

Extract from

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Date

ART IN PERTH.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTTISH WORKS.

PERTH is one of the Scottish towns in which over a long series of years interest in art has been kept alive by means of periodical exhibitions. Another exhibition, under the auspices of the Perthshire Art Association, is to be opened to the public in the Sandeman Public Library to-day. The promoters are considerably handicapped by the lack of adequate accommodation. The top storey of the Public Library is a considerable distance from the street, and the wall space is insufficient for such an exhibition as would be appropriate to a county town of the status of Perth. The most has been made of the facilities; but some unavoidable features of the exhibition—an effect of crowding, the impossibility of symmetrical arrangement, and difficulties of hanging old loan pictures and modern work harmoniously—suggest that the provision by some means of a gallery in which exhibitions of the kind might be more effectively presented is now overdue.

The exhibition is of a fairly representative character, and comprises 150 exhibits, including some interesting loan pictures. It is contributed to by well-known painters of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and also affords an opportunity to local artists to display their work. Amongst the notable loan pictures are three portraits, by P. de Lazzlo, two of them lent by Lord Forteviot, being portraits of Lady Forteviot, a full length, seated, and the Hon. John Dewar, Lord Provost of Perth. The third is a portrait of Mrs J. M. Fraser, marked by suavity and verve in the rendering of the grey draperies. It is lent by Mr J. M. Fraser of Invermay. Occupying the centre of one of the end walls is the well-known picture by Blommers, "The Young Navigators," which is lent by Mr A. T. Reid. Other loan pictures include a fine still life, "Peaches," by Gustave Courbet, and a pastel, "Le Repos," by Leon Lhermitte, both lent by Mr Robert Brough, and a Brangwyn, "Furnes," lent by Mr D. Croal Thomson. There are also a Cuyp and an interior by Adrian Van Ostade, lent by Mr J. H. Galloway, Ayr. From the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle-on-Tyne, is sent "The Sabbath Hat," by H. J. Dobson, R.S.W.

LANDSCAPES AND FIGURE PICTURES.

Sir D. Y. Cameron's "A Castle on the North Sea," rich in colour, with the warmly toned masonry shown against a dark blue sea, is classic in feeling. There is a distinctly personal note also in "The Evening of the Fete," by D. M. Sutherland, A.R.S.A., with its decorative, glowing globes in mid-air. The "Hardy Scots" of George Smith, R.S.A., are caravan ponies in a snowy landscape. There is a sweeping gesture, a sense of elemental movement, in "Hills of Atholl," by W. M. Frazer, R.S.A. In "Prestonkirk, East Linton," Robert Hope, R.S.A., exhibits for the first time as an Academician. "Desert Robbers," by J. Sydney Steel, Perth, a band of Arabs crossing a shallow patch of water in the moonlight, has imaginative quality and feeling. Mr Steel also shows a large still life. Malcolm Gavin, A.R.S.A., sends an attractive portrait of a lady, in which the purple headdress is the keynote. Mr Gemmell Hutchison, R.S.A., shows a characteristic figure picture, full of sun and wind, "A Good Drying Day." There is also an exhilarating sense of the open-air in J. G. Spence Smith's "Highland Croft, near Dalmally." "Roberta," a striking figure picture with a black background, by Stanley Cursiter, was recently shown in Edinburgh. Archibald Kay, A.R.S.A., is in familiar vein in his landscape, "In Far Lochaber," as is R. B. Nisbet, R.S.A., in "Looking Towards Dundee: Sunset." William Walls, R.S.A., presents a happy group of hound and puppies in "Cares and Caresses." Mr W. S. MacGeorge, R.S.A., renders autumn colours decoratively in "Beech Woods in October." There is good distance in W. Hamilton Pitkeathly's "Landscape."

Henry Lintott, R.S.A., sends a striking figure picture, "Arabesque," a girl in shimmering draperies of negative blue, pale green, and silver, painted against a rich golden background. David Foggie, A.R.S.A., renders another figure subject, "Baiting the Line," in a high-pitched blue scheme. A characteristic picture by Sir J. L. Wingate, P.R.S.A., is entitled "Sunset." A convincing portrait of "Miss H. M. E. Mowat," simple and effective in arrangement, by D. P. Ramsay, Perth, is prominent on one of the end walls, on which are also good examples of David Alison, R.S.A.—"The Rev. John Campbell, D.D."—and Henry W. Kerr, R.S.A.—"The Session Clerk," in water-colour. There is also a characteristic small sea-piece by W. A. Gibson, Glasgow. An auburn-haired girl gazing into a glass, entitled "Chez-soi," is by Cowan Dobson.

D. Gordon Shields paints "Old Houses, Fountain Bridge," in an intensely subjective manner, and also sends an arresting portrait study, "Miss James." "Cattle in a Meadow" is a spirited pastoral by Andrew Douglas, A.R.S.A. Maclauchlan Milne, Dundee, presents the "Rue Royale, Paris," decoratively. T. W. Brown, Perth, paints with considerable appeal and feeling "Fading Light on the Solway."

Amongst the water-colours is "The Clachan," by E. A. Taylor, and an admirable study of "A Malayan Bear" is sent by Edwin Alexander, R.S.A.

The secretary of the exhibition is Mr J. C. Cameron.