

ART EXHIBITIONS.

FRENCH PICTURES AT THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB—OTHER LOCAL HAPPENINGS—A PORTRAIT OF BISHOP POTTER—NOTES.

Seventeen French paintings go to make the second of the monthly exhibitions this season at the Union League Club. Seven artists are represented, one belonging to the eighteenth century and the rest to the nineteenth. It is an interesting little collection, and especially in one striking contrast that it illustrates. The "Venus at the Bath"—Portrait of M. de la Roche—by the Frenchman, an excellent example of that cynical spirit and essentially sophisticated elegance which controlled the art of the eighteenth century. It stands for a world in which mere simple humanity counted for little, in which men and women were transmuted into figures of inimitable artificiality and charm. It is shallow, and delightful. A few feet away two large paintings by Edouard Manet are hung. "Christ and the Doctors" and "The Home." Here, too, if we consider the work from a certain standpoint, there is shallowness. That is to say, Manet had no business to touch religious subjects; and when he did meddle with them, as in these two compositions, he had not a grain of spiritual force to put into his representations. But, on all other counts, he is far from shallow. In these pictures we get humanity, we get nothing else; and, we get a technical breadth, a weight and solidity of form, a poignant vitality, which show us how far French art has travelled from the beautiful but frivolous masterpieces of the eighteenth century. These two religious designs may lack the religious note, but their realism is magnificent. There is a touch that recalls Velasquez in the "Christ and the Doctors," a realistic figure standing to the right in the "Ecce Homo"; both pictures dimly recall the big canvases of Zurbarán and Ribera in Spain; but over both there is thrown the distinction of a man with an individual style, and especially with a strong grip upon the problems of draughtsmanship and modelling before him. Manet did not draw from the point of view of the subject in the foreground. These are not pictures to live with, to enjoy for subtle and lovely qualities. They are examples of mastery painting, to be hung in public museums for the edification of students and artists.

Much the same comment might be passed upon "The Squire's Daughter," a huge landscape, and figures, by Courbet. The composition is not especially engaging; the figures, though necessary to fill out the scheme, are not in themselves attractive, and the landscape is without charm. But, on the other hand, the work is technically very interesting, and there is something particularly fine in the vigorous management of so spacious a scene. The five examples of Delacroix have the value of exhibiting him in a romantic and Oriental mood. All are characteristic, but none in the group calls for special notice, unless it be the "Tasso," a picturesque interior, which brings vividly to mind the wave of enthusiasm for the romance of literature which passed over French art in the earlier decades of the last century. Of the six figure pieces by Corot, the best is "La Carrière," a painting in which Corot's usual model in a red jacket, here all these Corots repay study as specimens of that side of his work which the prominence of his landscapes inclines the public to overlook. There is a good but unremarkable "Incantation Scene" by Diaz, and the collection is completed by a large picture of Jean Brémont's "Amour Valaque," a dense, cool, and at once scientific and technical, and in every way somehow tinged with a heretofore quality which we associate with the academic faculties of M. Bouguereau.

The principal exhibition of the week, of course, is that of Mr. Abbey's decorations for the Boston Public Library, which are on view at the galleries of the American Art Association, and which are on view at present there are new works of art to be seen. At the Avery Gallery Mr. E. W. Kemble has a number of his humorous pen sketches of negro types. Mr. Frederic Remington shows a collection of oil paintings, pastels and drawings at the Clausen Gallery. Mr. Durand-Ruel reintroduces, in a collection of twenty-nine paintings and drawings, the work of the French painter Zandomeni. Mr. N. E. Montross exhibits a collection of drawings by Mr. John La Farge, comprising examples of every period of his work. At the National Arts Club Mr. Herman Schladermud presents five of a series of architectural windows symbolizing the Apostles' Creed, which he exhibited in the Memorial Church at St. Augustine, in Florida. In the pleasant little gallery of the Century Association, Mr. J. C. McNeil is exhibiting a number of sketches and studies from nature which he made in California in the present year. Visitors to this exhibition will be admitted by card, signed by a member, from Sunday, December 16, to Thursday, the 19th, inclusive, between the hours of 12 and 4 p. m.

The secretary of the Society of American Artists informs us that the Shaw prize has been withdrawn, and that the Shaw fund has been reinstated. Hereafter it will be devoted to the purchase of one or more works of art by an American artist, which will become the property of Samuel T. Shaw, the donor of the fund. This fund will consist of \$300 or more each year. The Society of American Artists also announces a new prize established by Samuel T. Shaw in memory of his mother. It is meritorious work of art in the past produced by an American woman. The hanging curtain of this year will be formed of Henry G. Dearth, Will H. Low and William T. Smedley. The artists composing the committee on selections are John W. Alexander, George R. Barse, Jr., George Bogert, Edwin H. Blashfield, J. Appleton Brown, George De Forest Brush, Ernest C. Fenner, A. G. Fernald, William M. Chase, Kenyon Cox, Louis D. Dineen, Daniel Chester French, Ben Foss, George Inness, J. Samuel Ingham, Francis C. Jones, H. Bolton Jones, Frederick W. Kest, John La Farge, Louis Leiser, H. Siddons Mowbray, Leonard Ochtman, Walter H. Palmer, D. W. Tryon, Douglas Volk, Irving R. Wiles and Henry Oliver Walker.

Mr. Louis Rhead has sent us a proof of the portrait he has recently executed of Bishop Potter, and which is exhibited by the artist at the Church Mission House. It is a small but interesting study, only 16 by 11 inches. It is nearly a full length, however, representing the bishop standing in his ecclesiastical robes with eyes just lifted from the book lying open in his hands. The form is boldly outlined and modelled; the style is flexible, the figure detaches itself effectively from a background faintly illuminated. The work about the face and hands is done with a delicately free, in texture, in color and in the transparency of the darker passages this is, on the whole, the best which Mr. Rhead has produced, and as it is obviously an admirable likeness, we can offer the warmest congratulations to the artist. The edition consists of only one hundred remarque proofs. When this is completed the plate will be destroyed. Mr. Rhead's next portrait we may add, will be of Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton, the artist and author.

An important sale of Orientalia is to occur in Paris toward the end of next month, at the art galleries of M. Durand-Ruel. This will be the collection of Mr. Hayashi, for many years a dealer in Japanese art objects in Paris, who was the general commissioner for Japan at the exposition of 1900 and has lately retired from business to take an official position in his native country.

PICTURE PRICES IN PARIS. AN UPWARD TENDENCY IN MARKET VALUES.

Paris, December 7. The first important picture sale of the season at the Hotel Drouot—that of the Lazare Weller collection, consisting of fifty-four oil paintings and watercolors—realized \$80,000. This is taken as indicating an upward tendency in the market value of picture paintings, and, indeed, the most optimistic of Parisian experts estimated the value of these pictures at \$90,000. The highest price was \$3,000, paid for Puvis de Chavannes' "Ludus Pro Patria," "La Famille" and "L'Enfant Prodigieux," by the same master, brought respectively \$2,500, \$2,000, and \$1,500. "La Cour de la Ferme" was purchased by Desbordes for \$4,000, and "Dante d'Abbeville," also by Corot, fetched \$3,500. Two Cabins, "Prairies de Hollande" and "L'Estruade de Riviere," went respectively for \$3,100 and \$2,200. Claude Monet's "Cathédrale de Rouen," one of his

SELECTIONS FROM THE MAIL.

THE RACE PROBLEM AGAIN. COLONIZATION OF THE ISLES OF THE SEA SUGGESTED AS A REMEDY.

To the Editor of the Tribune. Sir: Major General Andrew Jackson issued his famous call to the free colored people of the South to enlist in a common cause, he knocked the colonization societies on the head as effectually as if the officers thereof had been lashed to the muzzles of his unlimbered batteries. The Hon. Bushrod Washington, as president of the only society which possessed vitality enough to lead out a seignior's novel, could not save its scalp. Francis Y. Key, esq., lost himself as chairman of the sixteen-string managers. Very true, they were "cut down" in other ways. William Lloyd Garrison slashed them with the sword of his spirit and the keen two edged dagger of his tongue, by declaring that "in fact, though not avowedly, he had put the system of slavery and a fling him across every free man of color."

DR. JOSEPH PULLMAN BRIGHTENS.

Stamford, Conn., Dec. 14.—The Rev. Dr. Joseph Pullman, presiding elder of the Methodist Church, was reported to be fairly contented with his evening. He had a slight rally yesterday, and has been much brighter since. Since Monday he had been allowed to see no one but members of his family. Yesterday he brightened, and appeared to take more interest in what was going on in the sick room. He talked for a few moments with the Rev. Dr. Buckley, Editor of "The Christian Advocate." The Rev. Dr. North, of New-York, also called. He is in a fair way to recover, and is only by the use of morphine that he obtains rest and relief. His condition remains critical.

JOINT HEIRS WITH MME. NORDICA.

Ottawa, Kan., Dec. 14.—F. W. Dowd, a real estate dealer of Ottawa, asserted to the government the right to a share of the money. Mme. Nordica's claim is for money paid the United States by the French Government for the destruction of ships that belonged to Ichabod Norton, an ancestor of Mrs. Dowd's possession. Mr. Dowd says he has always known of a claim that his family had against the French Government, and that he had been "pursued" by the French Government for his share of the money. Another Kansas heir and relative of Mme. Nordica is Mrs. J. D. Bowersock, of Lawrence, Kan. Mrs. Bowersock and Mrs. Dowd are joint heirs in the money. There are several other heirs in the South.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

YESTERDAY'S RECORD AND TO-DAY'S FORECAST. Washington, Dec. 14.—The cold wave predicted by the Weather Bureau for the middle Mississippi and Missouri valleys and the upper lake region has spread to the eastward and southward as far as Chicago and St. Louis, at both of which places the temperature fell 54 degrees in the last 24 hours, and zero at St. Louis. The front of the cold wave this morning extends from Northern Illinois southwestward to Arkansas. In all of this region the temperature has fallen from 40 to 50 degrees in the last twenty-four hours. The cold wave promises to be severe during the next two days. It will extend eastward and southward, reaching the Atlantic Coast districts by Monday. A decided fall in temperature will occur south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi rivers. At 9:30 p. m. the few reports received show the vortex of the storm to be in southwestern Virginia and western North Carolina. The storm as a whole has defied northeastward, and is being followed by an extensive area of high pressure and low temperatures. Heavy rains have fallen in the Ohio Valley, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, and snow or rain from the lake region southward to the Gulf of Mexico, except in Florida. The great of the weather has been a "cold wave" from Monday. A decided fall in temperature will occur south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi rivers. At 9:30 p. m. the few reports received show the vortex of the storm to be in southwestern Virginia and western North Carolina. The storm as a whole has defied northeastward, and is being followed by an extensive area of high pressure and low temperatures. Heavy rains have fallen in the Ohio Valley, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, and snow or rain from the lake region southward to the Gulf of Mexico, except in Florida. The great of the weather has been a "cold wave" from Monday. 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