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NEBRASKA ART EXHIBIT

This Year's Hangings to Include
Many Notable Works of Painters

A group of nine pictures to be shown at the approaching ninth exhibit of the Nebraska Art Association is reproduced on this page. These pictures were hung at the Pan-American as they appear in the cut and will be arranged thus at the exhibition. Mr. Samuel T. Shaw, a devoted patron of art, offers prizes to the artists whose pictures are admitted to the annual exhibit of The Society of American Artists, and these nine pictures have taken the prizes in the exhibits of the society held in New York from 1890 to 1892. Before this group at the Pan-American there was always a company of interested spectators, artists and the art-loving discussing the merits and criticising the color, composition and atmosphere.

Mr. Shaw, who loans the pictures to the Nebraska Art Association, is a sincere lover of art and appreciates its influence in increasing the joy of living. After he had promised Nebraska the group the Charleston exposition management was anxious to secure it, but he had given his word and the commissioners were unsuccessful.

When the story of this period of the world's history is written it will be seen that although there had been sporadic cases of kindness and benevolence in previous centuries, it was not until the last quarter of the nineteenth century it was accounted a disgrace for the rich man to die rich. The socialists and preachers of brotherliness have convicted the rich of sin if they fail to look out for the men and women who, for one reason or another, are denied books, pictures, travel and culture. Cain's question is just being answered and the strong who have won the race by reason of greater strength and better birth constitute themselves their "brother's keeper."

It is in harmony with this spirit of the age that Mr. Shaw offers prizes to the artists and sends his pictures to us. To make men and women he has never seen happier by glimpses of color and composition that would otherwise be confined to New York or the larger cities of the east is Mr. Shaw's pure motive. There is precedent for concluding that his benevolence will be fruitful. The receipts last year from the exhibit of the society were \$2,200. After the expenses of the exhibit were met, there was enough to buy three pictures: *The Heath*, by Andre Dauchez, *Vibrant Notes of Autumn*, by George Gardner Symonds, and *Under the Trees*, by Elizabeth Nourse. Be-

sides there were seven of the exhibition pictures sold to private individuals. Paintings by Falkner, Walden, Sousa Pinto, Couse, Blenner, and Parker, were bought by Lincoln people and have been a source of light and inspiration ever since.

The Nebraska Art Association is a rechristened and reorganized Haydon Art Club. In eleven years after its organization the Haydon Art Club held six annual exhibits. The first one

facts none but the artist is able to assign to its source.

As examples of what the best artists are doing, the pictures now on their way to Lincoln are unrivaled. The pictures of the group, each one of which has been awarded the Shaw prize, are by H. O. Walker, William M. Chase, Edmond C. Tarbell, George W. Maynard, Irving R. Wiles, George R. Barse, Jr., Douglas Volk, Frank W. Benson and Theodore Robinson.

The officers of the Association are: President, Mr. F. M. Hall, Vice President, Dr. Lowrey, Corresponding Secretary, Miss Sara Hayden, Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. S. Raymond, Treasurer, Mr. A. G. Greenlee. Board of Directors: all the preceding officers and Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews, Mrs. Langworthy of Seward, President Perry of Doane college, Professors Fling and Hodgman, and Mr. Plym.

early struggle of the Haydon Art club in its efforts to awaken and stimulate an interest in art in our city.

Being a "charter member" of this association means more than the mere contribution of a dollar to the funds of the society. It means that every member who has joined the association has and is contributing, not only his dollar, but his energy, his encouragement and his moral support to the building up of such an earnest art sentiment in this community that shall ultimately result in the establishment of a permanent art gallery here which shall contain the pictures of the finest artists in this country, and when this is accomplished all those who have been charter members of the association will look back upon its work with pride and satisfaction.

Plans are being formulated for next year to broaden and strengthen the association in many ways. It is hoped that these new plans will be consummated during the present exhibition.

The year book will not be mailed to resident members, but will be delivered to them at the art gallery. The book will, however, be mailed to non-resident members.

The list of painters given herewith is indicative of the high character of the entire exhibition. The big room wherein the pictures are hung is well adapted to the purpose, and is convenient of access to the public.

The picture exhibit has become a feature of the state teachers' association which meets in Lincoln every year because of the university. Several hundred teachers and superintendents look forward to the exhibit

with justifiable ardor. By their good report and criticism the influence of the pictures is carried to the interior and frontiers of the state, and deserves the co-operation of every citizen.

Gold Increase

In the November number of the International Monthly Professor Shaler, the Harvard geologist, estimates that on account of improved machinery and processes it costs now only about a third as much as in 1850 to get gold out of lodes and veins. Miners are working with profit mines that have been abandoned as not worth the labor. Professor Shaler thinks that in the next twenty years mines that are now considered of little value will yield five hundred million dollars a year. But the chief value will accrue from placer mining, which is washing the gold out of accumulations of detritus made by the decay of gold-bearing rock. "The use of dredges in handling pay dirt of this sort and the cheapening of other processes have made so much difference that within twenty years this sort of mining alone is likely to yield as much gold as all the mines yield now." In 1899 the earth produced gold valued at \$307,000,000. So in twenty years according to Dr. Shaler the annual production may be \$800,000,000.



GROUP OF PICTURES IN NEBRASKA ART EXHIBIT, WHICH OPENS DECEMBER 26

exhibited Piloty's *Wise and Foolish Virgins*. It is a far cry from Piloty's "Virgins" to a landscape by Sousa Pinto. The "Virgins," poor, tardy girls, were, or rather are (for they are embalmed in paint), painted in the hard old German style. They stand on a dais, solid as rock but no more rigid than the light which falls upon them. As I remember it the picture has no vibration, no tender mystery of atmosphere melts the outlines. But the "Virgins" is a splendid example of the old style and made an excellent beginning for the exhibitions of pictures by artists of a later school. The first exhibit of real merit was held in the armory of Grant Memorial hall in 1894. The pictures were loaned by the Western Art Association of Chicago, and among them was that remarkable study of firelight by Frank Benson, one of whose pictures will be shown in the coming exhibition. This picture inspired Miss Parker, the teacher of painting at the university, to paint a girl illumined by lamplight, a picture full of the tender vibrations and soft, warm shadows of this kind of light. Such a direct effect on creative art is one of the results always hoped for in these exhibits. Doubtless many have been stirred to an activity whose ef-

About a hundred pictures will be exhibited and President Hall says that the average will be higher than any exhibit yet held. This annual exhibit has come to be a feature of the year and none of the educational opportunities here are more inspiring and stimulating.

The exhibition will open on the evening of December 26th, with a reception under the auspices of the Patriarchs. This social organization is planning to make this reception a social event in the history of the art association. On that evening the first year book ever issued by the art association will be distributed to all of its annual members. This book will contain an historical sketch of everything that has been done in an art way by the Haydon Art club and its successor, the Nebraska Art association. Many people no doubt will be surprised on reading this book to find what has been accomplished along art lines in this city through this association. It will contain the names of all the charter members whose names have been given to the secretary or treasurer on or before the closing of the books last evening. It will recall many pleasant memories and associations connected with the