



The contemporary estimate of an artist's worth is always of problematical value, and in the case of the late Sir Edward Burne-Jones the proverbial disagreement of critics was intensified by the fervor of the quarrel over the Rossetti school, well remembered in artistic circles. The emphatic popular



SIR EDWARD BURNE-JONES.

favor accorded Burne-Jones' work, however, both in this country and in England, cannot be doubted, and his recent death, at the age of 65, excited general regret among his many American admirers. An excellent portrait of the late Academician is published in "Harpers Weekly" for July 21, together with a comprehensive account of his life and work.

When the painters of to-day compare the facilities which they enjoy for their work with those possessed by their predecessors a century or two ago, they must be forced to the conclusion that so far as material help can go they have an immense advantage over the ancient masters. In former times, when the artist wished to set his palette he was obliged to take the pigments which he had obtained, often at great trouble, in their crude forms, and either grind them himself or have this operation performed by a boy who was usually both his servant and pupil. The process of grinding up the dry substances in oil was a slow one, but the results obtained by it were good. The grinder procured two flat slabs of stone, and placing the pigment between them, he first crushed it to the form of fine powder, and then, adding oil enough to make a soft paste, he continued the grinding by rotating the upper stone upon the lower until the mixture was reduced to perfect smoothness and the exact consistency which experience had proved to be desirable. This whole process had to be repeated frequently, to have the colors fresh, and, because of the importance of having pigments of good quality, the most celebrated painters used to give their personal attention to the work, thereby spending much time upon the preparation of materials which, under different conditions, they might have devoted to the painting itself.

PRESENT-DAY THOUGHTS.

By G. Grosvenor Dawe.

"Father Anthony" Robert Buchanan's novel of his life is to be published early in the autumn. Dr. Nansen's profits from his book, "Farthest North," are said to amount to \$120,000. The profits of his lectures have added largely to this sum. A correspondent of "The London Academy" says, apropos of an unsuccessful poetic effort upon "Gordon in Africa": "The poet had risen to a height of emotion in describing the horrors of Gordon's life in Khartoum, and was suddenly reminded of the religious consolations likely to be present to the great General's mind. Hence the line—a masterpiece—'The lions were tearing him piecemeal; but he knew it was all for the best!'"

Mr. Quaritch says that Mr. Gladstone purchased himself some thirty-five thousand books. A great quantity of volumes were presented to him, the first of these being the copy of Hannah More's "Sacred Dramas" which the old lady gave to him when he was a child in petticoats. Gladstone, by the way, was called by Sir Roderick Murchison, "the prettiest little boy that ever went to Eton."

The keenness of Gladstone's collecting eye, even in old age, "The Athenaeum" says, "may be inferred from the story told us by a bookseller in Brighton. On one of his last visits Mr. Gladstone paid a visit to our informant and took up a nice book in an old French binding. 'What's this?' he said. 'Oh, it is a book from the library of Catherine de Medici.' 'But there's no fleur-de-lis in the topazeng,' retorted Mr. Gladstone, without a second glance at it.'"

New York Times: A couple of years ago a great French critic made a bet that he would pick out a nullity and make his reputation with a few articles. To his disgust he soon found he was succeeding only too well, and that the painter was fast becoming famous. "You took me in earnest," he cried to the public, "but I was only joking!" It was too late; his true opinions were mistaken for malice and envy. In one of Daudet's charming stories he tells of a citizen of Marseilles who, after years passed in extolling the beauties of Paris to his friends, became convinced (although he had never visited the Capital) that he had passed much of his time there. The critics seemed to have worked themselves into some such frame of mind over Rodin's statues, and now honestly believe that they see the genius they have so long proclaimed.

Those familiar with Japanese art know of those Japanese painters, Yamato, Tosa, Kano, Ukiyo, and most particularly, the master of them all, Hokusai. This master painter was born in 1760 and died at an advanced age in 1849. In "The Strand" Hokusai's work is described, and a description given of a painting of his which was, indeed, the biggest picture on record. In 1817 his great success as an illustrator brought about the envy of fellow artists, and they declared that he was

only capable of making "little things." Thereupon Hokusai determined to confute the envious one. There was a great courtyard of a temple at Nagoya. This courtyard the artist had covered with rice straw, and on top of this paper was placed, the area so papered being 240 square yards. A huge scaffold, with ropes and pulleys, was arranged so that when the picture was painted the work could be hauled up. The ink and colors were brought to the place in barrels, the paint brushes were brooms, and Hokusai, with his pupils, decked out in dresses of ceremony, went to work. Then the master drew in colors a colossal Daruma, one of the Japanese deities. The head of the figure alone, from crown to chin, measured thirty-four feet. When all was concluded the master affixed his signature and the date, and then all Japan declared it was a "big thing" which it was. If the popular legends of Gwakiorajin Hokusai—which is a "nom de pinceau" meaning "the old man mad with painting"—are to be credited, this artist's talents were various. "Once he painted the same horse as large as an elephant on paper and the sparrows in the air on a grain of rice." Hokusai had no mean opinion of himself, and was not appreciative that with increasing years the powers of hand and eye diminish, for he said: "What I drew before the age of 70 is not worth counting at 73. I had to some extent comprehended the structure of animals, trees, birds, fishes and insects. Consequently at the age of 80 I shall have made still more progress. At 90 years I shall penetrate the mystery of things, and at 100 I shall certainly achieve wonders, and when I am 110 everything I draw, be it but a point or a line, shall be alive." We may at least admire Hokusai for his enthusiasm.

New York Tribune: A recent sale which excited some attention is the disposal in London of a collection of pictures by Benjamin West. This Chester County (Pa.) artist, who was President of the Royal Academy, died in London March 11, 1820. George Robb, the most grand old collector of pictures, sold on May 22, 23 and 25, 1829, what he designated as the "unequaled collection of historical pictures and other admirable compositions of the works of the artist and highly gifted painter Benjamin West, Esq." At that sale the "Cicero Discovering the Tomb of Archimedes" brought \$300, and "The Paul and Barabbas" \$300. At least, these were the prices bid. The great picture, "The Death of General Wolfe," brought \$500, and "Descent of the Pale Horse" to be sold this month in London we do not yet know. The announcement reads that the representatives of the second President of the Royal Academy are to sell "the collection of pictures and paintings by Benjamin West, Esq." Supplied by the name of West will not include any of West's best pictures.

One hundred centenarians die in England yearly. In brief, arbitration and civilization are alike in meaning, "the greatest good for the greatest number." Arbitration has involved in it the deepest regard for the mass of a nation. The Dark Ages the whims of choleric rulers were the arbiters of national fate. We, the people with new hopes and new ideals, have changed all that; and we protest against any backward steps.

Needed the Office.

"If you fellers hadn't decided on who you're in the Tax Collector's race, I wash you'd fling in fur Tom Duncan." "What fur?" "Fur because he needs the office wuss than any man in the race." "Hain't crippled, is he?" "No, but—" "Hain't been sick so he couldn't wuck ner nuther, has he?" "No, but he is jest out on the chain gang whar he has been for six months, an' hain't had a chance to make nair nair cent. He's the man that really needs the office, fellers."—Atlanta Journal.

Francis S. Ott, No Percentage Pharmacy, 200 K Street, South Side Second and K.

MEETING NOTICES.

OAK PARK REPUBLICAN CLUB WILL meet at Red Men's Hall, Oak Park, on MONDAY EVENING, July 13th, at 8 o'clock. Everybody welcome. H. J. WINTERS, President. Fred Higgs, Secretary.

REGULAR MEETING OF COURT

Capitol Building, No. 607, at 10 o'clock, on MONDAY EVENING, at 8 o'clock, installation and banquet. Visting members cordially invited. A. W. CAMPBELL, Acting Chief Ranger. Phil Hirsch, Rec. Sec. July 21-22

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

DR. F. R. WATTS, 1008 EIGHTH STREET, Office hours, 10 to 11 a. m. 4 and 7 to 8 p. m. Sundays, 1 to 2 p. m.

DR. C. MEALAND, 627 1/2 J-STREET, PHONES Sun. 931; Cap. 205. Office hours—10 to 12 to 4 a. m. 1 to 8 p. m. Tel. 1217 O. Phones, Sun. white 521; Cap. 205.

DR. H. McCAVREN, EYE, EAR, NOSE and throat. 525 1/2 J. Tel. white 621.

DR. B. F. PENDERY, OFFICE FOURTH AND K, over the drug store. Hours 10 to 12 to 4:30, 7 to 9:30. Tel. office, Cap. 254; res., Cap. 728.

DR. W. H. BALDWIN, OFFICE, 1029 21st St. Hours—10 to 12 to 2 to 4, and 7 to 8. Phone, Red 961. Res. 1111. H. Street. Phone, black 421; Cap. 28.

DR. SIMMONS, JR.—HOURS 10 TO 12, 4 TO 5 P. M., 7:30 EVENING. Tel. phone—Office, Sunset, red 891. Capital, 240. House—Capital, 123.

DR. WIARD HAS CHANGED HIS RESIDENCE FROM 1708 N STREET TO TWENTY-SECOND AND T. Office at Eighth and J. 212.

DR. FAT, 67 1/2 J. TEL. SUN. RED, 84; 10 to 12 a. m., 2 to 4, 7 to 8 p. m. Res. 1729 G. Tel. Cap. 305. Sunset, blue, 11.

PERSONALS.

ASK EICHLER, THE PHOTOGRAPHER, for his prices. Thirteenth and K.

BOARD AND LODGING.

137 L-WELL FURNISHED ROOMS, with board. Opp. the Park. Reasonable.

sion. So may we dare to hope that war will be purely sanative in its benefits. On the other hand, I would not insist that arbitration would be sure to usher in a new heaven and a new earth. It would simply prove another one of the slow but permanent steps by which the race has climbed away from the boresplitting savagery of the cave-dweller toward the standard of a creature that is upright, thoughtful, regardful of others.

Another most common and shallow argument in favor of war is that it clears off surplus population, and thus eases up some of the competition of life. There are several strong replies to this uncompassionate view of the matter. First let us say that no civilized nation selects the tramp or aged element to fight its battles. In our own case, particularly, instead of the army being made up even of off-scourings of the population, it is in its entirety a carefully selected body from the walks of life that are lucrative. If therefore in any nation the proof of eased competition should be forthcoming, surely it should be in ours. Yet granting that a series of disasters, quite beyond all imagining, should remove 50,000 men a year, it would be only one fourteenth-hundredth of the whole, and therefore purely infinitesimal in its influence upon the crowded and strained conditions of life. 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