

name the best and greatest varieties of textures, as well as of weight and thickness, can be obtained.

With the mention only of that kind which contains 72 lbs. to the ream of 20 quires, I will pass to those which weigh 90 lbs., 110 lbs., and 140 lbs. each to the ream. The first of these three may be characterized as a paper generally serviceable for drawings of small dimensions; for paintings, however, requiring the elaborate and severe manipulations of modern art, the second is well adapted; the third being a still thicker paper for still more decided objects and emergencies.

Thus paper is distinguished by its weight; but a still more important distinctive characteristic of paper is in its *texture* or *the grain of its surface*. This texture is greatly varied in different papers; but the following remarks will enable the learner to make his selection, according to the object he has immediately in view. For most drawings it is requisite that the surface should not be too rough; yet that it should have sufficient texture to take and retain the colour. If it be too fine and smooth, there frequently results an unartistic flatness and a want of brilliancy in the work; if, on the contrary, it be too rough, the effect is often harsh and coarse, and the details of the picture cannot be executed with sufficient clearness and precision. Yet it must be carefully observed, that for slight sketches these rough surfaces are extremely favourable, the sparkling lights and shadows caused by the mere projections of the material of the paper, aiding the effect in a peculiarly agreeable manner.

The proper sizing of drawing paper is a consideration of great importance in its manufacture, and is a process in which failure often occurs. If paper be sized too strongly, colour will not float nor wash well upon it, but will appear hard and streaky. If it be sized too little, the colour is absorbed too much into the fabric, and it will appear poor and dead.

It is impossible to urge too strongly the importance and advantage of procuring paper of first-rate quality. Every artist of eminence is unsparing of pains and expense in this particular; since in the saving of time in overcoming any subsequent difficulties, the superior brilliancy of good paper and the great facil-