

left. Brush the back of the figures and lay them in groups on the screen, finishing with a coat of spirit varnish.

A window border in stained glass is a very pretty memento of a week's work, and the side lights in a bay-window may be colored with good effect thus: Draw the design on paper the size required, cut it out and color it, gum it on the outside of the window, and paint the inside with colors mixed in varnish. A lozenge pattern in lake, ultramarine, and gold is the easiest and most effective, considering the work in it.

China ornaments, such as door handles, finger plates, card-baskets, etc., may be painted beautifully, and will last a great many years without loss of color, even if washed. The colors must be mixed in clear varnish, or oil colors used, thinned with turpentine till they flow freely. A border of bright color, with a dash of gold-leaf here and there, will make a plain dinner set even elegant, and no vases are likely to be so prized as those the owner has decorated with her own hands.

Modelling becomes a passion wherever practiced, and a surprising amount of skill is developed in form which never showed itself in outline. Casts of living subjects are taken in this way: The subject is laid on his back, the head raised even with the shoulders by a pillow of bran or sand; the face and neck are oiled with almond or olive oil, put on with a feather or bit of cotton; the ears are closed with cotton, and a quill put in each nostril to breathe through, and the space between carefully filled with cotton. When all is ready mix the plaster of Paris in powder with warm water till it is thick as cream. It sets, or hardens, in a moment, and must not be mixed till it is to be applied. The subject should close the eyes firmly, but not squeeze them, as that would spoil the likeness. Cover the face with plaster from the forehead down to the lower edge of the face. Then cover the neck with plaster to join the first work. Let the subject gently roll on his side, and remove the cast carefully. Season for casting by brushing with linseed-oil in which litharge is boiled. The mould is sometimes taken in half a dozen pieces. To cast the back of the head, oil the hair and skin well, and lower the head into a vessel partly filled with liquid plaster. To model the face, oil the hollow casts which result from this operation, and tie the back and front together firmly, pouring in the plaster, which must be quite fluid. When the outside is nearly set, scoop out the soft centre with a spoon to reduce the weight of the bust, and let the whole dry. Untie the strings and take off the mould, smoothing the edges of the joints with a sharp penknife, and carve out the eyes, or they will appear shut. Wax mod-

els may be made from the plaster mould in the same way, leaving the wax to set about a quarter of an inch and pouring out the rest. Fill the cavity with cotton, remove the mould and trim the seams, and color with powdered paints. A skilful person may turn a little knowledge of this sort to account at a fancy fair by having an atelier provided with the necessaries of a dressing-room, and modelling those who wish it. The operation is short and inexpensive.—*Harper's Bazar.*

HOME HINTS.

If old butter^s has a strong flavor cut it up into little bits and put it in a churn with a few quarts of new milk or fresh buttermilk, from which you have just separated the butter; let it stand awhile, then churn it gently—let it alone awhile longer, then churn again thoroughly—work it well so as to get every drop of milk out of it, and for every ten pounds add an even teaspoonful of finely pulverized saltpetre, a quarter of a pound of loaf sugar, and sufficient salt. Work all together well, and pack solid in a fresh jar and cover with salt or brine.—*Home Magazine.*

AMMONIA AS A SOLVENT.—A little water of ammonia or spirits of hartshorn added to the water used for cleaning paint, will save time and strength in scrubbing. Spots which hard rubbing and strong soap fail to remove, often yield easily to diluted ammonia. For other cleansing purposes it is very valuable. A black silk which has given us good service in the past, is just freshened by a good sponging with ammonia and water in about the proportion of a tablespoonful to a pint. It is so rejuvenated by the process, and by the aid of a deft dress-maker who disdains not to remodel old dresses, it will pass with our neighbors for a new one. The drug is very cheap, and it is so useful in the domestic economy that no one should fail to keep it in the house. The stopper to the bottle should fit closely and be glass, not cork. A little judgment must be exercised in regulating the quantity used, as the strength when purchased is not always the same. Begin with a little and increase as needed.

MISCHIEVOUS CHILDREN.—The surest and easiest way to keep children, and grown folks too for that matter, out of mischief, is to keep them busy. Require a certain amount of work, and provide an abundance of recreation. The trouble is, that babies begin to throw out the hands and feet before the things within reach, and we begin by saying "No!" and holding them back, and by-and-by, when the little ones get out of our arms and we say "No, no!" they turn