



### BATHROOM PORTIERE.

Materials That Are Effective and Useful in Working Out the Design Given Herewith.

A bathroom portiere should be of a material that will not spoil if splashed with water. Linen is very suitable, especially the heavier makes, and any of the rough kinds of oatmeal cloth, frieze or serge could also be used. A most effective working of the design given herewith may be carried out in the following way: Choose a heavy linen huckaback for the material, and darn the entire design in shades of sea green Harris thread. Thread is preferable to crewel, because, though there is nothing to equal crewel for bold, effective workings, it is not suitable in this instance, as it will shrink if wet. It may be safely used on frieze or serge, or any woolen material, as then the whole thing will be equally affected by the damp and hot steam of the bath.

If the entire design is darned, be sure that the darning all runs one way, as it never looks so well if done in different directions; but variety may be obtained by working the plants in half outline with heavy veining, and in this case a few extra veins should be added or the leaves will look meager. A good way of increasing the effect of veins is to make a series of small dots on each side by working two stitches one over the other. This may be done with the center vein only, leaving the others plain.

The water lines should be strongly lined and worked in a thick stem or rope stitch. The darned dolphins will require outlining, and for this and the veining of the fins, etc., a darker shade than that used for the darning should be employed. The coloring may be varied a little by using green for the plants, a bluer shade of green for the dolphins and a still bluer shade for the water. This design is rather massive for solid work, though a good solid effect may be produced in laid stitch, but an objection to this with some would be the necessity for doing it in a frame.

Lay the threads evenly from side to side of the space to be covered, and if you do this with the thread of the material there will be no difficulty in keeping the lines straight. The needle



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is passed through to the back, and brought up again, not quite close, but at a sufficient distance to allow an intermediate stitch being taken backward; thus the threads would be laid alternately—first, third, second, fourth and so on. This gives a better hold on the material than if they were laid consecutively.

When the whole space is covered in this way, lay other single threads across at regular intervals and sew them down with stitches at even distances. This work requires to be regular and even, both in laying the threads and also in the cross threads and the stitches that hold them down. It may be shaded by using various colors for the under layers of threads, and working them in after the manner of ordinary shading in stitches of various lengths, but let them be as long as possible, or it will look rough.

An embroidered portiere should not hang too full or you break the continuity of the design. For an ordinary doorway the usual double width material will be found sufficient, and in making up care should be taken that it is heavy enough to hang well. As it is to exclude draughts, it should hang to the ground, and it is sometimes well to sew weights at intervals along the hem. The brass rods which open with the doors are quite the best means of hanging a portiere, for if it has to be pushed back every time the door is opened in a very short time the material will become worn where the hand naturally catches hold of it.—N. Y. Tribune.

### Big Increase of Words.

In 50 years the words and phrases of the English language lexiconized under the letter "A" have increased from 7,000 in number to nearly 60,000. Science and invention requiring new terms are largely responsible.

## INDUSTRY & MECHANICS

### STEEL OF MANY KINDS.

Severe Tests to Which the Metal Used in Building Operations is Now Subjected.

It is the popular idea that steel is a hard, polished metal like a dagger or a razor, and capable of carrying a cutting edge, but there are steels of various kinds that do not possess the qualities mentioned. Structural steel, for example, such as beams, girders and rough-rolled bars, generally has a much higher tensile strength, elasticity and tenacity than iron, and yet, in physical constitution and external appearance it differs but slightly from it. Of two bars, one iron and the other steel, though put through the same rolls at the same heat, not even an expert could distinguish one from the other if they were laid side by side. Moreover, careful analysis fails to discover the line of actual departure between steel and iron in the lower grades of each metal, or where the metal commences to be steel, so to speak, and stops being iron.

But as between the two metals, iron and steel, there is a vast difference in their endurance and ability to stand severe work, and modern engineers have a very great advantage over their predecessors of half a century ago in the possession of it. In modern open-hearth and other process steels the amount of fatigue or continuous resistance to crucial strains of long duration which they will endure is simply astonishing—not laboratory or test machine strains, but the downright pounding and flogging of daily work, which is far more serious than any testing machine can deliver. This last sets up a certain stress in a straight line, gradually increasing up to failure under it; but the duty imposed upon steel by daily work in a high-speed engine, for example, is not only to resist tensile strains, but torsional and traverse burdens at one and the same time.—Scientific American.

### ELECTRIC VICTORIETTE.

Dainty Little Motor Car Recently Built in London for Queen Alexandra of England.

It is not generally known, perhaps, that the queen of England has become one of the keenest of motorists. The new car which has been built to her order is a magnificent vehicle. It is known as the electric victoriette, and, as its title indicates, it is driven by electricity. It provides seating accommodation for two persons, and is beautifully upholstered in dark green morocco lined with dark green cloth. The color of the car paneling is rose mad-



QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S MOTOR.

der lake, the remainder of the body being black, picked out with deep red lines. The carriage, which weighs 12 cwt., is fitted with 28-inch bicycle pattern wheels, and is not only noiseless, but there is practically an absence of vibration. The capacity of the battery is 40 miles with one charge, and a speed of 20 miles an hour can be attained. Her majesty has expressed her great satisfaction with the car, and is delighted with the ease and simplicity of control and manipulation. From a perusal of the builders' catalogue such a vehicle could not be duplicated under a cost of \$2,000.—Cassell's Magazine.

### One of Nature's Barometers.

A curious barometer is said to be used by the remnant of the Araucarian race, which inhabits the southernmost province of Chile. It consists of the cast-off shell of a crab. The dead shell is white in fair, dry weather, but indicates the approach of a moist atmosphere by the appearance of small red spots, as the moisture in the air increases it becomes entirely red, and remains so throughout the rainy season.

### Alcohol Runs an Engine.

On a private railroad, used chiefly to carry coal to and bricks from a brickyard in Prussia, a locomotive using alcohol as fuel is used. It was built for a society for the promotion of the use of spirits, which is that part of the world are largely produced in distilleries of large land holders to utilize sirup produced in making beet sugar, unmarketable potatoes, etc.

### SOMETHING ABOUT CARROTS.

A sirup is prepared from carrots. Boiled carrot is used as a poultice for foul sores, and as a vermifuge.

Carrots, when cut into small pieces and roasted, are occasionally used as a substitute for coffee in Germany.

A strong ardent spirit is distilled from carrots in some parts of Europe, ten pounds of carrots yielding about half a pint.

In the reign of Charles I. ladies wore carrot leaves as an ornament instead of feathers; and the beauty of the leaves is still acknowledged by placing a root, or the upper portion of one, in water, that it may throw out young leaves to adorn apartments in winter.

As an article of food carrots contain a large amount of what are called heat-producing compounds, with a small proportion of flesh-forming matter. It consists essentially of starch, sugar and albumen, with a volatile oil which communicates a flavor unpleasant to many dyspeptics.

### THE TEACHER'S WIFE.

Clarissa, Minn., Oct. 28th.—Mrs. Clara Keys, wife of Chas. Keys, school teacher of this place, tells a wonderful story.

For years her life was one of misery. Her back ached all the time, her head ached all the time; neuralgia pains drove her to desperation. She used much medicine, but failed to get any relief till she tried Dodd's Kidney Pills. She says:

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Advertisement for Good Food Costs Less and Enterprise Meat & Food Chopper. Text: 'Good Food Costs Less. The Enterprise Food Chopper saves money by saving waste—lightens labor in the kitchen and makes scores of new and delicious dishes possible. when the "left overs" are saved for dainty croquettes, salads, soups, etc. The Enterprise Food Chopper saves money by saving waste—lightens labor in the kitchen and makes scores of new and delicious dishes possible. The Enterprise Meat & Food Chopper is easy to use, can't break or rust. Chops coarse or fine. For sale at all hardware, department, and house-furnishing stores. Four cents per lb. The "Enterprise" Housekeeper's 250 receipts. ENTERPRISE MFG. CO. OF PA. Philadelphia, Pa. No. 5 82.00

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