

Shaded Script

WE Dennis, Studies in Pen Art

1914, AN Palmer Company

A very practical style of penmanship is Shaded Script. Much of the art Engrosser's work includes this bold effective kind of writing. Policies, diplomas, wills, deeds, etc., are often written in this style.

The examples given herewith are to quite an extent off-hand work, such as the capitals, but for the small letters a strong, steady finger movement is required. What is known as the "muscular movement" is not suitable for the small letters in this kind of writing, although it can be applied to the capitals, or the whole-arm movement. This bold Shaded Script cannot be done with any great speed; excepting the off-hand capitals, it is executed with a rather slow deliberate movement, the pen being raised whenever convenient. It requires much practice in order to produce good, strong shades, regularity and a pleasing uniform appearance.

A flexible pen, straight holder or oblique, good black ink, such as Arnold's Japan and Fluid mixed, David's, or Walkden's Japan mixed with fluid ink, also India ink, when not too thick, are the things to work with. There are so many kinds of pens that it is not advisable to recommend any particular make. The student should determine which produces the best results. Most penmen who excel in this style of writing prefer a pen quite flexible, fine-pointed and durable.