

glorious oaks, in groups and singly. "Connecticut Woods," "New Jersey Oaks," "Morning at High Bridge," "An East River Idyl," indicate the subjects with their home clang, of his choice. He is an aggressive artist, regarded by some admirers as leader, if not founder, of a school of landscape and his sensational retaliation of offensive criticism is advertising him widely. Mr. David C. Preyer, the editor of the Art Collector and Critic, is under arrest on a charge of criminal libel. Ranger will henceforth be classed with Whistler among the Irascibles. I greatly admired Mr. Robert C. Minor's work, his "Close of the Day," is ideally beautiful. As I stood looking at it voices behind me were audible, "Yes, it is lovely, but it is nature seen through colored glass." No other painting in the collection shows such old-masterly warmth of color; at Chickering hall it was greeted with round after round of applause and an exciting series of bids for it; resulted in running the sums offered up to three thousand and fifty dollars. It was secured for the Metropolitan museum. Mr. and Mrs. Minor were present at the sale and must have enjoyed a rarely interesting experience. Another canvas of Minor's might be described as green and gold cast into a landscape; another represents three wizened trees, with a sea-twist and sea-stoop in dark profile against a shining wave-lapped shore, the air full of night shadow, "The Hunter's Moon."

Bogart was another lion of the palette; a capital impressionist—splash, dash, gray ground-tone, black pigment outline, and, behold, an old Dutch town, windmill with arms akimbo, a bridge and over it a blotch, which shall be and is both horse and horseman, another, which stands for row-boats and boatmen.

Bunce's "San Giorgio at Venice" has the light that shines in opals.

Two noble figure pieces, Abbott Thayer's "Young Woman" and Sarah C. Sear's "Romola," an Evans prize picture in water color, interest me. Romola has left her youth behind her; the well-set head, the grand shoulders, the face full of pathetic history, slanting a sad gaze downward, seem a true embodiment of one of the greatest characters of fiction.

I noticed but two examples of Winslow Homer's art, "Sunday Morning in Virginia" and "Weather-beaten," a rock bound coast, the ocean's charge and cloud burst of spray. Of the two beautiful George Fuller's, one, "Loretta," goes to the Corcoran gallery. Few pictures were keyed up to the so-called "plain air" and "green cast of thought."

These were some of the gems of a collection now widely scattered, but the

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New York galleries are almost without exception ringing changes on the same theme—American art and artists. One thousand nine hundred is a good year for the eagle to pose as well as to scream. The Union League club is exhibiting a collection of native works by different artists; at Tooth's the recent work of Henry W. Ranger is being shown; at Macbeth's that of Child Hassam; at Avery's that of F. Hopkinson Smith. The Clauson gallery promises a series of individual exhibitions by American artists, the first of which, now on view, consists of painting by E. S. Hamilton. It is quite a local renaissance. I have yet to mention the most important, because permanent, exhibition of recent American work furnished by the new appellate court building on Madison square, of which I may some day send you a word sketch.

SARAH WOOL MOORE.

New York, February 3, 1900. [The foregoing letter from the founder of the Haydon Art club will be read with much pleasure by the readers of The Courier and especially by those who had the good fortune to know Miss Moore and to come within the large radius of her beneficent influence.—Ed.]

When Henry Clay was stumping Kentucky for re-election, at one of his mass meetings an old hunter of wide political influence said: "Well, Henry, I've always been for you, but because of that vote (which he named) I'm goin' ag'in you."

"Let me see your rifle," said Clay. "Is she a good rifle?" "Yes." "Did she ever miss fire?" "Well, yes, once." "Why didn't you throw her away?" The old hunter thought a moment and then said, "Henry, I'll try you again." And Henry was elected.

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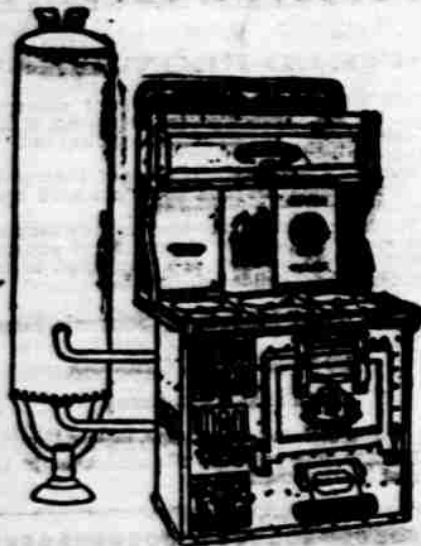
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