

## WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS (Continued.)

not only be a pleasant change from the less congenial and homely parts of the profession to all those who have any taste for form, the information ought also to prove valuable stock in trade. The decorator who could furnish a panel or two of burnt work for a room finished in natural wood, or a wrought iron grill of attractive style for a spot where it would be effective, would certainly be a boon to many a builder remote from the largest cities.

Small striking points in workmanship catch the eye, and often turn the scale in favor of purchase. The writer has in mind the rapid financial advance of one man in a country town, who a few years ago had no wordly possessions but his day's wages as a carpenter. With apparent all-round ability in decorating and building on a larger scale than the inside of a carpenter's shop permitted, he began in odd moments putting up a modest home for himself. This small house, though necessarily slow in completion, displayed such excellent workmanship, and so many unique points, particularly in the matter of interior ornamentation, though

nothing was extravagant, that it was soon sold to one of its many admirers at a considerable advance on its original cost.

This venture was followed by one a little more ambitious, which, in turn, gave way to another, until now no less than five of these houses, each more commodious than the last, have been eagerly purchased by some member of a community who watch with curiosity as to just what novel effects each new effort will produce.

Only the more arduous and humdrum portions of the work are let out. All the delicate parts, both in design and practical workmanship, are accomplished by the one phenomenal pair of hands. This, too, only after working hours in the long spring and summer twilights, or during slack times of shop work. With what success the able industry of one who struck out so courageously in new lines has been rewarded quick sales attest.—Violette Hall.

## TAPESTRY ON WALLS.

The use of tapestry to cover the walls has rather declined—wall paper has taken

its place. In the Orient, from the earliest days, tapestry has been known and used. The Greeks borrowed from the east the fabulous birds and animals which were woven in their earlier tapestries and later they turned to beauty of form. The Spanish Saracens and the English brought from the east specimens of tapestry, and thus introduced the work in western Europe. The town of Arras, in Flanders, very soon became the centre of the manufacture, and from this town comes the word "arras," meaning tapestry, which we use nowadays.

The famous Bayeux tapestry was found in the last century, in a cathedral, and tradition says the wife of William the Conqueror, embroidered and presented it to the church. The Bayeux tapestry is a web of linen 214 feet long and 20 inches wide, picturing events concerned with the invasion of England. It is worked with a woolen thread and contains the figures of over 600 men, 200 horses, 50 dogs, 40 ships and boats, besides smaller animals and objects.

The French tapestries have always been more celebrated than those of England. The Gobelin tapestries obtain their name



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