

HOFMANN'S STUDIO.

[CORRESPONDENT IN GERMANY].

An artist's studio is always interesting, even to the dilettante. So after many pleadings from American admirers in Dresden, Herr Hofmann consented to open his studio from twelve until two every Sunday. The villa in which he lives is small and old fashioned. It is surrounded by trees and somewhat dismal looking. A neat little maid answers the bell and shows the visitor up stairs into two rather small rooms where the great artist is surrounded by adoring tourists. Herr Hofmann is a well preserved man with kind eyes and a gentle manner. His hair and beard are both grey. He has never married, so a sister keeps house for him. He speaks almost no English, which obliges me to think up two or three of my newly learned German sentences. Many Americans, of whom he will assure you he is very fond, buy his photographs at some store and ask him to affix his autograph. This he does in a most gracious manner.

The studio itself is just a little disappointing. All the fascinating sketches have been carefully put away and half finished canvasses are turned to the wall. There were no bread crumbs or mice or soft coatings of dust and the lay figure looked fit for a promenade. It is these half revealed thoughts from the artist's mind that give an admirer an insight into an artist's character. Perhaps Hofmann gives the room over to the neat little maid early Sunday morning and she arranges it according to her idea of propriety.

Among the pictures on easels about the studio is a head of Christ. The first study for that wonderful masterpiece, "Christ in the Temple," which admirers rank next to the Sistine Madonna among the religious paintings of the world. Every one knows this picture from copies if he has never seen the original in the Dresden art gallery. The Christ child is of a Jewish type with dark, wonderful eyes and a radiance that shines from the whole face. Another painting is "Christ and the Rich Young Man," which the artist has always kept in his own possession. It is the face of the Saviour that is marvelous in its spirituality and the other figures form a setting as it were. This gift of portraying the spirit shining through the face without the conventional halo and other signs of divinity is the power of Hofmann's work. There is scarcely a subject in the New Testament that he has not illustrated with wonderful success. On the other hand in his studio is a large painting of "Leda and the Swan" which is interesting although good enough in color and drawing.

Hofmann must at some time have thought it his duty to try a conventional subject but it is to be hoped he was soon convinced of his unfitness for that field.

As you leave the room you notice a little box near the door under which is written "Remember the Poor." All visitors drop a mark or so in the box before leaving. It shows the heart of the man who can portray so perfectly the face of Christ.

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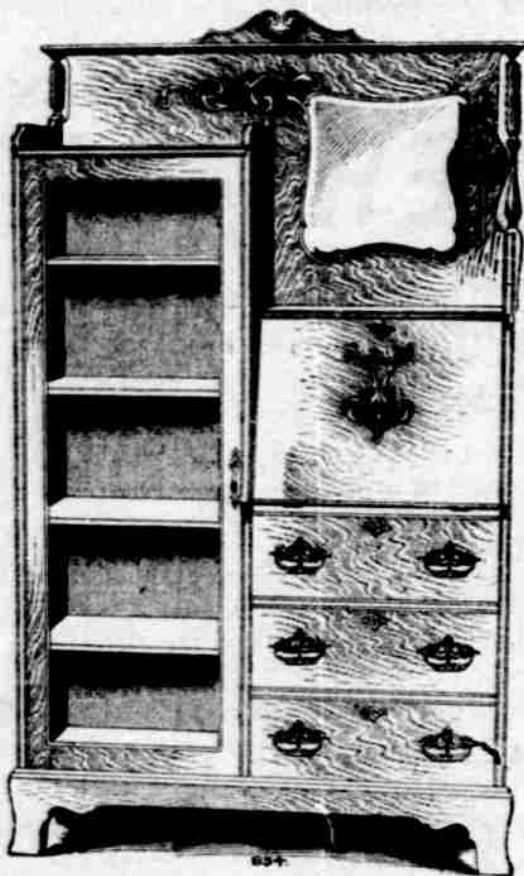
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First publication September 11.

SHERIFF SALE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT by virtue of an order of sale issued by the clerk of the district court of the third judicial district of Nebraska, within and for Lancaster county, in an action wherein Julian C. Gregory is plaintiff, and John D. Slade et al. defendants. I will, at 2 o'clock p. m. on the 12th day of October, A. D. 1897, at the east door of the court house, in the city of Lincoln, Lancaster county, Nebraska, offer for sale at public auction, the following described lands and tenements to wit:

Lot one (1), in block five (5), lot four (4), in block ten (10), lot one (1), in block eleven, (11), lot three, (3) in block twelve (12), lot four (4), in block twenty-one (21), lot one (1), in block twenty-nine (29), and lots one (1), two (2), three (3) and four (4), in block thirty (30), all in Washington Heights, an addition to the city of Lincoln, Lancaster county, Nebraska.

Given under my hand this 8th day of September, A. D. 1897.

JOHN J. TROMPEN,
Sheriff.

O. 9.

Every advertising rule depends for its success upon the fitness and common sense with which it is applied. General principles are like one of Captain Cuttle's observations, the bearing of which lays in the application of it.