

## Imitation of Brocade Cloth.

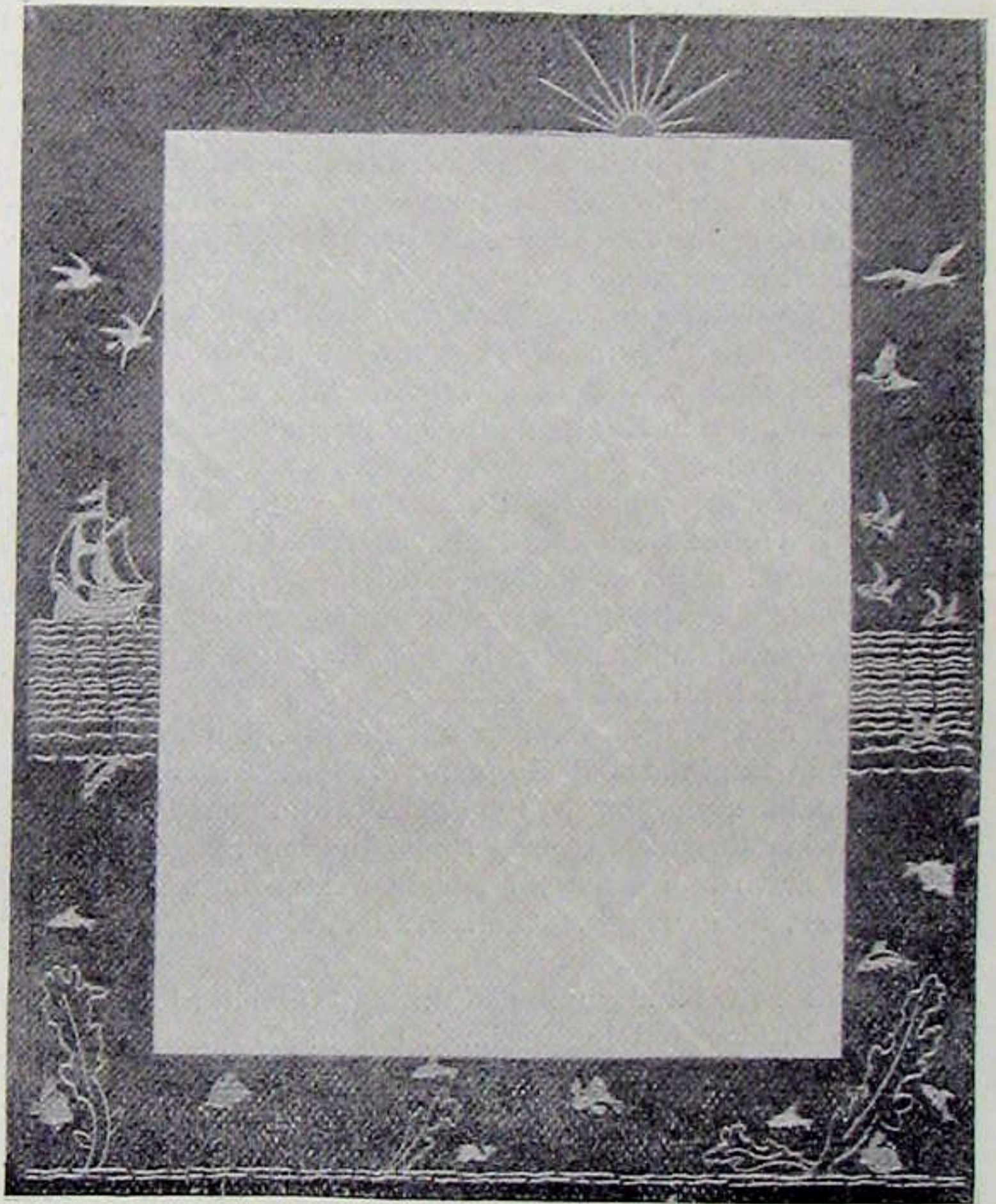
A MUNICH INVENTION—USEFUL FOR BINDERS.



**T**HIS invention from Germany relates to a method of producing an imitation of brocade or gold cloth, and has for its object to produce an inexpensive but durable imitation superior to those hitherto attempted. With former imitations the metallic covering was easily broken, and the texture of the original fabric very imperfectly shown up, which greatly detracted from the beauty of its appearance. Besides obviating these defects in the material, the present method itself possesses the advantage over other methods of gilding, such, for instance, as gilding with white lead, of being uninjurious to the health of the workmen. This method is carried out as follows:—The material forming the groundwork, which is a woven fabric of hemp, flax, wool, cotton, silk, bast, jute, etc., is stretched over a surface of the greatest possible smoothness, and then thoroughly moistened with gelatine dissolved or boiled in water, and to which a small quantity of spirit is added. This operation is conveniently effected by means of a sponge. As gelatine generally forms beads when being applied as a coating, spirit (such as spirit of ethylic alcohol, for instance) must be added to it in the present case, so as to allow the operation of coating or moistening to be effected uniformly and quickly. After the fabric moistened with the spirituous gelatine liquid has dried it is coated, preferably by means of a large brush, with the "ground" hereinafter described, and preferably dabbed with a dabbing brush for the purpose of retaining, as far as possible, the original porousness of the original form of surface. This ground consists of a thick flour paste scalded with hot water and mixed with Venetian turpentine. In order that this ground produced thereby shall not become hard or brittle, the flour paste must be thinned with ox-gall until it is capable of being brushed on. The ground produced in this manner with the greatest care, and made as uniform as possible, is then dry-brushed over one or more times, so as to obtain a uniform surface, with leather collodion, which consists of ordinary collodion with a small quantity of castor oil. Instead of such leather collodion, shellac (preferably light-coloured) may be used. After this coating has dried it is coated with "French mixture," a compound obtainable in commerce, with which may advantageously be mixed about ten per cent. of tenacious varnish to prevent staining or absorption.

After about ten to fifteen hours the whole is covered with the leaf metal—such as gold leaf or silver leaf, real or imitation—designed for the cloth, and is then well brushed, whereupon it is coated with alcoholic

shellac solution, to which is added with advantage ten per cent. of mastic. By means of the method described, the material—such as woven fabric of hemp, flax, wool, silk, cotton, bast, jute, etc.—can be treated in whole pieces, and even over its entire width or over portions of its surface, and a product is obtained which, in consequence of this peculiar method, possesses considerable advantages over the imitations hitherto tried of brocade or gold cloth. A material of this kind retains its original softness; the mass incorporated therewith does not become brittle; and the metal does not break off, even though the material be roughly handled, so that the said material is very durable. The material, after the treatment



INSIDE BORDER OF "THE GOULDEN VANITIE,"  
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described, still shows clearly the structure of the woven fabric, and, aided by its great durability, which is even greater than that of the gilded and polychromed leather, as used at present, it can be embroidered upon, printed upon, and can be employed with advantage for the most various purposes.

THE gold leaf factory of Johann Moritz Mueller, of Dresden, celebrated its 150th anniversary on August 8th. The production of gold leaf is now said to average twelve million leaves per year. This factory employs fifty hands.