

GRAINING WALNUT.

Mr. M. C. Hillick gives the following suggestions for the proper imitation of walnut when distemper graining.

The graining color should consist of Vandyke brown, three parts; Indian red, one part. Wet the ingredients up in stale beer. The ground colors should be mixed to dry flat, and thinned with turpentine sufficiently to be applied with a camel's-hair brush.

To grain walnut, saturate a soft sponge with the distemper color, then squeeze out the excess of color, and wipe the surface over very quickly. Then beat out the color with a mottler, striking the brush softly upon the surface, and aim to bring out all the peculiar undergrain and tracings incident to this beautiful wood.

Next glaze with a mixture of raw linseed oil, pale drying japan and turpentine. This should be applied with a camel's-hair brush, and is used to set and hold the color in place. Now take the Vandyke brown alone, and having wet it up in the stale beer to the proper consistency, sat-

urate a clean soft sponge with the color and wipe over the surface. Once the color is wiped solidly over the surface, draw a piece over the thumb or finger and proceed to wipe out the lights. Then with a piece of hickory, shaved thin, 1 in. by 4 in., and technically known as a "blaze stick," run the stick out the full length of the panel. Now with a blender—a brush especially made for the purpose—blend in the color or wipe it out as it is found necessary to develop the splendid lines and graceful curves natural to the mature walnut. Seek to blend out the prominent grain of the wood in a way to bring forth the brilliant black tracery and soft warm shades of brown, always a part of a walnut panel.

It will be understood that these various operations must necessarily be completed very quickly, and if the work should prove unsatisfactory, you have only to wet up the color and try over again. This feature is one all-important advantage in favor of the distemper graining, and en-

ables the beginner to try and try, until he becomes familiar with the various operations and succeeds in making them at least fairly successful.

After the work with the blender has been concluded, rub the surface over gently with the palm of the hand, applying a light, uniform pressure which serves to tone down and soften the texture of the graining.

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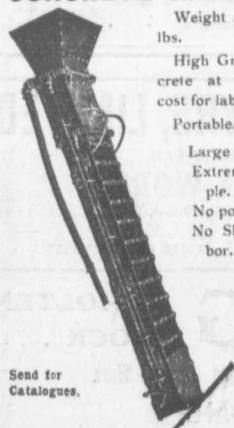
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