Beautiful as this color is, it is not so well calculated for mixed tints as many other blues, on account of a gritty quality of which no grinding will entirely divest it, and which causes it to seperate itself from other colors with which it may be mixed.

In skies and distances it affords a fine aerial azure. It has, however, not been so much employed for this latter purpose since the introduction of the imitative ultramarine, known under the name of french blue.

ULTRAMARINE ASH.—A delicate and extremely tender azure, not so positive in tint as ultramarine, but which washes much better. It may be used for skies and distances, where tende azure grays are required.

FRENCH BLUE.—A valuable color, which of late years, has been added to the artist's list of pigments. It is strong in color and nearly transparent; is used either in figures, draperies or landscape, It has a slight tendency to the purple hue, which may be neutralized by the addition of a small quantity, of prussian blue; after which it resembles much the tint of the real ultramarine, and although not quite so vivid, is more generally useful, particularly as it washes and works well. It is permanent in water color.

SMALT.—Is occasionally used in landscape. It is a vivid and gorgeous blue; bright, deep and transparent, bordering on the violet tint. Does not wash well: is quite permanent.

COBALT BLUE.—A pure light azure blue, nearly transparent - it washes well and affords clear bright tints in skies and dis tances, but is apt to cause opacity if brought too near the foreground. With light red, in any proportion, it gives beautiful cloud tints; with madder brown it affords a range of fine pearly neutrals. This color is quite permanent.

PRUSSIAN BLUE.—A deep-toned brilliant blue, bordering slightly on green, a quality which militates against its use in skies and distances. The old water color painters, however, used it for those parts of a picture, with the addition of a small portion of crimson lake to neutralize its green tint. Prussian blue mixed with light red gives a sea-green neutral.