THE CORBIN

VOL. II NO. 6

OCTOBER, 1903

"When you make a mistake don't look back at it long. Take the reason of the thing into your own mind and then look forward. Mistakes are letters of wisdom. The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power."

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The Corbin

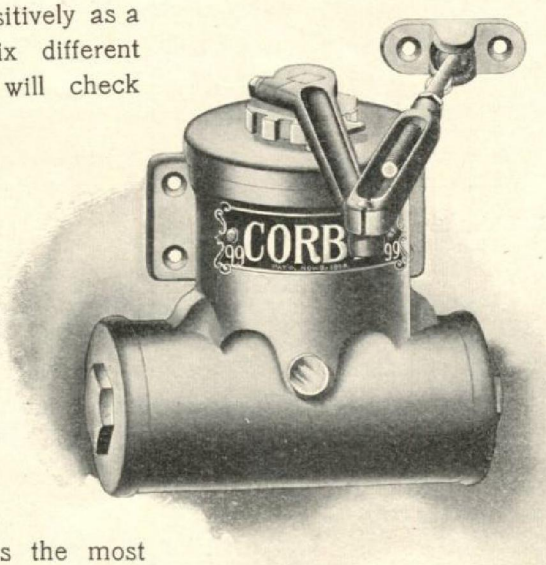
A Monthly Chronicle of Things as We See Them

VOL. II OCTOBER, 1903 No. 6

The Corbin Door Check and Spring

NOW that the time of year for the necessity of closed doors to keep out the cold draughts of winter is approaching, it is fitting to make mention of the Corbin check as the embodiment of all which is required in a perfect door check. That the Corbin check has proven itself sufficient to meet the demands made upon it and to-day leads the market, has been shown in a number of ways. They have been adopted for use in the finest modern buildings of all kinds and have been used in a number of instances to replace checks of other manufacture, which could not fill the requirements. The results are that there are more Corbin checks in use than any other kind.

Such popularity cannot be obtained without good and sufficient reasons which are to be found in the perfect mechanical construction of the Corbin, the ease of its application and the perfection of its operation.



It closes a door as easily and positively as a spring hinge, and without noise. Six different sizes cover all requirements and will check anything from a light screen door to the heavy entrance doors of public buildings.

It is perfectly adjustable; never leaks or gets out of order; is not affected by extremes of temperature, and never wears out. It is so constructed that the pressure of checking is sustained by two pistons balanced on a spindle in such a way that no strain is borne by other portions of the check, and there is almost no wear. It is the most perfect device for the purpose ever made.

The methods of attaching to irregular shaped doors, like round and Gothic tops; also for applying in narrow spaces, between two doors, were shown on the back cover page of the February number of THE CORBIN. We illustrate here the ordinary methods of application, showing right hand checks applied to right and left hand doors. To apply left hand checks the arm and rachet needs only to be reversed in position.

While it is best to specify when ordering whether right or left hand are wanted, the ease with which the check may be changed from one hand to the other is shown in the

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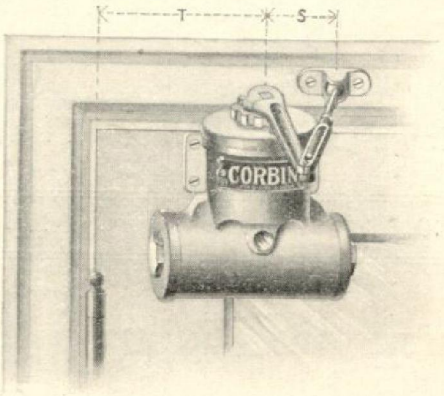
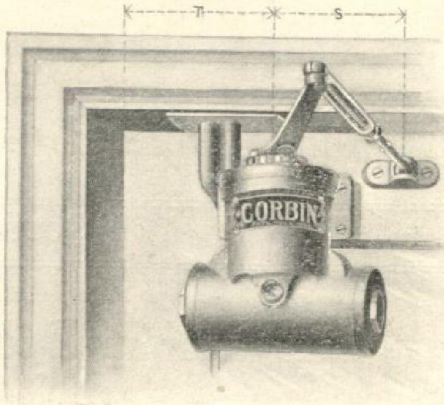
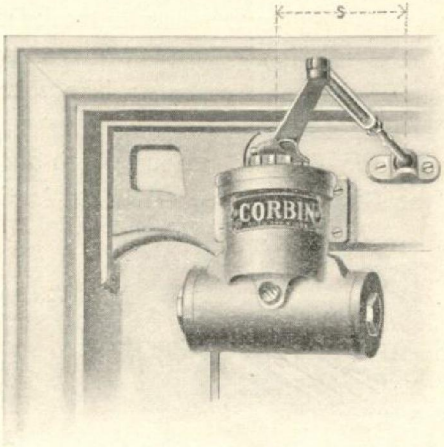


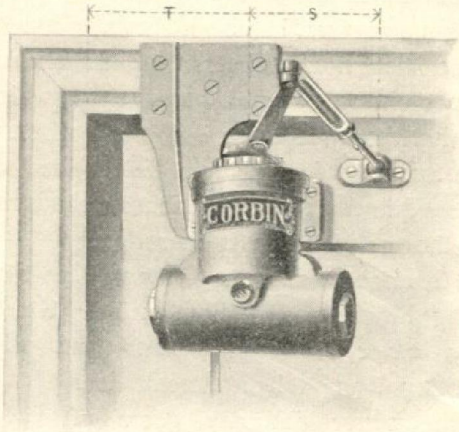
Right hand door inside



Left hand door outside, with hanging bracket



Left hand door outside, with corner bracket

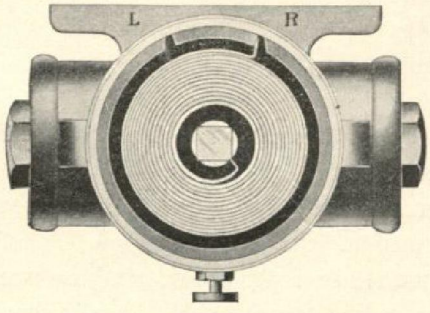


Left hand door outside, with flush bracket

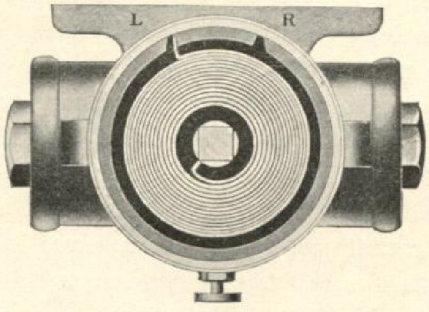
RIGHT HAND CHECKS APPLIED

accompanying illustration, giving position of spring, the only directions to make the change being to remove the arm, ratchet and cover, inverting the spring, placing the end in the proper recess as shown below, and replace the cover, ratchet and arm.

Special catalogue with full description will be forwarded upon application.



Position of spring of right hand check



Position of spring of left hand check

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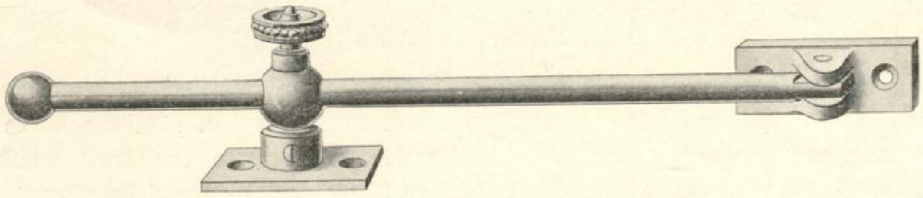
Casement Windows and Their Trim

By J. D. B.

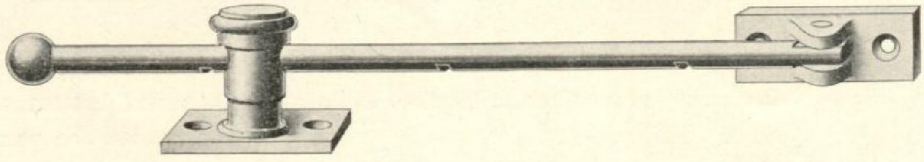
In Three Parts. Part II

IN selecting casement adjusters considerable care is requisite. Whether the window swings in or out each sash should be supplied with one adjuster. If sash swings out an ordinary adjuster or a sill adjuster can be used. Our No. 43½ is possibly the one



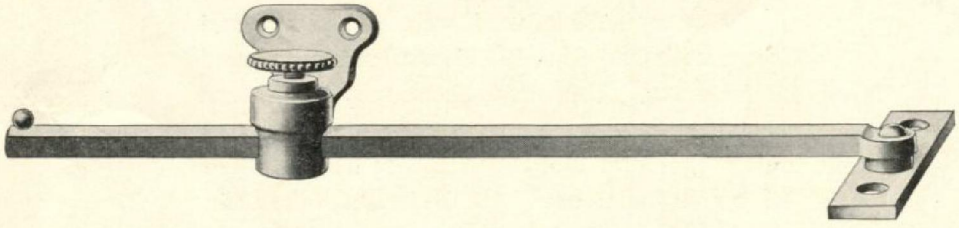
No. 43½ Casement Adjuster
No. 43 is Similar but with Rectangular Rod

that is most frequently used although No. 43 is equally serviceable while No. 44 possesses several new and improved features. For extra heavy sash our No. 44½ with ⅜ inch rod is often used.



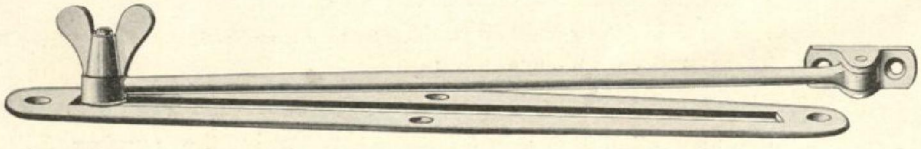
No. 44 Casement Adjuster

Among sill adjusters No. 45 will answer for light sash or No. 047. The latter has the same style button attachment as No. 44 and No. 44½. No. 44¾ will answer for heavy sash.



No. 44¾ Casement Adjuster

Where adjusters similar to 43½ are specified care should be taken that post is sufficiently high to carry the rod over any stop that may be present. It is also desirable that when the window is closed the position of the rod shall be parallel to the face of the sash, and to accomplish this purpose the hinged socket should be made with an extra extension equal to the width of the stop.



No. 45 Sill Adjuster

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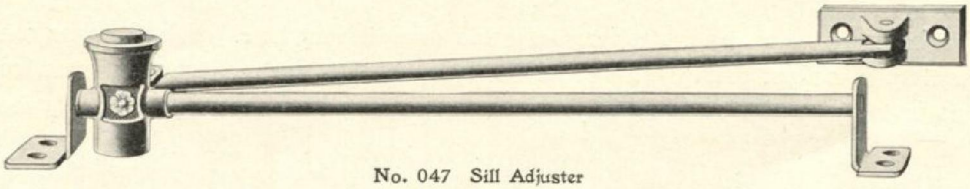
While adjusters are to a certain extent fastenings yet they are not primarly designed for any other purpose than for that of holding sash firmly in any desirable position. Consequently these are needed in addition to locks and frequently pulls also.



No. 047 Sill Adjuster

Figure No. 2 shows a double casement window with rabbeted sash opening out. The sash at the left should be trimmed with bolt similar to No. 111, the lower one 6 inches long and the upper one of sufficient length to place the knob within easy reach. If the window is not over 24 inches an 02160 catch should be placed on the

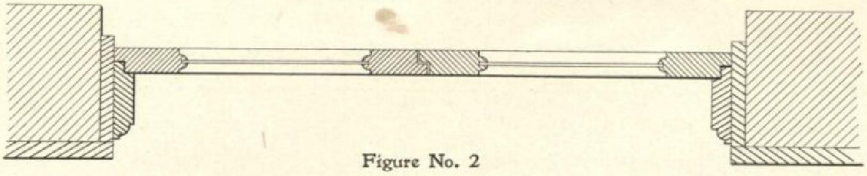
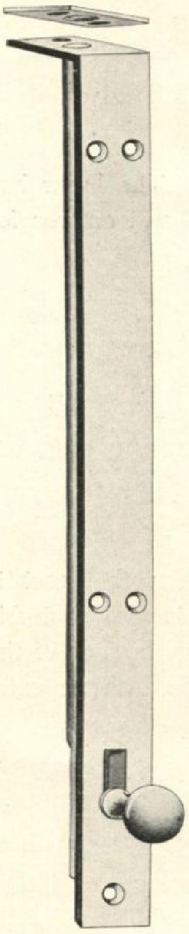


Figure No. 2



No. 111 Sash Bolt

right-hand sash, the strike of which is secured to the opposite sash. It usually is no objection to place bolts at the top and bottom of both sash. This prevents the sash from springing and avoids the possibility of the weather entering.

Figures No. 3 and No. 4 show details of casement sash in a very fine apartment house. The sash are in pairs, swing in and close against a mullion. Owing to the height and weight of sash, butts used were 6 1¾, 5 x 5 and Cremorne bolts (1993, 1993½, etc.) were employed for fastening. This detail shows very plainly that special strikes were necessarily provided (as shown in Figure No. 5) while the length of the bolt corresponded exactly to the height of the sash.

In this particular case, owing to the very costly and permanent drapings, the sash could not be opened more than 19 inches,— casement adjusters were dispensed with and brass hooks screwed on to the mullion held them stationary when open. Ordinary sash of this character require adjusters similar to our S1519 or S2170 which are adapted for sash swinging in.

Figure No. 5

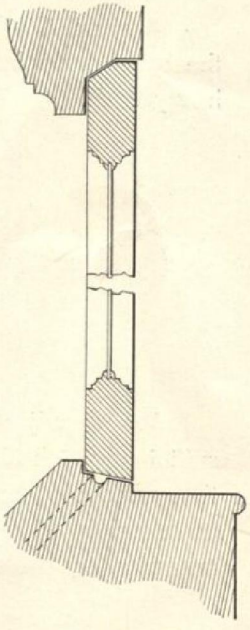


Figure No. 4

Another very effective device for casement windows opening in is obtained by the use of adjusters known by the number S2100. A glance at the illustration will afford an idea of its general form and

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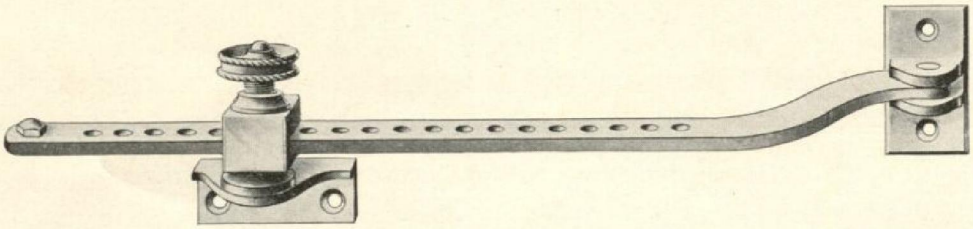
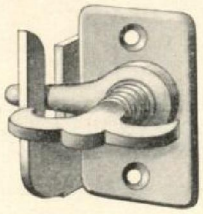
manner of action. It consists of a flat bar with a hinged end, the bar passing through a slide to which a thumb screw is attached. The hinged end, which is attached to



No. S2100 Casement Window Adjuster



No. 02160 Window Catch

casing, is obliqued and can be furnished to fit projections varying from $\frac{3}{8}$ inch to 2 inches. The slide is attached directly to the window frame and the sash in opening causes the bar to move through the slide. The thumb screw fits in a series of indentations on the bar and its operation permits of the sash being held perfectly rigid in any position.

This adjuster is regularly furnished in bronze or brass and made in 10, 12, 15 and 18 inch lengths. It would be advisable to send with an order detail of frame and casing so as to insure a proper fit.

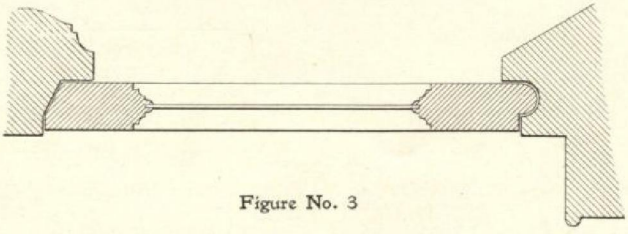
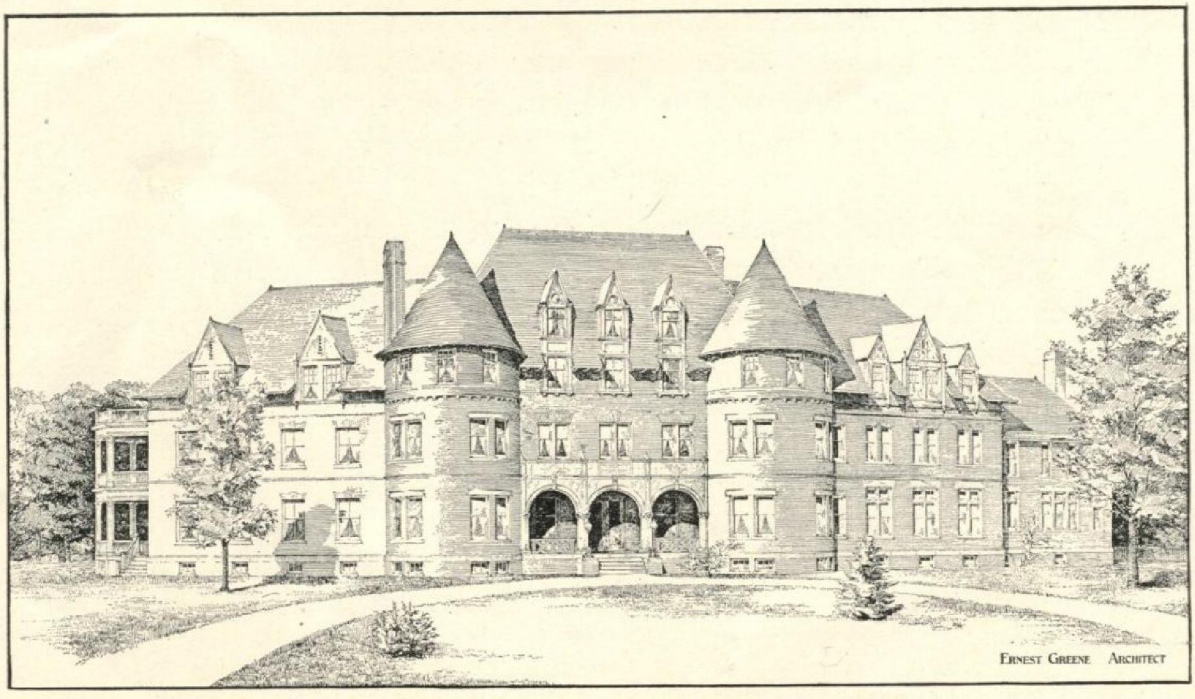


Figure No. 3

CONCLUDED IN NOVEMBER ISSUE



THE JOB HAINES HOME FOR AGED PEOPLE

Corbin Hardware Used Throughout AT WATSESSING, NEW JERSEY

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

The Utility of the Corbin Door Check

THE manufacture and sale of a combined door check and spring is of recent origin compared the other hardware accessories to a door. Various types of springs for making a door self-closing have long been in use, but necessarily accompanied with an annoying slam. With the heavy double doors swinging both ways, fitted with strong spring butts, the absence of a suitable check, permitting the door to slap the next man in the face, was made especially noticeable.

To close the door automatically and at the same time prevent its slamming, the air check was devised, but the elasticity of air caused the door to rebound and not close with an even motion, at the same time giving an opposing draft a chance to keep the door from closing, thus rendering the check inefficient and defeating its own purpose.

The problem was to get a check which would be perfectly smooth in action and so strong as to stand all kinds of hard usage without appreciable wear for years of use. To attain this, the Corbin Liquid Check was invented, and first placed upon the market by us. We do not say it was as perfect when we first made it as it is to-day. Naturally there was the experimental stage to go through and defects to overcome, which successive trials brought out. This has been done and for a number of years we have made what seems as near perfection for a combined checking device and spring, adaptable to doors of all kinds, as it is possible to get.

Naturally their usefulness was at first considered and demonstrated for entrance doors used by large numbers of people, such as those on

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public and office buildings, railroad cars, schools, churches, etc. The Corbin check here proved its superiority so distinctly as to merit its being called a "hard job" door check. But also a noteworthy feature of the Corbin check is its perfect adaptability for all kinds of doors, not only for the heavy ones of the modern city structures, but for residence doors of different sizes—from the heavier front door to the lightest screen door; for interior doors in the house, in parlor, dining room or butler's pantry where noiseless service is so essential to a perfect equipment, the Corbin check and spring fully meets all requirements.

Specifications for Hardware

OUR attention has been recently called to the importance of thoroughly explicit specifications from architects relating to the hardware they want to have used. In several cases, goods have been supplied not in accordance with the specifications, nor according to samples submitted. It has been the custom of some architects to specify P. & F. Corbin's goods, but notwithstanding this fact, inferior goods have been substituted. To prevent like occurrences in the future, we would suggest the specifying of Corbin goods by numbers, and insisting upon corresponding goods being submitted and supplied, thereby insuring satisfactory results to both architect and owner. And in this connection we wish to emphasize the point mentioned last month, the importance of placing orders early, as soon as it can be intelligently done. From a letter just received from one of our friends in the trade we quote the following extract:

"Concerning the time required to fill orders, it very often happens that details cannot be obtained early enough to allow the length of time required to fill the order under present conditions, and yet it is necessary to thoroughly convince your customer that it should be done."

The Corbin Binder

As previously announced, the Barrett Bindery Co., 180 Monroe Street, Chicago, have made a special binder for THE CORBIN, which they will mail to anyone sending them fifty-three cents ($.53) with the order. They inform us regularly regarding orders received, and we shall mail to possessors of these covers copies of THE CORBIN for binding for permanent reference. The record of new goods alone will make it worth while to keep THE CORBIN.

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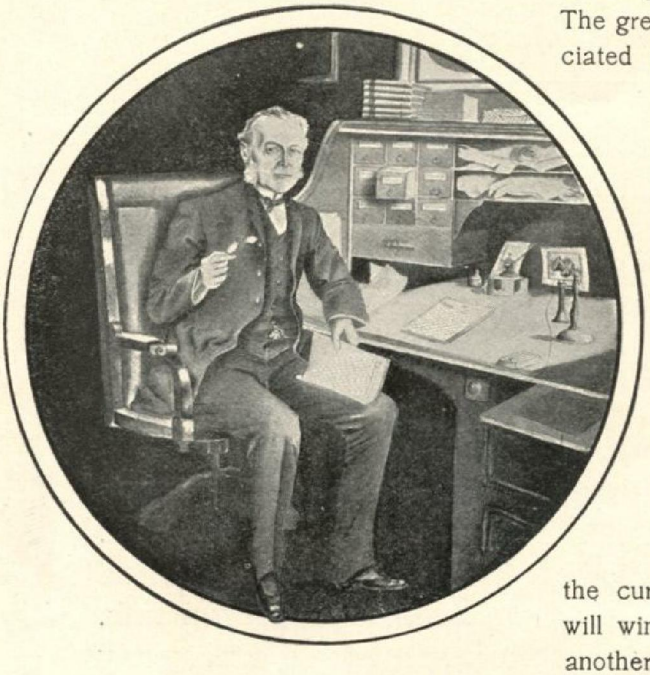
Just Between You and Me!

I ONCE asked the founder of a great house if he could tell me of any one ambition or aim that had actuated him in his upbuilding of the business. He said that he could not, "but," he added, "I have always put back into the business more than I took out, and never let anything become of more importance to me than its welfare." In that simple statement was told the secret of a great success, and the same principle has formed the basis upon which many a career has been founded. The great men and those whose names are associated with notable achievements are generally those who are dominated by a single idea to which is sacrificed everything that would interfere with its furtherance. Very few of the men whose names are household words have more than a single claim to their prominence above their fellows. They have become preëminent in one direction only, and by wilfully cultivating a talent in a single direction.



The single-minded men are all about us. I am favored in knowing a young artist who has persevered in the face of great discouragement, but I find his work for the first time, on the cover of one of the current magazines, and know that his merit will win abundant recognition in time. There is another young man, a violinist, who spends eight hours a day in practice, and is winning more than local fame. Another is a self-taught electrical engineer who had the nerve to attack calculus unaided and is consulted when any new departure is to be made. And still another who started with a trunk full of samples a dozen years ago could sell his business for thirty thousand dollars if he chose—but he says he wants to add another cipher to the amount and I am so sure that he will do so, as though his ambition had been already gained.

Every one of these men, and scores of others whom you and I know, are putting into some one thing more than they are taking out of it, and letting nothing interfere with its welfare. You and I can see the success, but no one but he who wins it can count its cost—the sleepless hours, the unpleasantnesses faced, the difficulties overcome and the self-abnegation practiced when other cherished aims and desires have been put aside. Nature has a rule of maintaining an equilibrium which she never violates. There are no lotteries in her scheme of awards, but he who would gain anything beyond the ordinary must pay the price for it.

The only man who gets a real bargain in the way of a success is the one whose whole life and thought are so centered about a single aim that nothing else is considered of much importance in comparison. The artist mentioned wouldn't be worth a tuppenny bun at anything else but his art. To the violinist there is only one thing on earth that is worth while. The author of a text book on geodosy and one of the best men in the service passes through the most picturesque portions of the country without seeing it

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except through his records of dips and angles. These men get bargains, for they are bartering for an excess of experience in one direction their share of growth and knowledge in others, which they would not enjoy. But even they have their struggles between their inclination to deviate from the straight path at times and their duty to their chosen pursuit.

The natural life is one of sacrifice, and self indulgence is but another name for suicide. You will find that it is not the man who follows his desires who amounts to anything. When the business man first mentioned was a youth he spent his evenings in learning the rudiments of the trade of which he became a master—just as many a young man is now spending his spare moments in acquiring knowledge which shall aid him in some chosen pursuit, and his reward will be in proportion to his ability and perseverance, and his character will assume new depths and strength under the influence of his daily life.

It is one of Nature's wise compensations that the life of sturdy self-denying effort brings the reward that self-indulgence strives for and fails to attain. Pleasures are fleeting and die in their attainment, but the happiness that comes from a life rich in service and the consciousness of work well done has no end, while the blessings it bears extend to all the lives with which it comes in contact.

THE MAN IN THE CORNER.

Keith's Theatre Building, Philadelphia

ON the last page of this issue we illustrate Keith's theatre building of Philadelphia. This building is located in the heart of the city on Chestnut street, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets. The front is of marble and terra cotta and the interior finished in hard woods. It is eight stories high, the six upper floors being used for office purposes.

The building is a clever solution of one of those difficult problems which confront the architects nowadays in all the larger cities of the United States, viz., the production of a good looking facade of eight or ten stories high on a frontage of fifty feet or less, the comparative narrowness of the streets making it often impossible to gain a point of view from where the general proportions and beautiful detail can be duly appreciated.

In the theatre proper, which is one of the finest of the kind in the world, the prevailing style of decoration is Louis XV. In harmony with this is the St. Denis pattern of hardware, of which push plates and pulls with our 20½ finish, were used. It is equipped with the very latest devices, the chandeliers and gas fixutres finished in antique gold of ornate design with cut glass trimmings.

We illustrate here the St. Denis pattern of push plate which, used in connection with the pulls, gives an effect distinctly ornamental and in keeping with the general appearance, but not so highly ornate as to be other than pleasing to the refined taste.

The office portion of the building is plain in character, yet fitted with the most approved style of cylinder locks.

The cost of the building was within a few dollars of a million. It is equipped throughout with Corbin hardware.

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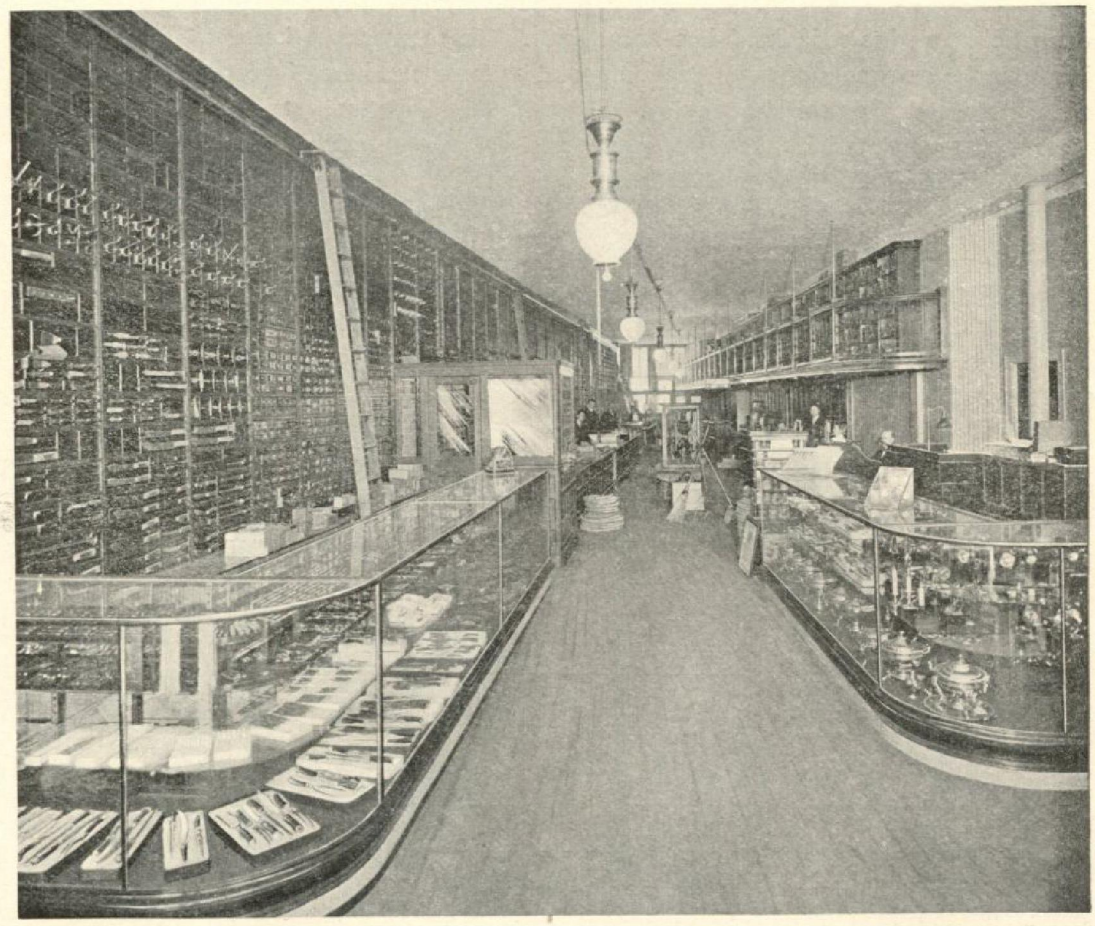

INTERIOR GENERAL STORE BURDITT & WILLIAMS COMPANY

A Model Hardware Store

AS we have had something to say from time to time about the stock in the hardware store, how best to arrange and keep it in order, we here give illustrations of parts of the interior of the store of Burditt & Williams, of Boston, which is a model for convenience and orderly arrangement. This progressive firm has kept pace with its growing needs since first established in 1860, and in addition to their main salesroom and general store, their sample room for the convenience of the customers in the selection of builders' hardware is especially worthy of mention.

Concerning this room the "American Architect and Building News" has the following:

"A unique feature of this new store, so far at least as Boston is concerned, is the reception room, expressly designed and set apart for the use of architects, builders and other patrons of the house. This room is finished in mahogany and crystal, with brilliant electric effects, and furnishings in harmony with the architecture. Altogether, the effect is beautiful, and it is certainly a 'cosy corner' in this great mart of trade. With the exception, we believe, of one in New York city, there is no similar room connected with any hardware establishment in the country. In it will be found finely displayed on shelves and sliding racks samples of the finer lines of hardware, for the sale of which the Burditt

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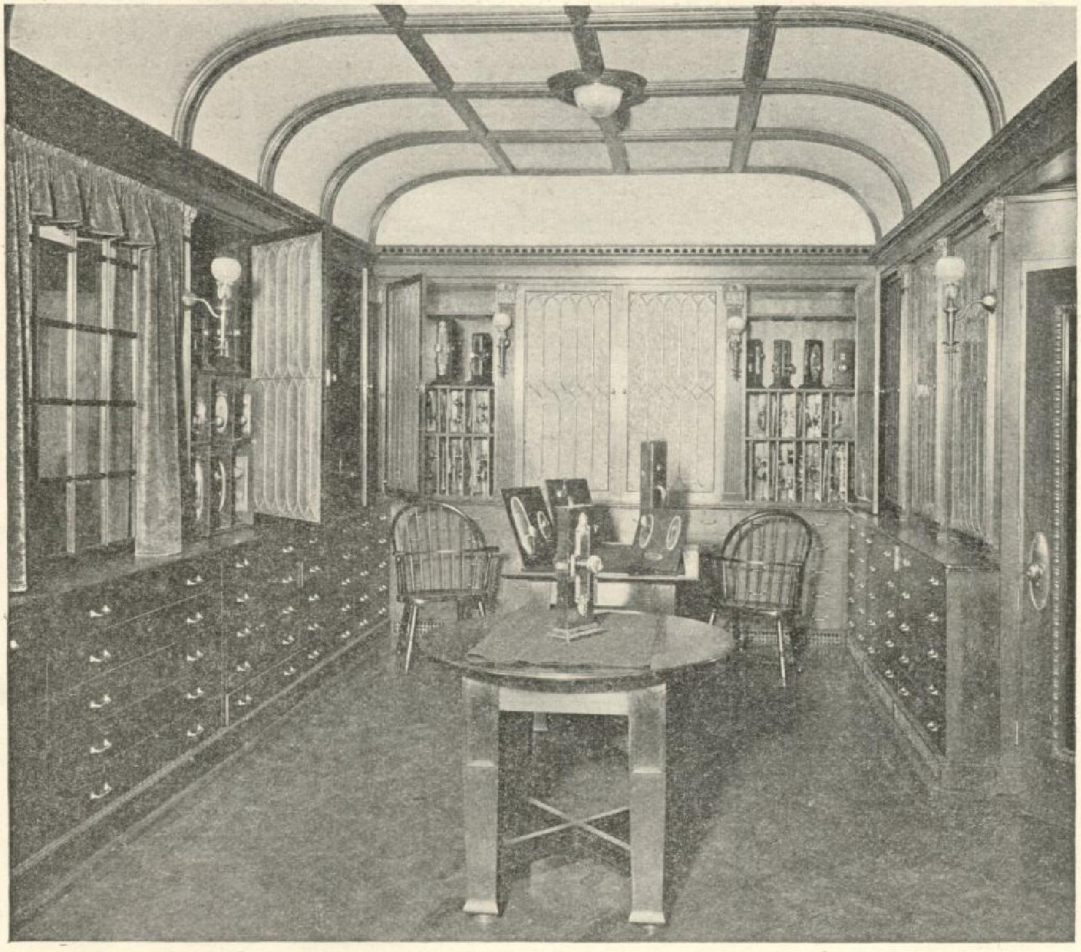
& Williams Company have deservedly gained a country-wide reputation. The addition of this room, in such a central location, we think will be fully appreciated by visiting architects and their clients, and by the building trades generally.

"While making an elaborate display of cutlery and fancy hardware, the shelves in the main store are loaded with the substantial builders' hardware and mechanics' tools, in the sale of which this house made its earlier reputation. Years ago it attained a



ARCHITECTURAL SAMPLE ROOM OF BURDITT & WILLIAMS COMPANY

prominence in the supply of the finer grades of hardware for buildings, and its reputation in this line increases as the years go on."

The finer grades of builders' hardware for which this firm has built up such an enviable reputation, it is perhaps unnecessary to here state, are those of P. & F. Corbin.

What Jane Jones Keeps Saying

"Jane Jones keeps a-whisperin' to me all the time,
An' says: "Why don't you make it a rule
To study your lessons, an' work hard an' learn,
An' never be absent from school?
Remember the story of Elihu Burritt,
How he climed up to the top;
Got all the knowledge 'at he ever had
Down in the blacksmithing shop."
Jane Jones she honestly said it was so;
Maybe he did—I dunno;
'Corse, what's a keepin' me 'way from the top
Is not havin' no blacksmithing shop."

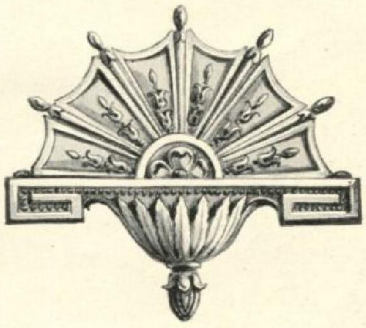
Original from the E.R. Butler & Co. Research Library

Ornament in its Relation to Builders' Hardware

By C. J. M.

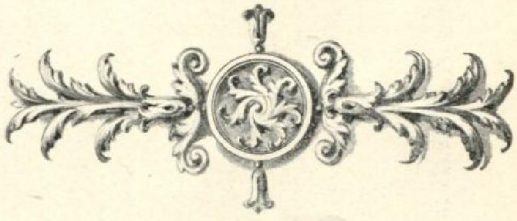
XVII. ADAMS STYLE

CONTEMPORANEOUS with the Louis XVI and the Empire period is the so-called Adams style, introduced in England by Robert Adams, a Scotch architect of national reputation. Literally speaking, it cannot be considered a separate school of design.



The earlier Adams work resembles that of the Louis XVI period in general arrangement of line and mass, but the ornament is not treated with that French elegance and animation, and reflects the more sober artistic genius across the channel; elements of the Georgian (Colonial) style also enter into it somewhat.

During the later part of the Adams period, it is apparent that in spite of the then prevailing political antagonism between England and France, the Empire style did not fail to influence the English work of that time and thus we find in the later Adams designs besides Georgian (Colonial) and Louis XVI motives, also considerable of the Empire (Classic) detail with the exception, however, of the specifically French, i. e., Napoleonic emblems which are here scrupulously avoided.



The ornamental forms most employed in Adams' work are vases, urns, light festoons of tulips and pearls, laurel leaf, garlands and wreaths, various meanders, rope and all the antique plant forms like accanthus, palmetto, Anthemion, etc., slightly modified. The treatment of the ornament is never very bold but in moderately low relief.

Where an Adams hardware design is not available, a rather plain Louis XVI, or in place of that and better still, an Empire pattern without Napoleonic Emblems, and eventually even a Colonial of the Georgian period may be substituted in the place of it.

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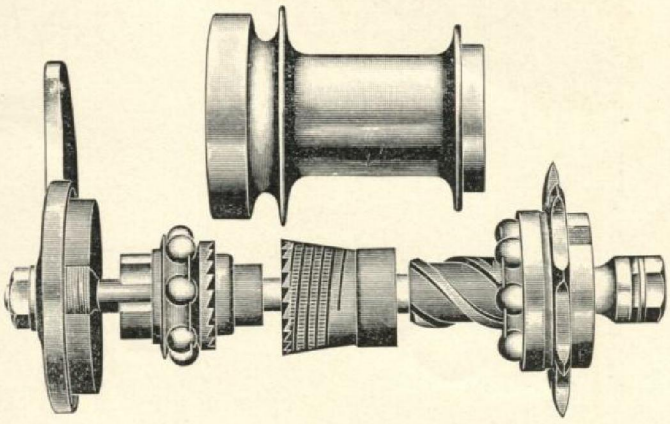
The Corbin New Departure Coaster Brake

WE realize that not every meritorious article made in all sincerity of purpose to produce the best in its line, gets the recognition it deserves. It is, therefore, all the more pleasing to note the appreciation of the Corbin Duplex coaster brake by all parties who have had anything to do with it. Wheel manufacturers, dealers, salesmen and riders have from the first given their universal verdict and unstinted praise of its merits. In all the endurance motor cycle runs and private runs of wheelmen, in which all appliances of this kind have been thoroughly tried and tested, only the Corbin has proved equal to all emergencies.



We have commented before upon the motor cycle endurance runs, but to summarize results we call attention to the fact that in the run from New York to Boston in 1902, where seven machines scored the 1000 points, four of them were equipped with the Corbin. In the endurance run of 1903 from New York to Worcester and return, a much higher percentage of Corbin's were used, for out of the twenty-seven machines with brakes, twenty-four, or ninety per cent. had Corbins, and out of the fourteen that scored the 1000 points, eleven were those with Corbin brakes. This shows the remarkable gain in a year of the use of our brake. So many letters of commendation are being constantly received, a few of which we have published in THE CORBIN, that it seems like uncalled for repetition to print any, but we will give an extract from one which is typical of the many. . . . . "We are also returning the contract signed by us, and we think we will be able to sell three hundred and probably four hundred of your brakes next year, as it is now the only kind anyone wants around here, and it has given excellent service. Please mail us a cut for catalogue and newspapers. We have advertised in our daily papers here all summer, and we think the brakes have been the life of the bicycle business for the past few years, at least in our section."

The wherefore of "It is now the only kind anyone wants around here" will be partially found in the two Corbin patented features which give this coaster most of its supremacy. Though we have explained these points previously, their importance will warrant the description being repeated. One of these features is the ratchet-toothed braking clutch, which does not in any way depend upon friction for its action and cannot bind or stick. When the pressure is applied it must act promptly and properly. The other is the parallel opening brake shoes, which touch the sides of the braking drum along their entire length, checking the speed of the machine in exact proportion to the amount of pressure applied, releasing instantly when removed. No other coaster has a braking mechanism which will act with anything like the same accuracy. It can be taken apart and reassembled by the rider if he desires, without the use of tools other than a wrench to loosen the axle nut; is dust-proof, water proof, and can suffer injury only by an accident which destroys the wheel.

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KEITH'S THEATRE BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA

ALBERT E. WESTOVER, Architect WM. STEELE & SON, Builders

Equipped with Corbin Hardware Throughout

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