

ENGLISH FASHION IN LETTER PAPER.

(London Mail)

THERE is unanimity in one characteristic that appertains to all the note paper that is found on the most amply equipped modern boudoir writing table, and that is its size, which is known as Warwick.

The Warwick is not a square sheet, but it approaches a square. It is sold in large and small sheets, and has completely ousted the long and narrow size that used to be popular from the counters of fashionable shops.

Blue paper is modish. The newest blue Verge paper, as it is properly called, of Wedgwood coloring, has an almost imperceptible stripe across it, and is being taken to India by visitors to that country for the forthcoming festivities, on account of its excellencies as a substitute for the flimsy "foreign" note that is now almost extinct.

In Paris, a still paler azure is fashionable, and in addition to the ciphers, crests, monograms, and even armorial bearings, with which it is decorated, a new appreciation has arisen for mottoes.

Two or three words that breathe an appropriate sentiment are printed across the left-hand corner of the paper and upon the envelope flap. The words convey to each recipient a special little message of confidence, good-will, or wit, and are always in keeping with the sender's mood at the moment of writing.

Blotting paper pink was introduced as a novelty in note paper colorings a short time ago, but no persuasion on the part of the cleverest papeterie vendors in London succeeded in bringing it within measurable distance of a success.

It is not sufficiently refined to be acceptable to Englishwomen, whose taste in colors is essentially quiet. An exceedingly delicate pearl gray and a soft dove lily votaries, particularly as both hues are good for the eyes.

But upon the score of hygiene blue triumphs again. It is far more salutary for the sight than white, say the oculists, and should be used by those whose occupation entails much scribbling instead of white, with which its vivid and trying contrast, black ink, is optically harmful.

So completely averse from ostentation is the woman of taste and discernment that the favorite form of decoration her note paper is given is merely a gem cipher placed at the left-hand side of the page, and nothing more. But the cipher is merely a gem.

In its very latest adaptation it is a heart-shaped design, overlaid with mother-of-pearl, inscribed across with the writer's Christian name and surmounted by a scroll of metallic green ribbon work.

Or, again, it is wrought most delicately in gold upon a background of soft and beautiful pale coral pink that looks like rare enamel, is enshrined in a narrow rim of gold, and is less in size than a silver penny.

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