

WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS.

WALL PAPER PRICES IN THE UNITED STATES.

It may be looked upon as certain that the factories in the United States comprising the National Wall Paper Co. will, during the present month, revert to their original ownership and management, the National Wall Paper Co. having decided to go out of business. This may mean that there will not be any arrangement between the American factories as to prices, though many of the factories there still think that an understanding will yet be arrived at. Even if there should be an open market, it would look as if prices will be maintained at their present level. Such is the view of one of the American trade papers, from whose pages we reprint the following: "There is no reason to look for disaster and chaos in the trade the coming season, even though it should be an open market, and wide open at that. In fact, there are several conditions which would indicate that prices will not show much weakening from the present standard.

"In the first place, the raw stock market is decidedly upish. Several wall paper manufacturers have deferred making contracts for next season's supply, hoping that the market would come down a bit. But it manifests no inclination to follow the example of Davy Crockett's coon. Almost all other supplies have the same skyward tendency. Labor was never higher than it is to-day. Skilled mechanics are receiving big wages, and are none too numerous at that. Block-cutting was never so high before. Sets that to day cost \$700 to \$1,000 have in former years been cut at from \$250 to \$500. The cost of sampling any one of the forthcoming large lines would be a comfortable fortune for a modest man.

"Conditions are not favorable to a cutting, slashing season. Such seasons have generally been due to a large surplus of goods. The cost of manufacture will not warrant factory proprietors in piling up a production far beyond the legitimate demands this year."

FOREIGN OPINION OF CANADIAN PAPERS.

The following appears in a New York wall paper journal:

PARIS, June 20, 1900.

GENTLEMEN:

In my last letter I told you I would write to you again about what I might find interesting in the wall paper exhibits of the Paris Exposition. The other day I was visiting

the English Colonies, when I was agreeably surprised to see a beautiful display made by The Watson, Foster Co. in the section of Canada. They have a very large and splendid showcase where one can see a selection of the best samples of their line. I was not the only one to be attracted by their showing, for a whole crowd were standing around, admiring the richness of the colorings and the grace of the drawings. One of the company's best and most attractive samples is a large parlor paper in half-tapestry shades and with a heavy gold background. I have hardly ever seen anything of a more striking and artistic effect. I will not try to depict to you all the good

DISSOLUTION OF THE WALL PAPER TRUST

The annual meeting of the stockholders of The National Wall Paper Co. was held on July 17 in New York. The importance of the meeting this year lay in the fact that the question of dissolving the company without further delay came up for decision. The directors of the company, representing about 70 per cent. of the stock, had already voted their approval of the proposed dissolution. It was, therefore, taken as a matter of course that the stockholders would not manifest any opposition to the decision reached by the directors. The meeting of the stockholders resulted as was expected.

Speaking of the action of the stockholders, President Henry Burn said, after the meeting: "No opposition developed at the meeting of the stockholders in respect to the proposed dissolution of the company, and we therefore expect very shortly to be able to announce the completion of the plan that has been under consideration to bring about dissolution."

YOUNGEST COLOR-MIXER IN THE WORLD.



ROBERT FRASER, JR.

son of Mr. Robert Fraser, Superintendent of The Watson, Foster Co.'s Wall Paper Factory, Montreal. The Watson, Foster Co.'s train their expert help from childhood.

things I have seen in their exhibit. A design is something that must be looked at; a description of it is hardly interesting. Still, I will tell you that their assortment is complete. Florals, heraldics, halls, scrolls, etc., are in great variety. Besides their central display, they have a number of panels, spread a little all over the rooms of the Canadian section.

Yours, most sincerely,

P. DARTIGUENAVE,
31 Avenue de la République,
Nanterre, near Paris, France.

It is understood that the board of directors will act as a committee to take charge of the plans tending to a dissolution. These are, in substance: The sale of the separate factories back to their original owners, or, in the absence of such purchaser on a basis satisfactory to the committee, the putting up of the plants at public auction.—New York Stationer.

902, 904. These are the two numbers which The Watson, Foster Co. ask discriminating dealers to consider. They will be found in new 1901 catalogue, and there are others, new designs treated in artistic and progressive style.