

height of the various letters, two lines for capitals and one line for lower case. If your card is dark and to be lettered in white, gold or color, rule the lines lightly with chalk; otherwise use a pencil.

All the reading matter on the card should now be impossible over the three ranges. This feat, so say promulgated by making the crudest kind of lines, so that you can tell what the letter is and note the spacing between the words. You can use chalk for this purpose on your dark cards. After your card is thoroughly dry, rub out the chalk lines. If the lead pencil lines do not vanish, dip your sponge rubber into a little pumice stone powder, and you will soon have a clean card. The best lay-out for most cards is in straight lines. Use as few styles of letters as possible. Many cards look best by using all capitals, others are more effective when the principal words or top line only are "displayed" in capitals. Avoid using curved lines.

#### Paper Edging.

A refined, finished appearance can only be given to a card, when mounted on a frame, by binding the outer

of your work table) place one end of your strip on top of the card, the desired distance from the outer edge, holding the extreme end of the strip in the left hand thumb and forefinger. The right hand thumb must be stroked back and forth on the top of the strip. When firmly attached to the top, press the side of the right hand gently against the strip to the side of the frame, and the part of the strip that projects you must turn over to the back part of the frame, finally taking a dry rag and rubbing the edging smoothly on to the sides of the frame. When you reach the corner of the frame, hold the paper strip firmly to the side of the frame with the left hand, allowing it to project over the top without attempting to fasten it to the top of the card as you did in the beginning, until you first with your right hand thumb make a diagonal crease at the corner of the frame; then proceed to glue down the top and the sides as before. Edging may be of a contrasting color or match the card.

If you find that your letters have a tendency to slant perversely from right to left when you wish them to ap-



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edges of the frame and the top of the card with paper. This is readily done by gluing on narrow strips of paper, which can be bought in innumerable varieties in long rolls, or sheets 22x28 inches, either with smooth glazed surfaces or embossed, including gold and silver effects, floral designs, or in imitation of all sorts of textures, veneers or marbles. These strips should be cut from 2 to 4 inches wide according to the size of card and width of edge required. On half sheets the edging on the top of the card is usually one-quarter of an inch wide, and on whole sheets it should be from three-eighths to one-half inch wide.

When the strips are cut, place about ten on top of each other on a sheet of newspaper. Have the side of the strips which are to receive the glue facing upward. Fill your glue brush thoroughly, removing surplus glue by stroking it against a sheet of paper as though you were painting a board. Now cover the back of the first strip evenly with glue, and beginning near the centre of any top edge of the frame (which must project over the edge

pear upright, begin all your work by slanting the letters from left to right. Do this in all your practice work for three or four weeks. You will then find that your lettering will be almost perpendicular, as it should be, whenever you try to make it so. The reverse method should be practiced when the letters have a tendency to slant from left to right.

#### Grease Spots.

At times cardboard becomes greasy from the perspiration of the writer's hand, or otherwise. Water color will not "catch on" at such spots, but will be streaky. Several methods are employed to overcome this. Mix a thimbleful of bicarbonate of soda in a tablespoonful of water, wipe some of this over the greasy surface, then repaint. Others use soap water for mixing the color. One or two drops of oxgall mixed into the color is another preventive. The last method is somewhat objectionable, as the oxgall has what is considered a somewhat offensive odor.