

ity in working upon it, compensate a hundredfold for all his pains and expense.

BRUSHES.

Brown sable is the hair best adapted to the purposes of the water colour painter. It carries colour better, and works more freely, than the red sable. This latter is, however, sometimes of service in producing certain effects; in many cases also where a rather stiff foreground colour is employed in large works, and when a body colour white is used; for it is stronger and firmer than the brown sable, but it does not retain so good a point, nor does it work with the same freedom as the brown sable.

Brushes of brown sable are generally made by the insertion of the hair into quills; and hence the size of the brush is recognized by the various names of the quills employed, as Eagle; Swan, large size, middle size and small size; Goose, Duck, and Crow. The Eagle brush is very large, expensive, and seldom used. The small Duck and Crow sables are employed for delicate markings, as in branches, foliage, and architectural details.

Very pleasant and agreeable brushes are now made with German silver ferules; heavier indeed than the quill brushes, but exquisitely made, and much employed for many purposes. These brushes can be obtained of any size, from the smallest minature to the largest Eagle.

These ferule brushes derive also much value from this circumstance, that they admit of being made so effectively in broad flat form. In this form they are employed in foliage for instance, on herbage, or grass, where it is desirable to preserve a square, sharp and well defined touch. This mode of working is adopted from a similar manipulation in oil painting; and here, as in oil painting, the long handle of the brush is of considerable advantage, when the picture is executed on an upright easel. In this case the mahl stick is used, as in that art.

For the working of skies, a wide flat brush is employed. This is the best made of strong red sable for extensive and repeated washings; but if any slight subsequent over-washings be required, the squirrel (or camel hair, as it is called) will be the best,