

## Restoration of Books.

BOOKBINDINGS are deteriorated in many ways. If they become stiff and rigid, an application of vaseline is good, especially for those bound in calf and morocco; it leaves no trace of its existence to either smell or touch a few hours after its use.

Mildew which shows itself in the form of roundish or irregular brown spots cannot be cured, but its growth may be checked by thoroughly drying the volume. If the leather bindings are dilapidated, broken, rubbed or decayed, fill up the crevices with good paste, then take the yolk of an egg, beat it up with a fork, and apply it to the leather with a sponge. To produce a polished surface a hot iron must be passed over it.

If the interior is stained, grease or wax spots may be easily removed, either by direct evaporation by holding a hot iron close to the place affected, or by washing it with ether or benzine. The remedy for oil stains is sulphuric ether.

The faded ink of old parchments may be restored so as to render the writing legible, by moistening the paper with water and passing over the lines of writing a brush wetted with a solution of sulphide of ammonia. In the case of parchment the colour will remain, while in that of paper it will gradually fade, the explanation of the chemical action being that the iron, entering into alliance with the ink, is transformed by re-action into a black sulphate.

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## Notes and Queries.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—The whole history of engraving, from early ages up to recent times, may be amply studied in the fine collection at the British Museum, which has been selected from the Print-room stores, and is now displayed in the large rooms beyond the Ethnographical Gallery. Wood-engraving, line-engraving on copper, etching, mezzotint, aquatint, and lithography are all well represented. A glass case in the King's Library contains some of the most interesting examples of Bookbinding in the Museum. These volumes are frequently changed.

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FRENCH BINDING.—The "*Manuel Historique et Bibliographique de l'Amateur de Reliures*," by Leon Gruel, Reliure, is one of the most sumptuous works on Bookbinding we have ever seen—we postpone a notice of it to a future number.

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WOMEN'S PROTECTION AND PROVIDENT LEAGUE.—A meeting of the supporters of this league was held on Saturday afternoon, July 16, at Steinway Hall, Portman Square, for the purpose of promoting a trades' hall and club for women, as a memorial to the late Mrs. E. A. Paterson, the founder of the league. Mr. C. Dyke Acland, M.P., took the chair. It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. J. A. Picton, M.P.: "That considering the vast