

WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS.

THE Wall Paper News, in a recent issue, refers to a remarkably useful instrument which has been devised in England that will be adaptable for wall paper manufacturers. It is known as the tintometer, or color-measurer. Though it seems only a scientific toy, it is an instrument of great practical value. It is not generally known that the quality of nearly every substance, natural or manufactured, can be told by its color, if only its color be ascertained precisely. This is exactly what the instrument accomplishes. This curious little instrument consists of a series of small colored glasses that are about the shape and size of small microscope slides. These slips of glass are placed on a slide at the end of a double parallel-sided wooden tube, which has two eye-pieces at the upper end. All that is necessary is to match exactly in tint the substance whose quality is in question. This is done by putting a substance under one of the apertures of the double wooden tube and working the slips of glass at the end of the other, either singly or superimposing one upon the other, until the tint of the glass is the same as that of the article to be gauged. The tintometer is thus able to match practically every shade of color to be found in anything, and then the quality is quite easy to ascertain by means of the records.

F. Atkinson Wray, who represents Watson, Foster & Co. between Montreal and Toronto, has just returned from a three months' tour of Europe. He will be calling on his friends shortly with a lot of fine goods and a lot of new stories to tell after the orders have been booked.

Watson, Foster & Co. note an exceptionally good demand on sorting account. They have been for several weeks, and still are, busy rushing forward orders at the rate of two carloads a day. They still have a good reserve stock on hand, but it is rapidly going down, so that any dealers who want to "sort up" should write for samples right away.

Colin McArthur & Co. have found the sorting demand this spring much beyond their expectations. The store and shipping room are still filled with goods, which they are getting forward to their customers as fast as possible. They expect to be busy in this connection until the end of the month.

No shade requires more careful handling than green. But if the proper tint is found the effect is delightful. To make a success of rooms in green delicate tints must be employed. A shade of green which has recently obtained much favor is jade green, which, with a liberal use of white, makes a

decoration for a room particularly delightful and agreeable, especially for summer cottages.

C. L. Nelles, Guelph, is greatly improving his wall paper department. More room has had to be made for this rapidly growing branch, and additional space has been made on the ground floor for 10,000 rolls of wall paper, and 40 square feet as a show room.

CLEANING WALL PAPER.

The easiest method of cleaning the dusty and somewhat blackened surface is to arm one's self with a broom, over which is pinned some cotton flannel, which must be changed frequently, as the flannel will soon be in such a condition that to continue its use would smear the walls with dust and soot. Go over the ceiling first with long, even, firm strokes; then do the walls in the same way. Another way to clean the paper is to have on hand several loaves of stale bread, and use instead of the broom and cloth. Cut off the crust from the long end of the loaf and rub the paper with it, cutting off a thin slice as soon as the crumbs become soiled. This is a tedious method, but it is effective. To remove a grease spot, lay coarse brown paper over it and pass a hot iron over the brown paper. Repeat this process, using a fresh piece of paper until the spot disappears.

SCENERY PAPER.

What is called scenery paper is wall paper upon which there is a panoramic picture of historical scenes, landscapes, sea views and miscellaneous subjects. It is put on the wall above the wooden wainscoting, and when properly done presents an attractive appearance. It is one of the newest things in wall papers, and has caught the fancy of New York. One of the favorite styles is a Watteau design. The shepherds and shepherdesses, with their gamboling lambs, their beribboned crooks, are an attractive decoration for any room.

An entirely new thing in wall paper is the Persian design. It has Oriental stripes and flamboyant figures, the impress of the far east in every line and curve. It gives a rich and restful aspect to the apartment in which it is used. It will cost a pretty penny to have your library and dining room papered in the Persian style, for the proper things to go with Persian paper are embroidered portieres window curtains, and they are expensive. There are no borders for Persian paper, which goes from top to bottom of the walls, and gives the effect of great height to the room.

Scenery paper will be used more for country than for city dwellings. It is a summery thing, and gives a pastoral air to

the rooms. It was the custom to paint the walls with the designs that are now seen on the paper, but the paper will be cheaper than fresco work, while giving just as good an effect. The forest scenes are particularly beautiful. Many of them show the hunters in bright colored costumes, running down the deer or wild boar.

A NEW DISCOVERY.

From the Pacific Coast, says The Western Stationer, comes a report of a discovery that, if practicable, will work a revolution in wall paper making. Samuel Crump, of Spokane Falls, Wash., has patented a method by which he claims to be able to form a pattern on paper in as many colors as desired and on the paper machine; that he can make wall paper direct on either a Fourdrinier or cylinder machine. The pattern is said to be the reverse of a watermark. In a watermark the design is thinner than the body of the paper, while in this woven paper the design is made of the pulp of the same stock as the body of the paper and is deposited on the paper and becomes a part of it. The pattern is therefore thicker than the body of the sheet. The patterns are claimed to be formed by electrically produced screens of the ordinary wire by a deposit of copper being thrown on the wire, thus filling the interstices not required in it from the design. He claims that his method will save 92 per cent in the labor account in making wall paper. The process is applicable to straw boards and box boards of all kinds, and even to the production of lace work.

DECORATIVE ART

The closing lecture of the course of the Hartford Art Society recently, by Edwin Howland Blashfield, who is now engaged in the decorative work on the Congregational Library building at Washington, proved to be most interesting and instructive.

It was a plea for decorative art in this country, based upon lessons taught by the Italian Renaissance. Only twice in the history of the world, said Mr. Blashfield, has a people given itself so wholly to art that it was the chief thing above the necessities of life—during the Greek art period and during the Renaissance of the Italians in the sixteenth century. It was in this latter period that rich and poor alike of the Venetians and the Tuscans were inspired by that love of art which seeks to make everything beautiful, not only the buildings with their sculptured decorations and their frescoes and paintings, but the every-day conveniences of life. These men of the Renaissance did not understand comfort as we understand it, but they wanted the chairs they sat in, the benches, and all their household belongings to be artistically beautiful. There had never been anything just like it