides making the window work hard.

To overcome these difficulties antifriction bearings have been devised to put into all the better grades of axle pulleys.

The Corbin ball bearing pulley is of very ingenious and simple construction, as is seen from cut upon the following page. Two hardened and ground steel ball cases are forced into the counter-bored holes at the ends of the hub of the pulley. The balls are held in ball retainers and run on the hardened and ground cones which project through holes in the case. A pin holds the balls in rolling contact between the ball cases and cones. There is no other contact and therefore there is almost no friction.



No. B 3726½
Ball Bearing Pulley



No. B 630
Ball Bearing Pulley
Sectional View
showing Arrange-
ment of Bearings

The Corbin ball bearing pulley is reliable, durable, compact, sensitive and easily set up. It is the best thing on the market with which to balance a window and it always pays to buy the best that is within reason.

The Wells Building, Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE has an office-building which it justly regards with pride and which because of its size, its color and its imposing appearance, is easily the most prominent building in the city. Its seventeen stories rise one hundred and ninety-eight feet above the street. Each of its three hundred and fifty offices is lighted from the outside, the building being so arranged that a light-well in the center is rendered unnecessary. The entire exterior is walled in white glazed terra cotta, which is impervious to the weather, and will preserve its color unchanged so long as the building stands. The use of terra cotta in architectural work is not uncommon, but it is said that this is the first instance on record where a building of such size and importance has been housed in this substance alone. It is fireproof, with concrete laid between ceilings and floors, partition walls of fireproof tile, and metal sashes and window casings on the lower ten stories.

Bears and wolves, pine cones, wheat and corn sheaves are seen in the ornamentation, as well as the more conventional forms of architectural adornment. Each corridor has its drinking-fountain of filtered water, and all offices have hot and cold water, fuel gas and compressed air. In the basement are the vaults of the Wisconsin Fidelity Trust and Safe Deposit Co. and the swimming-tank of the Milwaukee Athletic Club, this latter organization occupying the upper two stories, which were especially fitted up for its use.

The architects were given *carte blanche* as to materials, and were in no wise restricted in making the plans for the building, and as a result the building contains throughout the best of everything procurable, and is strictly modern. P. & F. Corbin's hardware is used throughout, in the familiar American design (plain with beveled edges and round corners) the locks being of the Unit type. In its description of this building the Milwaukee Press says, under the heading "Safety Prevails:—"

"There is no building in Milwaukee, and for that matter in the United States, in which the hardware throughout is of more attractive character, yet dignified simplicity, than the Wells Building. All of this was manufactured by P. & F. Corbin of New Britain, Conn., and furnished by the Peter Paulus Hardware Company of Milwaukee.

"The most striking feature of the hardware is the lock construction, famous as the 'Corbin Unit Type,' which, in addition to the unequalled fitting of its mechanism, and its long concaved swinging latch bolt, which by a simple added mechanism is invulnerable against the most extraordinary efforts to overcome, has the added novelty and convenience of having all the key mechanism located in the door knob. Every lock is intended to assure each tenant undoubted security, yet



Architects, H. C. & Armand D. Koch.

Samuel J. Brockman, Supervising Architect.

THE WELLS BUILDING

at the same time all of these locks in the building are subject to one master key, in the possession of the owners, for use in proper emergency.

“The buildings P. & F. Corbin have equipped with these locks during the past two years include practically all of any prominence, principal among which might be singled out the H. C. Frick Building, Pittsburg; the Pennsylvania R.R. Company’s million dollar office and Union Depot structure; the Hanover National Bank Building, New York, twenty-three stories high, and the Marshall Field Building, Chicago.”

Double Doors and Their Trim

IN TWO PARTS

By C. G.

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PART II. FRONT DOORS OPENING OUT, SLIDING DOORS, DUTCH DOORS

WHILE the majority of front entrance doors are trimmed with the regulation knobs and escutcheons, in some cases these doors are made to represent storm doors and open out; and in order to carry out the storm door effect these should be trimmed with store door handles and No. 1347 or 1347½ locks. These

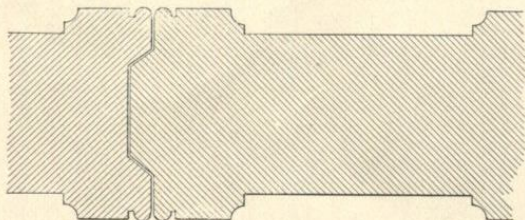
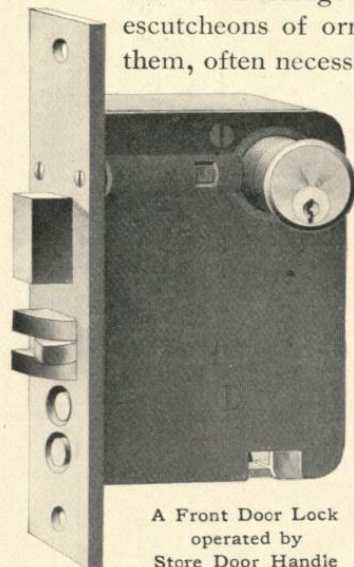


Fig. 5. A Sliding Door Front for Flat-Face Lock

are similar to Harvard store door locks, but made with a stop in the face which shuts off the operation of the latch bolt by the outside handle, the key operating both the latch and dead bolt, as in the Harvard front door lock. No. 1347 has a cylinder on each side. No. 1347½ has a cylinder on the outside only, the dead bolt being operated from inside by a thumb piece or mortise bolt knob. Handles are furnished in all schools of design. For a door of this kind it is well to furnish a door check secured on the inside by means of a bracket and door stops and hooks combined to hold doors open when required, such as No. 0369 or No. 0370.

There are shown herein two types of double sliding doors. The first, illustrated in figure 5, is a type on which a flat front lock is used, the friction molding extending around the entire face of the door and preventing the stiles, panels and cup escutcheons from contact with the pocket when being closed. These friction moldings also give clearance and make it possible to use cup escutcheons of ornamental designs which, in the case of doors without them, often necessitates the use of plain, square-edge cups let in flush with the door, as the character of the ornamentation on the majority of the ornamental sliding door escutcheons prevents this being done.



A Front Door Lock operated by Store Door Handle

No. 1347 has two cylinders
No. 1347½ has cylinder outside
thumb piece inside

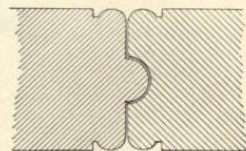
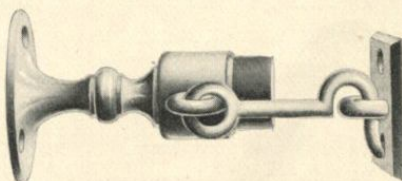


Fig. 6.
A Sliding Door Front
for Astragal Lock

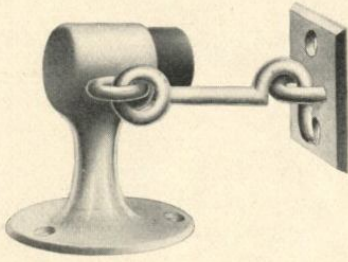
The second, shown in figure 6, is a type of double sliding door known as astragal meeting stiles.

The width of stiles of sliding doors, both double and single, should always be carefully considered, as it is essential that the escutcheon should be placed in the center of the stile. Sliding door locks are made to meet these requirements in variations of ¼ inch, such as 2, 2¼, 2½, 2¾ inches and so forth, from face to center of keyhole.



Door Stop to be attached to Base Board
No. 0369

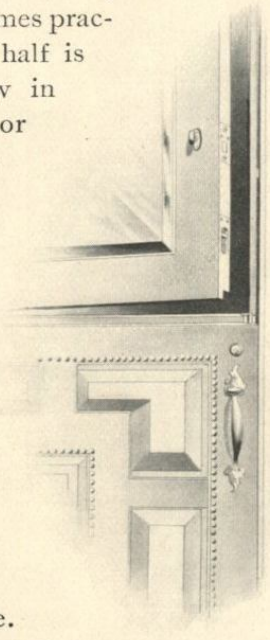
In Dutch entrance doors, some builders' hardware men consider that an ordinary mortise bolt is all that is necessary in addition to the regular front door lock.



No. 0370. Door Stop
to be attached to Floor

We should say that inasmuch as this style of door is divided in two, it becomes practically two doors until the top half is bolted to the lower half. Now in furnishing hardware for a door or even a window of the dimensions of the upper half of a Dutch door, a flush bolt at the bottom would hardly be considered security enough, but in the ordinary course

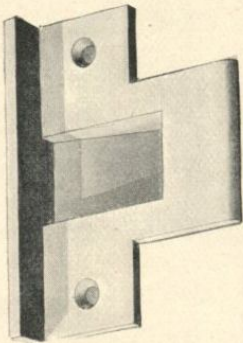
of events this door or window would be secured to the jamb by a lock or bolt and not by a bolt to the sill; consequently, in the case of a Dutch door without a bolt locking the upper portion into the jamb, that portion of the door would be left insecurely fastened. An ordinary mortise bolt would secure the upper half and as this is the last leaf to close the rabbet would prevent the lower half being opened, and make access from the outside impossible. Using a dead lock with a thumb-piece in the inside gives the same operation as a mortise bolt and prevents the possibility of the owner or occupant being locked out, the key of the front door lock being first inserted to throw back the bolt on the upper half and then to operate the lock on the lower half.



Dutch Door,
illustrating
Trim Suggested

The Strike Used with Corbin Unit Lock

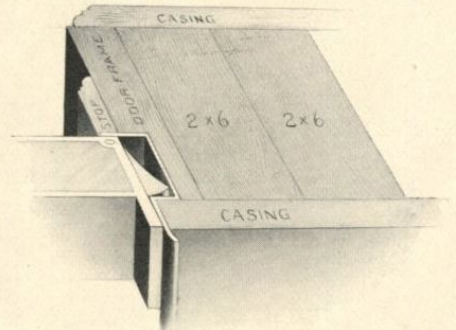
THE Corbin Unit Lock possesses a feature of unusual merit in the form of the strike employed, which prevents tampering with the latch from outside, and holds the door firmly against the stop. The neatly backed pocket covers the hole made in the casing to receive it, and presents an unbroken metal surface, besides entirely covering the protruding bolts.



Strike One-Third Size

When the door is closed the edge of the lock rests against the lip of the strike and the inner side or top of the latch touches the edge of the pocket, holding the door tightly closed and preventing rattling or draughts.

The lip serves also as a protection. In most cases the door stop is nailed on, as illustrated, and if the lip were not there to prevent it would be easy to slip a thin, flat piece of steel between the stop and the casing, pressing back the latch and releasing the door; but the angle made by the lip, together with the close contact between lock and strike, make this portion of the lock as burglar-proof as any other.



The Corbin

Published by P. & F. CORBIN

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Manufacturers of Everything in Builders' Hardware

Main Office and Factory, New Britain, Conn.

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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.

Keep the Shelf Boxes Filled

IN a certain city of medium size there are three hardware stores. Two of them are run in connection with wholesale establishments and have the jobbing stock to draw upon for supplies, while the third does a purely retail business. All handle tools of the same brands and builders' hardware of about the same grade, and all are competing for the same trade. The simon-pure retailer gets the bulk of it, although his capital is much less than that of his neighbors, he does less advertising, and has no outside salesmen (which both of the others have); and the reason is simply this:—

His stock is carried upon the shelves of his store and his customers are served instantly. In the other stores, the clerks have grown to depend upon the reserve supply, letting the stock upon the shelves run low, and causing vexatious delays to customers.

No man wants to wait while a clerk runs back into the warerooms for an article he has bought, and if he knows that in another store he will not be subjected to delays, he is pretty sure to transfer his custom there. Particularly is this the case with mechanics and builders, who are busy men and begrudge the time spent away from their work.

It is not the easiest thing to keep a hardware retail stock in shape since all the clerks sell from any part of the store indiscriminately, and the clerk in charge of each stock has to pick up and keep in order goods handled by others who are not careful regarding the amount

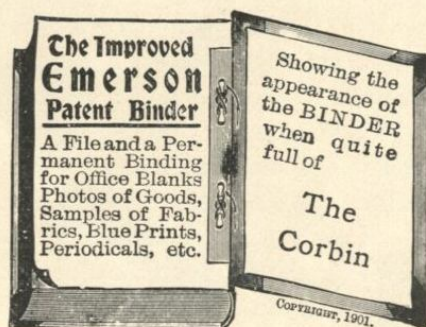
of work they make, but the fact that it is sold from indiscriminately makes it all the more important that it should be kept in order so that the man least familiar with the goods can find at once what he wants. No excuse should be accepted for empty shelves or packages in disorder, for a poor stockman in an important line can by his neglect cost his employer many times the amount of his salary, in diverted trade, and make void his best efforts to increase his business. It is much harder to regain a customer who leaves dissatisfied with his treatment than it is to create new trade, and the word of a disgruntled purchaser will often carry more weight than that of the merchant.

If the stock on the shelves is broken, there is danger that a clerk who does not know of the over-stock will tell the customer "We are out of it," when such is not the case. An indifferent clerk, or a too busy one, will be tempted to do the same, particularly where the intended purchase is trifling. Most merchants can tell of customers turned away needlessly through carelessness of clerks, and he whose stock is in bad order may be certain that he loses trade thereby.

The first of the year is a time for cleaning out bins and coops and arranging stock in the best possible order for inventory. Then, if ever, there is reason for letting the stock behind the shelves run low, since it is easier to inventory full cases and packages than broken lots and fractions of dozens. With every drawer and box cleaned out and the store in the highest possible state of neatness and order, it is a good time to establish a standard, and with the shelves filled with bright, new packages to instill into the minds of clerks the advisability of keeping things up to standard.

The Corbin Binder

THE CORBIN binder costs \$0.53. It has a cumulative value, as number after number of THE CORBIN is fastened within its covers, and the store of builders' hardware knowledge increases. The series of articles on trimming of openings is alone worth many times the cost of the cover, as you will find. The Barrett Bindery Co., 180 Monroe St., Chicago, Ill., fills all orders promptly.



Just Between You and Me!

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BY the time this reaches you, you will have learned to write 1903 without making a bad 3 out of a final 2; you will have become reconciled to the New Year's bunch of bills and if you are thrifty you will have turned them into receipts; you

will have forgotten your ephemeral New Year's resolutions and voted that a diary is a bore, and the usual non-essentials will have begun to show up in your cash account. New

Years, with its bad half hour with disappointed hopes and unpleasant retrospect will be forgotten and its influence will have been largely dissipated by the force of habits and associations and the pressure of events.

It is greatly to be regretted that New Year resolutions are so friable. It is a matter for greater regret that the value of a year is so little recognized and that the least weight is attached to its passage by those to whom it means the most. To the mature, a year is simply three hundred sixty-five days and some odd hours and minutes spent in established pursuits

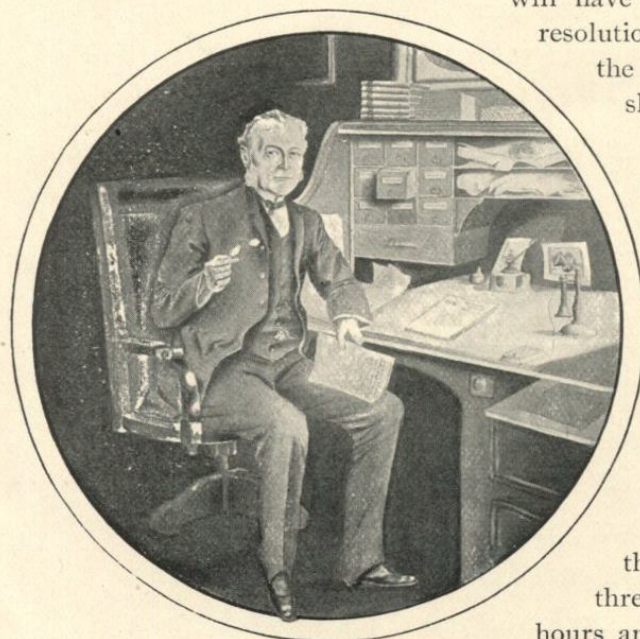
and customs and its changes are wrought mainly from with-

out, but to a young man a year is of vital importance, for it is filled with first experiences and impressions and sets its mark indelibly upon his character. Its effect upon his later years can no more be altered than the year can be lived over again and in his future conduct and career its use or abuse will be evident to all who care to see.

On the opposite side of a street car recently, there sat a Latinian peddler whose face was covered with blue tattooemarks. Near him sat a man in middle life upon whose face the years had set their imprint as definitely as the pattern wrought in pigments upon the cheeks and forehead of the peddler, and better — much better — would it be for him if he could exchange the marks of a mis-spent youth and sensual, selfish life for the blue scrolls and floral emblems of his neighbor's countenance.

That time is money is only half true. Through time money may be gained, but not all the wealth of Hind can purchase the return of a moment spent. Who, if he could, would not give much to live over again some of the glorious hours of his teens, when the blood ran free, his hopes and ambitions knew no bounds, and his faith in himself and his fellows was unshaken? Who would not, if he could, travel back over the years to correct mistakes and make anew choices where the effect of a wrong decision has tinged the time that followed?

Get any successful business man to tell you his life story and you will find that he laid the foundation for his career in his teens. Listen to the experience of an unsuccessful man and you will find that his failure can be attributed to a youth spent without regard for a future. Revivalists occasionally call to their feet those people in their audiences who chose a better life at various ages, and the preponderance of those whose life is governed by choices made in their teens is worthy



of study. In all phases of human experience it is the same. It was the boy who played with the tea-kettle who became the man who invented the steam engine. It is the choices, the habits, the associations of early life that govern the years that follow. So see to it, boy, that 1903 is rightly spent, for your 1930 and '28 and '45 will be regulated in part by your present action. THE MAN IN THE CORNER.

The Builders' Hardware Man

W. F. G.

BUILDERS' hardware is the most complicated as well as the most interesting line in the hardware trade. It takes a long time, with much patience, hard work and diligent study, to thoroughly master this branch of the business. To the young man about to take up builders' hardware, the writer would make the following suggestions. First, decide on what make of hardware you consider the most desirable to handle and confine your stock as much as possible to this line. In considering which line is best to handle, you should select that one which covers to the best advantage the entire field, from the cheaper goods in common use to the highest grades of art hardware.*

It is important that you have a sample room devoted exclusively to builders' hardware. This room should be designed by and the furnishing selected by a good architect in your town, making a specialty of interior work. This room should be well lighted and furnished with an abundance of artificial light for showing goods on dark days. Your samples should be neatly mounted on small boards with easels attached to back. A good size for general boards is 18 x 12½ inches, and they should be made from various kinds of wood and finished in a variety of finishes. Boards of this size are large enough to show three sizes of escutcheons with knobs, sliding door cup, push button, drop handle and flush sash-lift. Sash fasts, drawer pulls, cupboard catches, etc., may be mounted on boards one-half the above size. You should show only one finish of hardware on a board. Store door handles can be mounted on boards twice the size first mentioned. You should have one or two trays of loose samples of locks, covering, so far as possible, the entire line. You should have a few mounted samples to show the operation of the various kinds of locks.

You should carefully study each piece of hardware manufactured in the line you handle and should become thoroughly familiar with the goods, for what they are intended and how they are applied. Study the new goods that are placed on the market in the builders' hardware line and be prepared to show and talk them when you can do so to advantage. In order to become expert in your line you should be able to read plans correctly and thoroughly understand the details of same.

You should be able to draw and should take lessons in architectural drawing. This can easily be done in any city of moderate size, where there are sure to be night schools in this branch of study. If you have no class or school of this kind in your city, you can take up a course of architectural drawing with some good correspondence school.

You should subscribe for one or two periodicals devoted to architecture. You will gain much valuable information from these periodicals and will become posted in the latest buildings of architectural merit. When you have learned what is to be learned from the above sources, you will thoroughly understand your business and be able to talk builders' hardware and architecture.

*In other words, The Corbin.—ED.

Ornament in its Relation to Builders' Hardware

By C. J. M.

PART VIII. FRENCH RENAISSANCE



1. Typical Shield Form

It was only when Renaissance had arrived almost at its point of perfection in Italy, in the 15th century, that it began to spread much into other European countries. Although attempts had been made before to introduce it in France, it remained for Francis I., King of France, to transplant Renaissance into his country. It was in the first half of



5

the 16th century, while fighting his wars with Emperor Charles V. on Italian soil, that he became infatuated with the new art, and on his



6

return to France took with him a number of renowned Italian sculptors and painters whom he set to building new castles and remodelling or embellishing



2



3



4. Varieties of Egg and Dart Moulding

a number of his palaces.



7



9. Rosette Border

It is easy to understand from this why the earliest manifestations of Renaissance art in France were decidedly of a true Italian character in so far as ornament was concerned. In architecture, however, the early French Renaissance buildings continue generally to show the



8. Variations of Classic Mouldings



10. Early Type of Foliated Scroll

structural lines of the Gothic, employing merely the Renaissance ornamentation. This transitional period in French architecture is called the "Style of Francis I."



11. Typical Vase

After a time, of course, the native French workman handling the new art, infused some of his own feelings into it, causing French Renaissance ornament to change slightly in treatment from its Italian parent. We find be-



12. Dolphins

sides classical detail, like egg and dart, anthemion, acanthus, palmetto, meander, etc., and their variations, all the additional Italian Renaissance forms, festoons, wreaths, masks, dolphins, dragons, grotesque human and animal figures, but the scroll and foliage especially (figs. 12, 14, 16) are treated not quite so light and flourishing as in the Italian, and



Roma
Corbin French Renaissance Designs



St. Remi



Savoy

besides this a marked preference for the use of cartouches and irregular outlines in panels (fig. 12, 19, 22, 23, 24) is noticeable, features that have been characteristic of most all of the following schools of French art.



13. Composite Ornament
Decadence Period
(Barrock)

A good many ornamental forms used extensively in French Renaissance are either taken from the arms and crests of the French dynasties, or are in some way symbolical of favorites of the reigning monarchs. To this class belong the Fleur-de-Lis (fig. 20) (which, however, appears already much earlier in Florentine art), the salamander, porcupine, greyhound and the three interlaced crescents (fig. 17), etc. These of course, would be meaningless if employed in any other style of Renaissance. Toward the end of the 16th century and early 17th century, the original refinement and classical type of French Renaissance gave way to an



14. Foliated Scrolls
and Vase



15. Acanthus Foliage and Vine



16. Acanthus Leaf

excess in decorative treatment in trying to make up for inferiority of artistic feeling by a lavish application of gorgeous vagaries. This period of decadence in French Renaissance is called Barrock, and lasted from 1600 to 1675, covering the reign of Henry IV. and Louis XIII., and extending even into that of Louis XIV. The style of Louis XIV. developed, however, characteristics of its



17. Crescents



18. Early Type of Shell



19. Cartouche



20. Fleur-de-Lis

own, that make it necessary to treat it separately in a special chapter hereafter.

It is appropriate to mention here, that in regard to ornament, the term modern French Renaissance used so much in connection with architecture of these present days, does not imply anything really new, but merely a judicious selection of certain ornamental forms from the various French Renaissance periods, capable of highly decorative treatment and best adapted to certain requirements of modern architecture. Typical French Renaissance hard-



21
Foliated Double Scroll

ware ought to be rather ornamental — show regular or irregular outline which may be plain or enhanced by one of the many

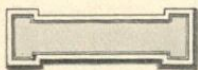


Bourbon. Corbin French
Renaissance Knocker

varieties of fancy mouldings. A cornice with an ornamental top and bottom are desirable features for the more elaborate patterns. The cartouche in connection with acanthus and foliated scrolls, shells, laurel leaf, fruit and flowers, female heads and a variety of panels are the ornamental features most commonly employed.



22



23



24

VARIOUS TYPES OF PANELS

Ram's Head
Console

Fuller & Delano, Architects

J. G. Vandreuil, Builder

"ARD-NA-CLACHAN" SHREWSBURY, MASS.

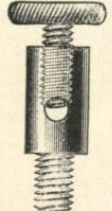
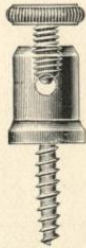
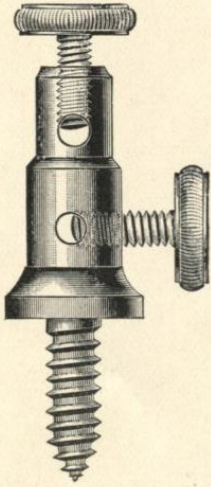
THIS is the summer residence of Philip L. Moen, until recently Vice-President of the American Steel & Iron Co., and is surrounded by a thousand acres of land, forming a magnificent farm. The second and third stories of the house were built in the winter, and the first story, which is composed wholly of stone, was not completed until the following summer. All the exterior woodwork is of oak. The hall is of English oak, and the dining-room is finished in black oak with heavy hewn beams bearing the axe marks, projecting from the ceiling. The library is finished in mahogany, the ball-room and billiard-room in California redwood, and Mr. Moen's office in quartered sycamore.

The building is trimmed throughout with Corbin hardware, furnished by Duncan & Goodell Co. of Worcester. The outside front entrance has wrought-iron trimming of a special design; the reception and drawing-rooms have gold-plated Cremona design hardware; the dining-room, St. Mark's Gothic design in statuary bronze finish; the library, Amiens design, Gothic, in satin finish light antique brass, and the billiard-room in Olympus design, Greek, in antique copper. The chambers on the second and third floors are trimmed in the Amiens (Gothic) and Royal (square, beaded) designs in antique silver and antique copper finishes, and polished brass escutcheons with diamond cut glass knobs.

Electrical Fittings

MADE ON THE AUTOMATIC MACHINERY IN P. & F. CORBIN'S
SCREW DEPARTMENT

143



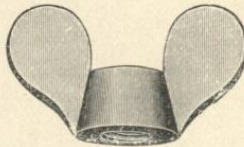
BINDING POSTS

Made of Brass, Bronze, Iron and Steel in any form desired.



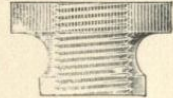
ACORN-TIP NUTS

Made of Brass, Bronze, Iron and Steel in eight regular sizes. Other sizes to order.



WINGED THUMB NUTS.

Made of Malleable Iron, Drop Forged Steel, Brass and Bronze in seven regular sizes. Other sizes to order.



KNURLED THUMB NUTS

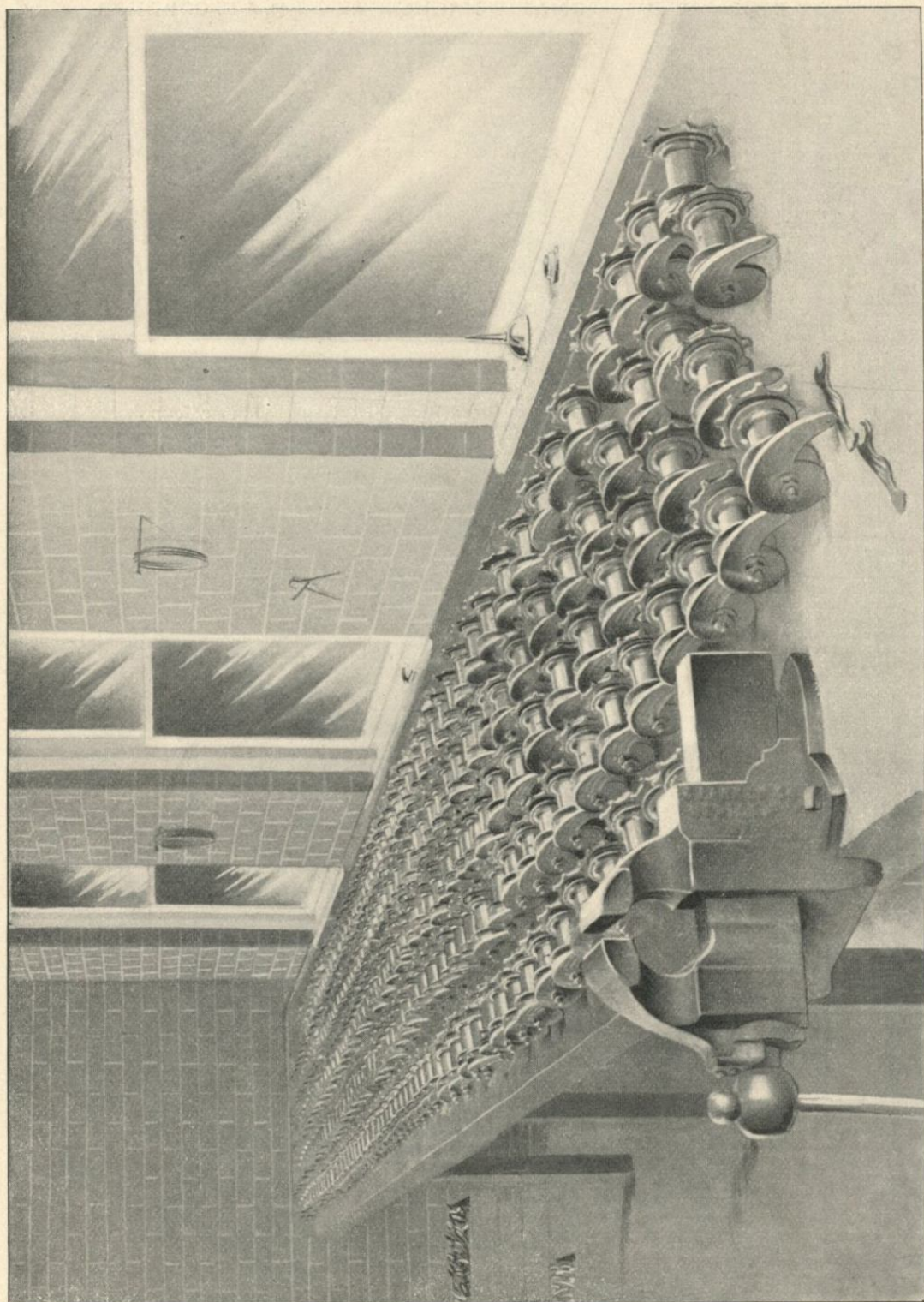
Made of Brass, Bronze, Iron and Steel in seven regular sizes. Other sizes to order.



KNURLED THUMB SCREWS

Made in a Great Variety of Styles and Sizes in Brass, Bronze, Iron and Steel.

The automatic machinery in the Screw Department of P. & F. Corbin provides every facility for the manufacture of special screws, nuts, binder posts and other metal devices of all kinds for electrical work at a minimum cost for the quantity desired. Inquires for prices should be accompanied by samples or sketches, and will receive prompt and careful consideration.



Corbin Duplex Coaster Hubs Ready for Inspection