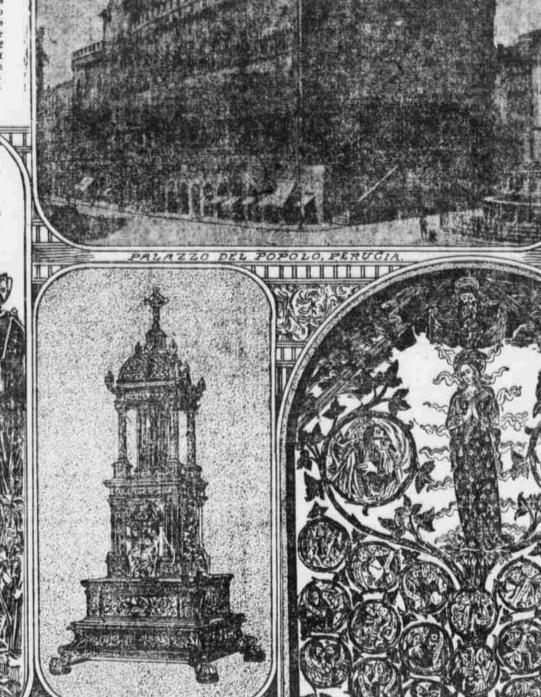
Rare Masterpieces of Early Italian Art Displayed at Perugia

history that dates back from the Eiruscans, and fragments of the wall built by them around the town more than 3,000 portant both on account of art as well as the Roman Consul Fabiu defeated the Etruscans and took possession of the town. Etruscans and took possession of the town. by Benedetto Bonnight, probably the master in the year 40 B. C. the emperor Augustus of Perugino. The one in the church of the emperor postponed the sack for a day. Perugia at the end of the fifteenth cenbut one of its citizens set fire to his house tury. The pictures represented in these

R Italian town is as full and varied front, the populace behind, while a wait as that of a nation. Perugia, the of lamentations filled the air. Very often, capital of the province of Umbria, as in the banner of Bonfigli at San Florwhich lies spread like a great and enzo, a poem of supplication to God would ever changing pageant at her feet, has a be painted on the banner itself, with paslaid slege to Perugia, which held out for San Florenzo was made at the time of seven months. When the town surrendered a terrible pestilence which raged through



MADONNA DEL SOCCORSO BY SINIBALDO IBI

during the night and by the next morning gonfaloni are always highly dramatic, tree arises and branches out in a convengustus rebuilt it some years later and vengful. Death strives with man, and circles in each, of which two personages are henceforth it was called Augusta Perusia, the Virgin, sorrowful and merciful, while painted, whose names are written on ribduchy, subsequently it was restored to the empire, and gradually it grow powerful and individual until finally it became almost independent, subdued neighboring towns and extended its description. On the top of the tree between two larger circles, in which are painted St. Anne and St. Joachim. The painting is supposed to which is a beautiful specimen of the massive ter's purely pictistic painting. In contrast boring towns and extended its dominion over all Umbria. Meanwhile Perugia was in close connection with the papacy, but

the pope's authority was purely nominal. times without number, but in 1375 their second is full of hope.

authority was fully recognized.

blood and tyranny, of internal strife and owing to its artistic merits, as on account the rest of the painting, although unfin- vent. ernment of the town was disputed and painted as an old man with long hoary hair masterly style. controlled by the noble families, Michelotti, Oddi and Baglieni, until the year 1559, when Pope Paul III took possession of Perugia, razed the house of the last despot to the ground and re-established the power of the papacy. After three years Perugia again revolted against the pope, and again was subdued. In 1797 the town became a French prefecture and in 1899 it was formally annexed to the French empire. Fifty years later Pius X sent papal troops to Perugia and regained possession of the town. Finally, in 1860, the papal troops were dislodged by General Fanti, the efvoy of King Victor Emmanuel, and the town that had risen fighting, and fighting had flourished, became part of the united kingdem of Italy. The light of romance was lost from its history and it acquired the silence, tranquillity and peace which characterizes modern Italian towns.

It has been asserted that a very close connection exists between history and art, and one would naturally expect to find in Umbrian art some reflection of the warlike, ever rebellious and strong people of Perugia, yet in no school of art was the feeling of the painters more purely and more absolutely religious than in Umbria. Art When George Washington was president here is the spiritual escape or reaction it was little more than a village. It has from the history of the times in which it was produced. Perhaps this is to be at- soon reach 500,000. tributed to that extraordinary power over the minds of men exercised by the mere example of pure living and sweetness of character of the great saint of Assist, whose influence of peace is still felt throughout Umbria. The art of Umbria raises the spirit to the pure regions of to any town on our continent. It is mysticism and it represents the very op- now a city of street cars and automoposite of all that fury, blood and passion biles. Its citizens walk or ride to its peculiar to the time and places in which theaters by the light of electricity, and the artists lived and worked.

An exhibition of ancient Umbrian art ticker in its Stock exchange. It is a is now held in the Palazzo del Popolo of town of big hotels, gay cafes and pal-Perugia, which was built between the years aces galore. In addition to the 300,000 1279 and 1341 and which is considered the Mohammedans, there are more than 190,most wonderful architectural monument of 600 Christian Europeans now living in the thirteenth century. The exhibition in- it, and among them some of the smartcludes specimens of every kind of Um- est business men of the Mediterranean brian art and comprises a vast and varied sea. The city has become commercial, collection of art treasures, many of which money-making and fortune-hunting. The were but imperfectly known before now, rise and fall of stocks, the boom in real It would prove beyond the scope of an ar- estate and the modern methods of getticle to trace, however briefly, the develop- ting something for nothing are its chief ment of Umbrian art from its infancy un- subjects of conversation, and the whole til it reached its climax with Perugino, who population is after the clusive plastre stamped the peculiar personality of his and the Egyptian pound as earnestly as painting upon a whole school of Renais- the American is chasing the nickel and sance Italian art, but a fairly good idea of the dollar. the importance of the Perugia exhibition may be given by illustrating a few of its

Undoubtably one of the most remarkable characteristics of the spiritual tendency wealth comes from. It is growing fat from of the Umbrian school was exemplified in the trade of the Nile valley. It is the the painting of the gonfalone or banner, water-gate to Egypt and the Soudan, and a style of picture which is peculiar to Um- every cent's worth of goods that goes in Hable to have fits of excessive repentance; ships enter this port every year, and there when casting aside the vanities of the flesh are now vessels in the harbor from nearly they would half kill themselves with cords, every port of the world. I came to Egypt stripes and lamentations. Sometimes they appealed to the saints through litanies. at others they appealed to Christ's mercy, week which within fifteen days will take especially at times of plague, through art, me to New York. The German lines are These banners were carried in nec

this painting is anou-Ibi which comes from the church of St. carried away from Perugia by Napoleon to Francis in Montone and represents the Paris; still there is one canvass, the gem Madonna del Soccorso, the Mother of Help. of the collection, which, although in an

Perugia was burned to the ground. Au- Christ is represented as inexorable and re- tional manner, forming twenty-one small In the invasions of the Goths Perugia suf- sad and supplicating groups of saints and bons. Each one of these is one of the red the fate of all other Italian cities, citizens kneel by the city walls and pray ancestors of the Virgin Mary, who appears

GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE VINGE Internal strife between the people and the These two paintings, while having the char- unfinished state, is undoubtedly the great who was celebrated for ner piety and who, ated with towers and angles and adorned an acknowledgment of their authority. represents. While the first one has a pre- Only the head, hands and feet are finished; stone of the Collegio della Mer-The Perugians revolted against the popes valling touch of sorrow and sadness the the rest is merely outlined. The head is a the rule of the nobles. According to tradimagnificent specimen of Perugino's art. tion this painting was kept in the cell of roted town intended for Citta di Castello. varied and rich. Among the latter there three choral books of the fifteenth century Among the many paintings exhibited The eyes of Christ express resigned pain, the Blessed Colomba, and it was held in The reliquary belongs to the thirteenth is one by Matteo da Gualdo which belongs representing Christ in glory, the Virgin

be a field; from his chest a trunk of a missioned by the Blessed Colomba, a nun eled silver has an hexagonal base decor- ornaments, church vestments belonging to erine. Among the former the most im- laces, coins and embroideries.

nobles weakened the power of the town acteristics of the Umbrian school, differ master's most interesting work. The paint- with her mysterious warnings, attempted with six medallions in enamel. Three fall into the hands of the profane. The which represents the Griffin which forms and the pope repeatedly attempted to force considerably in the conception which each ing represents Christ carrying the cross. on many occasions to calm the frantic pas- Gothic shrines to contain the statues of Tuscan lady had the audacity to wear it the arms of the city of Perugia; a page

transparent stone, probably an opal.

There is a legend in connection with this Umbria. relic which deserves a passing mention. A The Umbrian artists excelled in missal lady of Tuscany, having a great love of illuminating, and the collection of choral jewelry despatched a man to Rome to books, missals and codes gathered from search for jewels in that city. There he all the towns of the province is the most chanced to meet a Levantine jeweller who complete and perfect that has ever been had just come from Jerusalem and who put together. The best specimens are the gave him the ring, bidding him to receive following: The first page from the code it with all reverence and see that it did not of the Collegio del Cambio, the exchange The later history of Perugia, from the there is one by Matteo da Gualdo which the hands show in a remarkable degree the such veneration by the nuns that it was century. A silver processional cross by to the municipality of Gualdo Tadino. It in giery and the universal or last judgment. end of the fourteenth century, is one of descrees special mention, not so much physical effort of carrying the cross, while never until new allowed to leave their conof Mongiovine of Pamicals, is a perfect ex- ter, with St. John the Baptist to the right above the exhibition of ancient Umbrian despotism, of feuds and crimes. The gov. of the subject it represents. Adam is ished, gives a good idea of the painter's The most important collection in the ample of the Umbrian's silversmith's art. and St. Catherine of Sienna to the left. In art at Perugia contains innumerable col-Perugia exhibition is that of religious sil- There are chalices without number, each the predella there is the baptism of Christ, lections of brocades, frecoes, porcelain, and beard lying down on what appears to This canvass is said to have been com- ver ornaments, A reliquary of gilt enam- a masterpiece, crosses, candlesticks, altar the Holy Supper and a miracle of St. Cath- weapons, antique furniture, wood carving,

popes and bishops, which up to the present portant are two altar pieces by Nicolio time had remained hidden in Umbrian Alunno, the painter of Foligno, one of the churches and monasteries. There is a early Umbrian masters, whose works are beautiful baptisimal font of the fifteenth scattered through the small churches of century from Spoleto in silver, finely chis-eled. There is another reliquary of St. which belongs to the cathedral of Gualdo Benedict from Norcia, also fifteenth cen- Tadine is a truly remarkable work of the tury work of priceless value, and a wonder- kind. It represents the Virgin and Child ful and exquisitely worked silver shrine by surrounded by angels in adoration and F. Roscetto, where the wedding ring of flanked by Saints Peter and Paul, St. Franthe Virgin Mary is kept. This ring,, which cis, St. Bernardino, St. Antonky, St. Seis the greatest relic that Perugia has, was bastian, St. Ludovic and the archangel plously stolen from Chiusi by a certain Michael. The other one from Nocera Winterio di Magenza in 1472, and it pos- Umbra represents the Virgin kneeling. sesses miraculous powers. The ring is a adoring the Child in the central panel, while circle of some thickness, with a blue the side panels are adorned with representations of different saints venerated in

Real Estate in Valley of the Nile Taking on Boom Prices

LEXANDRIA, Aug. 1 .- (Special commerce. Correspondence of The Bee.)first visit to it was twenty-five years ago, just before Arabi Pasha started the rebellion which threw Egypt into the hands of the English. I saw it again seven years later on my way around the world, and I find now a new city which has risen up and swallowed those of the

The Alexandria of today stands upon the site of the greatest of the commercial centers of antiquity, but its buildings are as young as those of New York, Chicago or Beston. It is one of the boom towns of the old world and it has all grown up within 100 years. now more than 400,000 people and it will

Alexandria is a city with all modern improvements. It has wide streets as well as paved as those of Washington. It has public squares which will compare favorably with many in Europe, and buildings which would be an ornament its rich men gamble by reading the

Alexandrin's New Harbor.

It is easy to see where Alexandria's The inhabitants of Perugia were and out has to pay toll. More than 4,900 from Malta on a ship bound to India and Australia, and I can get a steamer any It was then that the gonfaloni was painted. making a specialty of Egyptian passensions gers and freight, and they are gradually

Alexandria has one of the best harbors on out to the sea. The canal was constructed with the obelisks and the Pyramids as its In other letters I shall describe the won- purpose. The donkey and the donkey boy I am again in the great scaport the Mediterranean. The port has been im- by forced labor. The fellaheen, to the num- chief landmarks. Then its most interesting development that has gone are here still, but I can get a street car in of the valley of the Nile. My proved within the past few years until its arrangements for loading and unloading goods are unsurpassed. It has a breakwater two miles in length and the biggest ditch, and they were so over-worked that ocean steamers can come right up to the 30,000 died on the job. Mehamet Ali also There are 2,500 acres of water in which ships can have a safe anchorage, and many vessels come here to coal. The most of the coal is brought from England and left until the ships need it. Something like 12,000,000 tons were thus handled last year, many of the steamers on their way in to and out from the Suez canal stop at Alexandria for fuel.

I do not know how much the harbor has cost, save that it runs high into the millions of dollars. When Mehamet Ali made Alexandria his capital the place was only

(Copyright, 1907, by Frank G. Carpenter.) capturing the bulk of the Mediterranean carrying goods into the valley and bringing I first visited her a quarter of a century time. They now amount to \$110,000,000 a the cotton, sugar, grain and other products ago, her country was a land of the dead, year and are increasing right along. It took them a year to dig the fifty-mile and Ismail Pasha laid out more than \$12,000,000 in the same way. Since the English took hold they have been steadily making other improvements, and they have works now under way which will cost millions more. The commerce of the port is increasing enormously, and the city promises to become even greater than in

Egypt in 1907.

stretches out to the Mediterranean is grid- from \$20 to \$50 an acre per year. troned with iron tracks and railroad trains now carry one almost to the heart of central Africa. When I was last here about The conditions at Alexandria are typical sixteen years ago Egypt was importing land is so high in Cairo itself that a surbur- telephone to the consul general at Cairo. a vilinge with no connection with the Nile. of the new Egypt. Old Mother Nile has goods to the amount of \$25,000,000 or \$30,-He dug a canal fifty miles long to that drawn on the seven-league boots of modern 600,000. She is now buying more than \$100,great waterway, and there is now a stream progress and she is growing in wealth like 000,000 worth every year and her exports are probably have their homes outside the by the degen. The men come to dinner in of vessels going up and down that canal a jimsen weed in an asparagus bed. When more than twice what they were at that city.

ber of 250,000, scooped the sand out with characters were the mummified kings of on here and the extraordinary increase in Alexandria that will take me to any part their hands and carried it away in baskets. 2,000 odd years ago, and her chief visitors land values throughout the whole valley of of the town, and I have to jump now and were antiquity hunters and one-lunged the Nile. I am told that in the lower then to get out of the way of an autotourists after a warm winter climate, delta farm lands are selling from \$500 to mobile. There are cabs everywhere and These same characters are here today, but \$1,009 an acre, and that especially good Alexandria and Cairo have thousands of spent an enormous amount on the harbor, in addition have come the capitalist, the tracts bring even more. All the way up them. syndicate and the ardent deliar chaser, the Nile from Cairo to Assiout, for a dis-Egypt is now a land of banks and stock tance of about 300 miles, you cannot buy description. In this, where I am writing, exchanges. It throngs with civil engineers, an acre of cultivatable land for less than the rates are from 80 to 100 plasters per irrigation experts and men interested in \$300, and many a farmer would refuse to day, and inside the hotel walls I am as far the development of the country by elec- sell his little tract for \$500 per. Rents of from the old Egypt as I would be in the tricity and steam. The delta or the great lands have gene up in the same preportion. Waldorf at New York. The servants are fan of land which begins at Cairo and and I knew of farms which are bringing French speaking Swiss in swallow-tail

real estate of the cities. Both Cairo and In my bedroom there is an electric bell and Alexandria are inflating their values, and I can go out into the hall and talk over the ban development has begun, and in the future the poorer of the foreigners will

Western Civilization and Vices.

I find Egypt changing in character. The going on in the drawing room while the Mohammedans are being corrupted by the guests drink coffee there after dinner, and Christians, and the simple living taught by the only evidence one perceives of the land the Koran, whereby the believer abstains of the Pharchs is the fall minarets which from strong drink and other vices, has be- here and there reach above the other buildcome infected with the gay and glddy ings of the city, and the voices of the pleasures of the French. Cairo, the city mueszins as they stand upon them and call of the Arabian nights, is fast becoming a out to the Mohammedans to come to prayer, city of Parisian nights, and the Mohammedan call to prayer is new mingled with the bacchanalian songs of the cafe chantants. In many cases the system of the harem is being exchanged for something worse. The average Mohammedan has but one wife, but in many cases he has a sweetheart in

a house around the corner. The ghouls of modern science are robbing the graves of those who made the pyramids. A telephone line has been stretched out of Cairo almost to the ear of the Sphinx, and there is a hotel at the base of the pyramid of Cheops, where English men and women drink brandy and soda between

their games of tennis and golf. The Egypt of today is a land of mighty hotels and multitudinous tourists. Our consul general estimates that Americans alone spend almost \$4,000,000 here every winter, and the English, French and Germans spend almost as much. He estimates that there are 10,000 Americans who visit the Nile valley every season and that it costs each one of them something like \$10 per day for an average stay of two months.

Cabs. Trams and Automobiles. When I first visited this country the donkey was the chief means of transport, and men, women and children went about on long-eared beasts, with Arab boys in blue gowns following behind and urging the animals along by poking sharp sticks into

which had been denuded of skin for the

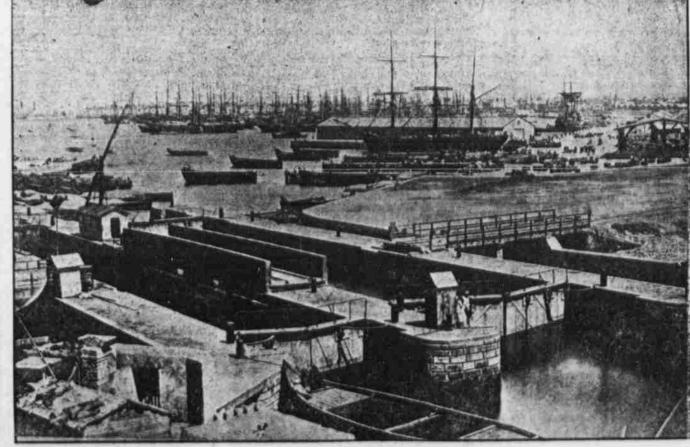
The new hotels are extravagant beyond coats, and their palms itch for fees just as The same conditions obtain as to the do those of their class in our big.hotels. The hotel is packed with guests, and on its register I see counts by the score and lords steel pen coats and the women in silks with low necks and short sleeves. There is a babel of English, French and German

Mohammedans Growing Rich.

The changes which I have described are by no means confined to the Christians. The natives are growing rich and the Mohammedans are for the first time in the history of Egypt piling up money. They are investing their surplus in real estate, and it is this that has done much to swell all land values.

Egypt is still a country of the Egyptians, notwithstanding the government of the English and the influx of the foreigners. It has now about 10,000,000 people and of these 9,800,000 are either Arabs or descendants of the original Egyptians. The most of them are Mohammedans, although there are all told something like 600,000 Copts. The Copts are the descendants of the ancient Egyptians. They have a rude kind of Christianity, and are, as a body, better educated and wealthier than the Mohammedans. They are noted as clerks and accountants and are also fine workmen in gold and silver and in other such trades. They are money makers and money savers and I understand that many of them, especially in upper Egypt, are now making fortunes. The pure Mohammedans do. not as a rule go into banking or money lending. That is against the Koran and they invest most of their savings in lands. The foreign population of Egypt is less

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ALEXANDRIA'S NEW HARBS