

Work of local Artists and the Loan Collection. The number of surprisingly good pictures by the small and isolated group of artists in Lincoln, as well as the large number of good pictures in the loan collection at the university, deserves definite recognition.

Mrs. Frances Mumaugh of Omaha contributes four pictures; two oils, Grapes, and Roses, and two water colors, a Cornfield and an Interior. The roses are painted with great refinement and I have chanced on several occasions to overhear bystanders praising their color. The Cornfield and the Interior are truthful and transfused with an artist's spirit. Miss Parker's ideal head of a young girl in pastel has charming color and the light in the picture, not on it, is a real inspiration. Miss Parker's portraits are always charming. Like every other artist, including Sargent and Chase and Whistler, she sometimes gets a likeness and sometimes misses it, but from an artistic standpoint the result is worthy of serious praise. The pastel portrait of Miss Hartley is at once a good likeness and a pleasing picture. If complete deception were the object of paint Mrs. McKnight has attained it in a Sea Shell. But Whistler says that it is not the aim, and that a picture must stay contentedly in its frame. However that may be, Mrs. McKnight's shell curves deliciously, all pinkly purple, into the mysterious interior, built by a heaven directed little mollusk. It would suit Ruskin, this shell, if not Whistler, for every characteristic mark of the seafaring dweller is upon it. Miss Walsh's two figure pieces are an excellent likeness of her father, Mr. Walsh, and an interesting study of a girl reading by lamplight. Miss Walsh's chrysanthemums are very clean in color. Nip and Tuck, two Skye terrier dogs, by Miss Parker have attracted much favorable comment. Miss Don Carlos' pictures have been exhibited before. She has a very rapid method and seems to produce large and imposing pictures without much difficulty, but they are hard and entirely without atmosphere except in the case of a little ship which sails before the wind with a spirited action quite foreign to Miss Don Carlos' other work.

Of the four pictures contributed by W. H. Green Crabbe's Bridge is very interesting from the likeness to the place so familiar to us all. Roses and a still life study by Mrs. Greenlee show a good method and a worthy ideal. The work by the Misses Rogers is distinguished by very careful technique. Nothing is slighted. Several of their pictures are copies so that it is impossible to recognize anything but good technique and conscientious faithfulness to copy. The still life and fruit and flower pieces are original and in each the artistic intention is unobscured. The chair and stool carved by Miss Isabella Rogers are still further evidence of versatility. Mrs. Paul Holm's pastel portraits of Miss Elliot, Mrs. Teeters and Mrs. Campbell have good coloring and the likeness of Miss Elliot is striking but the technique is fussy and complicated. The ideal head of Topsy is the best in workmanship. A mysterious head of a Skipper labeled Disko and painted by Mrs. Brown completes the list of contributions by local artists. Disko is the captain of Kipling's We're Here in his story of Captain's Courageous. This bronzed sailor with his hat brim trained upward by the salt breeze, is an interesting study of an unfamiliar type.

The two busts by Fred L. Kimball of Judge O. P. Mason and General John M. Thayer are good likenesses first of all and secondly the technique is broad and simple. Mr. Kimball never saw Judge Mason. The likeness he has certainly obtained he got from many photographs and from hints and criticisms received from Judge Mason's family and legal

associates. The splendid massive head set almost directly upon the torso, the expression and the crisp curls are very like the Judge. Of the three or four contributions from Mr. Bagg the Monte Christo has softness and distance. The Cacti, souvenirs from the same region, have a good color and the number of them conveys the correct impression of their abundance on the southwestern plains.

In the loan collection the evidence of the discriminating taste of Nebraska citizens is in evidence. Perhaps the picture most admired is a marine owned by Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Imhoff and painted by Essig. It is a beach and the tide is coming in. The curling, transparent green wave that is just breaking, and the white topped bobbing and growing waves greenly gleaming in the distance, preserves an artist's impression of the ocean. Dr. Giffen's picture of a soldier on the plains stooping to scoop up a drink in his hat from a buffalo wallow is familiar having been shown at the last exhibition of the Haydon Art Club where it was seen and purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Giffen. It is a spirited picture of man, horse and dog.

The head of a little darky done in pastel by Mr. Burbank and loaned by Dr. and Mrs. Giffen is an example of what a few strokes of chalk on brown paper can accomplish. The treatment is broad and there is not a line, however irrelevant at a close view, that a few feet away does not become important. Not to put on paper a line that does not reveal the anatomy or characteristic dress of the model is the finished result of the schools. Such reserve gives to work, repose and simplicity; and saves it from the fate that attends all fussiness. The portrait of Dr. Dayton by the well known French artist, Dessar, is a very good likeness, and of course the technique is faultless.

There are in the collection a number of copies of the old masters. The only one desirable from a modern point of view is Raphael's Madonna of the Chair loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Hall. The closeness and harmony of the composition and the beautiful color, draw the eyes from all parts of the room. The wide gilt frame with the winged cherubs in the corners forms a noble setting. Diana hunting represents a young lady with an elongated arrow in her hand in an anatomical twist of an attitude, quite impossible to maintain longer than thirty seconds, and with unintelligible feet. But the old masters painted anything they liked without danger to their reputation. The head of Christ, loaned by Dr. West, is the head and one shoulder of an heroic figure of Christ. Crowded into a smallish frame it makes the head gigantic, but the features and expression are very tender and spiritual. Mrs. H. C. Hartley has some serene old family portraits and an animal piece by an unknown artist, interesting in themselves and for their antiquity. Mrs. Wright shows a little girl and her dog labelled companions, a very pleasing composition of which she is the artist. Mrs. Wright sends two other pictures; Sunset by J. Hammerstad and Moonlight by Wm. Traver. The rabbit in the corn by Mrs. F. M. Hall, is a study of two Nebraska products very well drawn and painted. Venice a water color loaned by Dr. Dayton, Albert Naef artist, is good architecturally but lacking in atmosphere. Milan Cathedral, St. Mark's Cathedral and the Sistine Madonna loaned by Mrs. A. S. Raymond, and Cologne Cathedral, loaned by Mrs. Carl Funke are colored photographs of these noblest sights of the old world. Raphael's Hours belong to Mrs. McConnell. They are copies of the frescoes in the Borgias apartments of the Vatican, done by order of Alexander VI. His successor, Julius II, on account of the terrible poisonings for which the Borgian pope was responsible, which took place in these apartments,

ordered the rooms closed. They remained locked up until last August, a period of about 400 years, when Pope Leo XIII opened them.

Mrs. Brock's charming studio is filled with decorated china, her own and her pupil's work. A large vase Mrs. Brock has decorated with roses, the sprays blending with the background, which repeats the green coloring of the leaves, while here and there is a touch of the tones seen in these pearly flowers. The decorations on after dinner and chocolate sets show very careful study in Dresden and conventional patterns. There are also some excellent figure pieces.

The Haydon Art Club is under a permanent debt of gratitude to Mr. Leininger of Omaha, for the loan of some very valuable paintings. Without them the exhibition would not be what it is. The pictures were loaned by Mr. Leininger for the exhibit with a generosity and good will due to his genuine love of art and a desire that just as many people as possible might see the pictures for which he has spent a part of his fortune. The gem of the collection, The Village Street in Winter, is owned by Mr. Leininger who bought it years ago before M. De Lorme had made much of a reputation. Mr. Leininger says he got it for a trifle, considering the prices which this artist receives now for his work. Next to this picture in point of artistic worth is Chloé by Lefebvre. Besides these Mr. Leininger sent The Money Changer by Leo Brunin, Arab Scouts by Schreyer, interesting as an example of the German school of the fifties, the Chess Players by Fichel, The Serpent Charmer by Ernst, Canterbury Meadows—Sheep, by T. Sidney Cooper and Correi in Skye by Louis B. Hurt. This loan represents many thousands of dollars. It was brought to Lincoln from Omaha by the Adams Express company without charge. Mr. Cooper, the Lincoln agent, and the Omaha agent, have done everything possible to help the exhibit, and the directors of the Haydon Art club feel deeply grateful. The hard work that has made such an exhibit possible has been done by Mrs. F. M. Hall, who has devoted all her time during the exhibition and most of it for two or three months previous to the work of preparation and advertisement.

The first of this week Mr. O'Brien's unframed contribution of water colors was tacked on to the south wall of the art gallery. Among them there are three or four of great beauty and interest, notably a marine which is placed just over the door. The sun is under a cloud and the waves are dark green and shroud white, the water is deep and transparent. There is also a Tryon of a country road winding into the dusk of a summer evening that is very tender, also a Vanderpoel of merit. The figure pieces are inclined to be hard. They are evidently painted to raise the wind, "pot boilers," in short, and are without inspiration or feeling, yet they are decorative and would not be a blot anywhere. But compare these figures with the Percy Moran, loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Hall, the Ferris, loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Imhoff and the meaning of atmosphere is more readily understood.

There were all kinds of pictures in this exhibit, good, very good, bad, execrable and indifferent. Some examples of local industry indicate a digital facility, utterly without feeling for color and form and the bath of light that all objects are immersed in. If the exhibit does nothing more than show those who paint, the way that others have solved the problems of light and atmosphere it is worth while. Digital facility is a gift to the painter, but it is not all, nor in fact, much. Apprehension, an eye to see the purple transparent shadows and a soul to feel the characteristic and permanent in people and landscapes are the pre-requisites of a painter. Those of us who lack large vision and sym-

thy would better be content to sit at feasts another has prepared.

The work of the students in Miss Parker's classes, modestly hung in the ante room came near being forgotten, because it is not listed in the catalog and the present unworthy critic is being guided by that list. The work of Miss Marian Smith has freedom, dash, originality, ease. The quality of her inspiration is first rate and there is every reason why she should continue her study. Mr. Hull's studies are also strong and well conceived. Both of these pupils have encouraging possibilities which used with humility and earnest endeavor may give them a respectable standing among artists. The work of Miss Julia Lippincott is also not listed in the catalog but the dainty flower pieces and pen and ink sketches by Miss Lippincott are very charming. Miss Smith's work and Mr. Hull's is not the only attractive work on the walls of the ante room. There are bits here and there which attract me every time I pass through, by its possibilities. Mrs. Giffen's drawings show vigor and quick comprehension of characteristics and there is the work of others whose names are not at hand. The cartoons of Harry Gage, who is now doing very acceptable work on the News, reveals much strength which the chalk plates obscure.

The exhibition, as a whole, is the best one that has yet been held in Lincoln and its success, financial and artistic, insures another next winter.

Anne completed her twenty-second year yesterday.

Yes, and I presume she will begin her twenty-first tomorrow.

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