

The character of the design suggests that the artist attempted to reproduce on leather a pattern worked in embroidery by the skilful fingers of a mediæval dame. The binding appears to be of workmanship contemporary with the printing of the book, in execution and arrangement the design is thoroughly German, bespeaking either a foreign workman or a foreign model; ornamentation similar, though not exactly corresponding, emanated from the workshops of both Caxton and Pynson, and there can be little doubt that this book was bound by one of De Worde's own workmen. The border is an early instance of the use of the pattern-roller in England. To trace the history of the Worcester copy of the "Legenda," is a matter of great difficulty, but it is possible that it was purchased direct from the printer, and that it has remained at Worcester ever since; it is probable that it was one of the purchases of the last Prior but one, the good William Moore, who always added a few books to the Monastic Library when he took his periodical journey to London.* We find in a list of books supplied to Worcester Monastery in 1518-19 the following entry:—

"Legenda s'tor' in Englische vi. s." Can this be the "Capgravius" in which we are interested?

NOTE.—It may be well to note that the diagrams illustrating these papers are as far as possible facsimiles, and the irregularities in the drawings are copies of like irregularities in the originals.

* "Monastery and Cathedral of Worcester." By Alderman J. Noake. Page 415.

[To be continued.]

Front-Edge Cutting under Difficulties.

WE have a hint to offer, and will ask the reader to imagine that a number of books have been marbled contrary to order, and the customer demands that they shall be re-done. Of course there is then no alternative but to re-trim them, and it is upon this re-trimming that we ask attention.

Now, to trim the ends of these books it would not be a troublesome job, but with the fronts it would be, especially if a large number had to be tied and jogged up, as is usually done. The common practice of tying-up books so that the round shall not slip back to its original position before the cutting has been completed is a long process, but there is a more simple and speedy way of accomplishing the same end, and to describe this is our object now. It is as follows:—Cut a piece of No. 20 binders' board the exact width and length of the front-edge to be cut. Set the gauge of the machine to the right distance, and with the binders' board push the front of the book so that it becomes perfectly flat and nearly even with the knife, and that when the cutting is done only a mere shaving can be cut off. The man at the cutting machine is the one who should see that the book is pushed to the right distance, while the boy holds the clamp lightly upon it, and at the proper time gives the last pull, so that the book may be held down firmly at the time the cutting takes place.

At the first thought it may appear impracticable that a book could be pushed back in this way and trimmed perfectly, but it can be, and thus the importance of giving a detailed account of this ingenious remedy for saving books as well as time under very critical circumstances.