

In photograph frames there is no end to the variety. All kinds of leather frames are relieved with application of nickel, silver and gilt bronze, either all round the frame or at one corner only; the designs being flowers, arabesques or reproductions of old clasps and locksmith's work. A novelty is a beaten or *martelé* oxidized silver frame, with, in the centre in high relief, the front of a vast Dolly Varden bonnet, which projects from the frame, leaving simply a hole large enough to admit the photograph of the face.

An English firm has invented a substitute for rough calf or other skins used in bookbinding. "Velum cloth or other suitable fabric is coated with an adhesive substance, such as is used in making flock-paper, and, while this substance is wet, flock is dusted upon it very much after the same manner of bronzing. By the use of dyes, any particular effect may be obtained, and a very good imitation is produced."—*TRADE LONGER in American Stationer.*

A Chicago dealer has placed upon the market a new article for erasing ink stains from writing, or any calendered paper. This liquid is a combination, and is contained in two separate bottles, and is called the "Twin-Bottle Ink Eraser." It is claimed for it that it will remove ink stains without discolouring the paper, or otherwise injuring it, and that the paper, after its use, is in as good condition as before. It is indorsed by the War Department, and numerous Chicago houses.—*American Bookseller.*

PARIS FASHIONS IN FANCY STATIONERY.—The stationers' shops in Paris are rich in fancy papers, envelopes, and menus. Crocodile skin, morocco, parchment, papyrus, linen, silk, are all imitated in the tissue of the paper. The address is printed at the head of letter-paper in all types, all styles, all colours. Some paper is surrounded with a polychrome border imitating Tunbridge Wells wood mosaic; there are paper and envelopes with borders imitating the flower-pattern of blue and white china; while purses, pocket-books, photograph frames, and whole sets of writing-materials are made in an enamel imitating blue and white china.

In menu cards, the greatest novelties are etchings. There are whole series of etched menus, a series of Parisiennes, a series of clowns, a series of cooks, a series of monkeys, &c. In the top left-hand corner, figures a charming little mezzotint or dry-point. In another series, the menu is framed on three sides by vignettes rising one above another.

There are also innumerable humorous series of etched menus and invitation-cards. For instance, an etching, about two inches square, of a lady and gentleman sitting side by side, and then in the text, "Monsieur X. est prié de ne pas s'asseoir à côté de sa chaise." The text may be varied as to the drawing, and each guest sometimes is provided with a different card and a different menu.

In hunting invitations the etchers once more come to the fore, and design all sorts of venatical and rustic scenes. These fancy menus and invitation-cards are employed sparingly by the higher classes, who prefer simplicity. Certainly it is easier to remain within the limits of good taste in simplicity, than in fancy novelty. An engraving of their chateau in one corner of the invitation-card, is the utmost that some of the aristocracy admit.

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