

## WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS (Continued.)

For the most part, our broken surfaces are produced by combing, or, by using embossed materials, but I think a more legitimate treatment would be that practised in Italy, where the walls are finished as in our second coat of plaster, which shows a granulated or rough texture.—Thomas Bonnar, in *Painting and Decorating*.

## U.S. WALL PAPER MEN MEET.

A private meeting of men interested in wall paper was held at the Manufacturers' Club, in Philadelphia, recently. It is understood that the meeting was attended by representatives of the firms that are operating independently of the National Wall Paper Co., but that no definite arrangement was concluded.

A gentleman familiar with the motives of those present stated that a combination is being planned by which the wall paper interests of the United States will be pooled. It is understood that this combination was first suggested by the National Wall Paper Co. to the companies that are not allied with it. The National Wall Paper

Co. was formed about six years ago, and controlled nearly all of the wall paper factories in the country. Since then eighteen or twenty smaller concerns have sprung up, and the profits all around, it is said, became smaller in consequence of the increased competition.

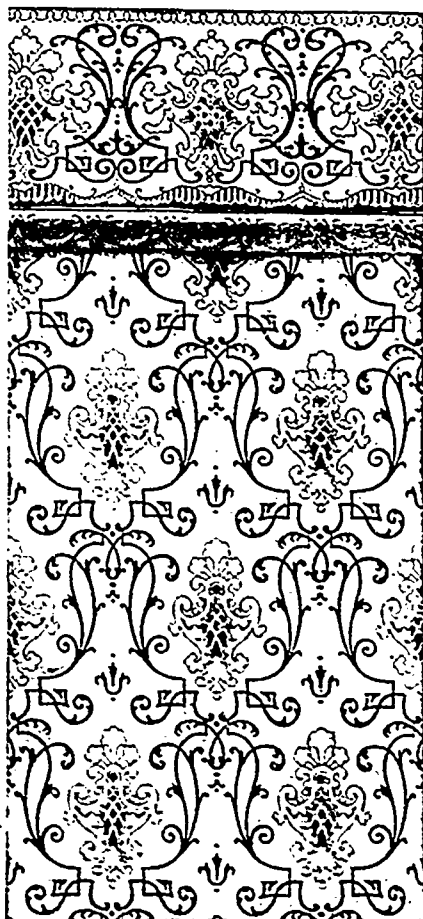
In order to improve this state of affairs, a proposition is under consideration that all concerned pool their profits. It is said that if this combination is made it will yield about \$6,000,000 profit next year, 55 per cent. of which will go to the national organization and the remaining 45 per cent. to the outsiders, who have formed what they call a "club."—Geyer's Stationer.

## WHAT WILL THEY DO NEXT?

One of the Brooklyn big department stores is about to inaugurate a series of public readings in its book section. A first-class reader is to be engaged, who will give, every half-hour, selections from the newest volumes on the counters. It is hoped that, by thus giving "samples" of literature, the book business will be greatly helped.

## NEW EDITION OF THACKERAY.

Harper & Brothers, New York, will publish on the 15th inst., "Vanity Fair," the first volume of the biographical edition of Thackeray's works. As already noted the introductory chapters to the separate books in this edition will comprise much of Thackeray's experience, although they do not in any way pretend to be that complete life of the great novelist which might have been written long ago if it had not been for his own prohibition. It was not possible to leave the writer out from the histories of his books. Nor have the materials been wanting for these histories. Every day more and more facts, drawings, and details of a very full, not eventful, but stirring story have come to light, so that the later chapters are every whit as interesting as the earlier ones, and as full of material and illustration. On the same day, the Harpers will publish "Social Pictorial Satire," by George Du Maurier; "Through the Gold Fields of Alaska to Behring Straits," by Harry de Windt; "The Golfcide, and Other Tales of the Fair Green," by W. G. Van Tassel Sutphen, and "Four for a Fortune," by Albert Lee.



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