

WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS.

NEWEST WRINKLES IN WALL PAPERS.

AS the time is fast approaching when the army of salesmen in the wall paper line will invade the country and do their very best to capture what trade there is going, it will no doubt be of interest to our readers, and timely, to give them some idea as to what the factories are offering this season.

Our representative who called on The Watson, Foster Company, Limited, a few days ago was somewhat astonished at the extensiveness of this company's range of samples, and the enormous expense it must cost to prepare such a complete and remarkably well-assorted collection of rich, neat and up-to-date patterns which they will be offering to the trade shortly. We are informed that this line is the largest they have ever issued, containing 136 combinations, all new. The colorings and grounds are a decidedly new departure and bring out the designs remarkably well.

Among the special features of this popular line of paperhangings for the coming season may be mentioned the following of their best and most striking patterns:

No. 874.—A splendid example of an English style of the XVII. Century, which will recommend itself for its grandeur of drawing, severity and nobleness of forms, making a very majestic effect.

No. 787.—A magnificent Primitive Gothic pattern, with a very fine gold line treatment, in plain and embossed gills.

No. 748.—A pure Francois I. style, reproduced from a drawing at the Chateau d'Anet, remarkable for its elegance and gracefulness.

No. 837.—A very rich effect in flats, embossed gills and tapestries, fine soft colorings; it is a scroll floral pattern of Henry II. style.

No. 832.—A charming reproduction made from a piece of furniture silk taken from the Palace of the "Petit Trianon" by special order of Queen Marie Antoinette.

No. 798.—"Royal Orleans" combination, in plain and embossed gills, an exquisite heraldic pattern, with beautiful shield effect and royal armory; this style is specially fine on grounds of reds, greens, and blues.

No. 841.—A large rose pattern of the Elizabethan period, a style of decoration which is becoming popular and *fin de siècle*; there is a beautiful and rich one-band frieze to match the combination.

No. 834.—A French Renaissance pattern of the flowery period; the richness of motif, elegance and majestic aspect of this design will be appreciated by connoisseurs. It is a plain varnish and embossed varnish gilt paper on 21-inch stock; on grounds of cream, white, ivory, cluny, leather oak and pekin red; the pattern is well brought out.

No. 705.—"Czarina" combination, a superb strip pattern, pure example of Russian style in rich and sober tones.

Nos. 844 and 843.—These are two of the many dainty and fancy floral patterns with which this line is replete; there are some very pretty and clever effects in flats and plain varnish gills.

No. 833.—An Empire pattern of the "Malmaison" epoch, commendable for its authenticity of style.

No. 753.—This is a good specimen of the ever popular rose pattern, a particularly remarkable design in natural rose effect and soft natural colorings.

No. 454.—A useful decorative leaf pattern of the XV. Century, in plain varnish golds and up-to-date colorings.

No. 794.—A Venetian embroidery in embossed and tapestry effects, something novel in rich dark and fancy light colorings.

Ingrains.—A large assortment of shades has been selected with friezes which ought to take the fancy of the buyer and excite admiration from lovers of the beautiful. The Watson, Foster Co., Limited's ingrain friezes have attained a very enviable reputation for quality and beauty in the past years, and from what we have seen of the present collection of friezes the change has not been retrograde, but a good move towards still further improvement. It is difficult to draw special attention to any of them, they are all good, but we will endeavor to give a short description of a few of them:

No. 1878.—A very fancy frieze in Royal peony floral design and exquisite natural, living colors, which form a happy and bright combination, giving the purchaser an opportunity to make a hand-painted like decoration of the most charming appearance which would certainly embellish any room decorated with it.

No. 1874.—A very beautiful specimen of English drawing of the XVII. Century producing a grand and imposing effect. This frieze matches to choice, warm shades of ingrain.

No. 1745.—A Ferdinand VII. style of frieze in 10 different, very appropriate and

fashionable colorings. This frieze will recommend itself for the high nobleness and authenticity of its style; reproduced from a famous leather pattern of Spanish origin.

No. 1841.—A large rose pattern matching 10 different shades of ingrain, of which three are very rich and high dark colorings.

No. 1850.—"Glory of Dijon" roses. This frieze is especially remarkable for its gratefulness, richness of forms, and high tones. It is one of the best specimens in natural floral effects that has ever been attempted in America. The elegance of drawing and cheerfulness of coloring combine to make it a gem of art.

A BOOK OF ART.

The Watson, Foster Co., Limited's annual catalogue is now in course of preparation, and will be distributed among their friends during this month. It will consist of 20 full-page illustrations of their leading patterns and combinations. The work will be done in half-tone on the very best quality of paper that can be procured, and, together with the elegant and very artistically arranged cover of the book, it may be termed a work of art which will be well worth preserving among other souvenirs and bric-a-brac. We are requested by the company to advise the dealers that, if, after the present month has expired without their receiving a copy of this book, they will apply for one they will be cheerfully supplied, as it is quite possible some one may be inadvertently overlooked in the rush of distributing them.

A NEW LINE NOW READY.

The new line of Colin McArthur & Co. for 1899-1900 is now ready, and will be shown to the trade by their nine traveling salesmen commencing June 23. Thirty-five books are required, and this is an increase in quantity over any previous year. But not in quantity alone is the advance, for the quality and character of the designs and colorings have had, if possible, more care than in any previous preparation. They have made a lot of dark, rich colorings, to suit the fashionable taste, and, while catering to the advanced ideas in coloring, have not overlooked the important fact that strong colorings must not be crude, but, on the contrary, to be successful, must be, at the same time, chaste and artistic. The whole line, from ungrounded papers with two and three band borders to the ingrain with 22-inch friezes, have been most critically examined, first, in the designs (which, by the way, McArthur buys annually in the New York market in competition with the leading American houses, and spares neither money nor time in order to procure the best), and, subsequently, during the process