

Bulletin of The Detroit Museum of Art

Vol. XII

FEBRUARY, 1918

Nos. 5



PLATE I

Painting by Whistler, loaned anonymously.

ACCESSIONS

ANONYMOUS LOAN COLLECTION

Through an anonymous loan the Museum will have the privilege of exhibiting for an indefinite period a collection of art objects, including paintings, prints, sculptures and pottery.

The list includes a painting and four etchings by James McNeill Whistler, an oil painting and four pastels by D. W. Tryon, splendid examples of Alfred Stevens, Adolphe Monticelli, George Inness and Al-

bert Neuhuys, four portfolios of Japanese prints, a group of small animal bronzes by Edward Kemys, a choice piece of Rakka pottery and a selected group of Pewabic pottery.

The Whistler (Plate I) showing a wide expanse of seashore overcast by a grey sky is full of those exquisitely subtle passages for which the artist is noted. The delicate tonality binding the variety of pearly tints, the accuracy of obser-

vation from which all non-essentials have been eliminated, the abstract beauty which has been tenderly elicited from the scene are all set forth in characteristic style. The picture is signed and dated in the lower right corner, "Whistler, '85." The Whistler etchings include "*Little Venice*," "*Riva No. 1*," and "*The Palaces*."

The oil painting by Tryon (Plate II), is a splendid example of this artist's work. In depicting nature in her tender moods, Dwight W. Tryon is a master. Sunset and sunrise have a particular appeal for him and he has given us the sentiment of these hours in a satisfying manner, with woodland and meadow enshrouded in the misty atmosphere of dawn or deepening twilight. The four pastels are marine views.

The painting by Stevens (plate III) perpetuates in charming style, approved alike by artist and layman, the modishly gowned woman of a past generation, in an interior setting of Japanese accessories which gave the artist an opportunity for the display of his gift of perfect drawing, rendering of textures, and the synthetic registry of light and color. It is the work of an early period but after the artist was fully in possession of his powers. It is a picture which one might hang with Vermeer without loss by comparison.

This group of paintings has been temporarily installed in Gallery III but will shortly be removed to the newly decorated Gallery VII. The bronzes and pottery are displayed in a case on the first floor.

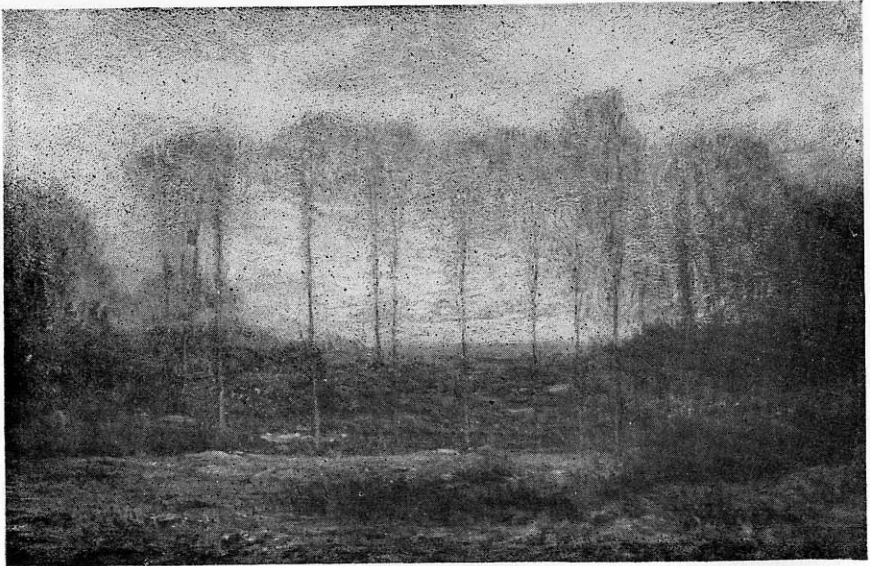


PLATE II

Painting by Dwight W. Tryon, loaned anonymously.



PLATE III

A fine example of Alfred Stevens, loaned anonymously.

SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITIONS

- FEBRUARY 28th* Posters by Detroit Artists and art students for the registration of women of the State for war work. Under
to the auspices of the Women's Committee, Council of
MARCH 10th. National Defense.
- 5th to 30th.* Collection of paintings by Hovsep Pushman.
 Etchings by Earl H. Reed.
- 11th to 30th.* Paintings by a group of Boston women.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

FEBRUARY:

- 24th, 3:00 p. m.* Musical program by the Ypsilanti Normal College Choir, under the direction of Frederick Alexander.

MARCH:

- 3rd, 3:00 p. m.* Musical program arranged through the courtesy of The Tuesday Musicale.
- 5th, 8:00 to 10:00 p. m.* Opening view of the Exhibitions by Earl H. Reed and Hovsep Pushman.
 Lecture, "Etching," by Earl H. Reed, illustrated with partly finished plates from which etchings are made.
- 8th, 8:00 p. m.* Lecture, "Michigan Dunes," (Illustrated) by Earl H. Reed.
- 10th, 3:00 p. m.* Art and Life, (Illustrated) by Raymond Wyer, Director Worcester Art Museum.
- 17th, 3:00 p. m.* "The Story of the Harp," by Andrew R. Davis.
- 24th, 3:00 p. m.* Lecture, "To the Shining Mountains and the Sunset Sea," by Mr. Gilbert McClurg.

MARCH EXHIBITIONS

"WOMEN REGISTER" POSTERS

The exhibition of original posters designed by Detroit artists and art students to interest women in war work, and contributed to the Women's Committee, Council of National Defense for use in their campaign to register the women of the State on April 6th, will remain on view in Gallery VI through Sunday, March 10th. The large number of posters in the exhibition is due to the generous response on the part of the Scarab Club, School of Fine Arts, School of Design, Liggett School and the Art Department of the Public Schools, to the request of Miss Mary Chase Perry of the Poster Committee.

ETCHINGS BY EARL H. REED

Two exhibitions will be opened to the public on Tuesday evening, March 5th, viz: paintings by Hovsep Pushman and etchings by Earl H. Reed.

Earl H. Reed, of Chicago, has found his inspiration in his own intimate neighborhood, and is particularly fond of the dunes of Lake Michigan. He is a poet both in the choice of his subject and in the rhythmic style of his interpretation. He is a master of his medium, often realizing his effects with startling economy of means.

Mr. Reed will be present at the opening of his exhibition Tuesday evening and will give the first of two lectures on "Etching," illustrating

his talk with plates showing the various stages of the work and fully explaining the mechanical processes. The second lecture on "Michigan Dunes," giving a poetic and graphic picture of the dune country, will be given on Friday evening, March 8th. Both of the lectures are free and the public is invited to be present.

HOVSEP PUSHMAN

The exhibition of paintings by Hovsep Pushman will be shown in an adjoining gallery.

Mr. Pushman is an American painter of Armenian parentage. His boyhood spent in Constantinople gave him a love of color which is now the most distinguishing characteristic of his work. His training in the Art Institute, and in Paris under Lefebvre and Robert Fleury has brought out his proficiency as a painter, yet always there is the instinctive reversion to the Oriental influence in his work. His subjects are portraits and figure subjects.

"THE GROUP"

Beginning March 11th and continuing through March 30th, an exhibition of paintings by Lucy S. Conant, Laura Coombs, Hills, Margaret Patterson, Jane Peterson, and Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts and Mary Bradish Titcomb will be shown in Gallery VI.

The formation of this "Group" for exhibition purposes took place

only after their talented works had been recognized among contemporary American artists. They have exhibited individually in the important American exhibitions and

the bringing together of their works for circuit in the Museums of the middle west should greatly increase their prestige and extend their acquaintance.

LECTURES BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

The gallery talks of Mr. Raymond Wyer given last year on the Museum's permanent collections were so successful that he has been engaged to give a similar series of informal talks for three days, March seventh to tenth, for study clubs, teachers, and pupils of the public schools, recreation classes, art students and other groups of individuals who desire to hear him. Last year Mr. Wyer spoke nineteen times to different organizations during the week he was here. Informal talks using objects in the Museum as illustrations do more to inculcate appreciation of art than any means yet devised. It is doubly gratifying to have a speaker of such wide experience, keen enthusiasm and fresh vision as Mr. Wyer always brings to his work.

Mr. Wyer's many friends in Detroit will be pleased to learn that he has recently been appointed Director of the Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Mass., an institution of great wealth and usefulness in a cultured community. The Worcester Museum of Art already has an enviable collection of art objects and its large endowment places it in a

position to compete with the largest and best of our American museums in the acquiring of world masterpieces.

The lectures of Mr. Wyer will be free. Study clubs, classes or other groups of individuals desiring to hear him may do so by calling the office of the Museum and reserving a date and hour.

* * *

It was a misfortune that the lecture on "Rheims Cathedral" by Ralph Adams Cram, consulting architect of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, architect of St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit, and author of "Church Building," "The Ruined Abbeys of Great Britain," "The Gothic Quest," "Substance of Gothic," etc., did not take place as scheduled, and it is to be hoped that the large number who came out for the lecture will remember the old adage about the "best laid plans of mice and men." Blame it upon the war, or the weather, or the curtailed train service, or the strenuous program outlined by the gentleman who arranged the schedule, it was nevertheless unfortunate

and unavoidable. On the other hand the large number who turned out for the lecture did not go away profitless. The impromptu talk by Mr. George G. Booth, inspired by his enthusiasm for and encouragement of modern craftsmen, and the address of Dean Frederick Edwards, of St. Paul's Cathedral, whose daily

intimacy with the Detroit church designed by Mr. Cram, and appreciation of its spiritual uplift, enabled him so clearly to point out its inspiring message, were greatly enjoyed. The Museum and Society of Arts and Crafts hope for a return engagement of Mr. Cram in the near future.

THE NEW GALLERY

Gallery VII, originally built as a Library and Print room, has been newly decorated and lighted and transformed into an exhibition room, thus giving a complete circuit of galleries on the third floor. This room, fifty-two feet long and twenty feet wide, with vaulted ceiling, has all the charm of proportion, and the simplicity of aspect of a severe Romanesque chapel. Formerly it was unfortunately lighted by windows whose cross lights were conflicting,

and the installation of book cases and other furniture also spoiled the beauty of proportion.

In remodeling the gallery, the windows were closed up, and the gallery is now lighted by art gallery reflectors which properly light the walls and leave the center of the room in half light.

The new gallery was appropriately dedicated with the exhibition of water colors by Winslow Homer and John Singer Sargent.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

For two months the newly organized Children's Museum has had in operation a loan department, from which groups of objects have been loaned to teachers of the public schools, and it is interesting to note how many schools have already availed themselves of the opportunity.

Twenty-four exhibits have been sent out during December and January. In January three times as many collections were loaned as in

December. One-half of the schools that applied for material in January asked for a second exhibit, and these exhibits usually serve more than one grade in a school. Complete data as to the exact number of grades that have used material is not at present available, because teachers overlooked the printed request on the sheet sent with each collection; but from the data at hand twelve collections were used in twenty-four grades. At a conservative estimate

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DETROIT MUSEUM OF ART
Corner of Jefferson Ave. and Hastings St.

OFFICERS OF THE MUSEUM

President, RALPH H. BOOTH

Vice-President, GUSTAVUS D. POPE

Treasurer, WILLIAM P. STEVENS

Secretary and Director,

CLYDE H. BURROUGHS

TRUSTEES

For term expiring 1917:

WILLIAM C. WEBER (City Appointee)

For term expiring 1918:

HENRY LEDYARD RALPH H. BOOTH

WILLIAM B. STRATTON

For term expiring 1919:

D. M. FERRY, JR. DAVID GRAY

TOM MAY (City Appointee)

For term expiring 1920:

HENRY G. STEVENS GUSTAVUS D. POPE

FRANCIS P. PAULUS (City Appointee)

For the term expiring 1921:

J. J. CROWLEY H. J. M. GRYLLS

HOURS

The Museum is open daily from 9:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m.; Sundays from 2:00 p. m. to 6:00 p. m.; holidays from 2:00 p. m. to 5:00 p. m. Admission is always free.

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thirty-six grades, ranging from the kindergarten to the high school, have had Museum material. It was thought that only the lower grades would make use of the loan department, but the greatest number of applications have come from the second, sixth and ninth grades. The data at hand show that twelve collections reached 753 children, and if a complete report were available, the number of children reached would be surprisingly large. It was at first feared that the small number of duplicate specimens on any one topic would embarrass the department, but the fact that the requests related to fourteen different topics has helped greatly in meeting the needs of the schools.

On Wednesday, February 27th, a group of exhibits of interest to children will be shown in the newly assigned Children's Room of the Museum, for one month. These groups will consist of the winter birds, the March migrants, some fur bearing animals, an Eskimo group and various kinds of material illustrating weaving.

The Children's Room will be open on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons from two until five o'clock. There will be short talks on the different groups, and at least one demonstration of weaving and spinning between four and four thirty. All children who are interested in these exhibits will be most welcome during these hours.

—G. A. G.