

ART EXHIBITION IN SANDEMAN PUBLIC
LIBRARY.WORK OF FAMOUS PAINTERS TO BE SEEN IN
PERTH.

Yesterday there was opened in the Sandeman Public Library, Perth, an exhibition of pictures which is without doubt the finest ever seen in the city.

Many eminent artists have contributed work, and the committee is to be congratulated on the high standard of excellence which has been maintained throughout. The exhibition, though naturally on a smaller scale, easily holds its own with any of the large provincial shows.

The works have been admirably hung, and the Hanging Committee—Messrs Hay Robertson, Brough, Fraser, Nisbet, Steel, Sellars, and Ramsay—have been conspicuously successful in the avoidance of jarring effects.

Much of the success of the exhibition is due to Mr Robert Brough, who has been untiring in his efforts to place Perth on a level with the important Scottish art Centres, and in this respect it is interesting to notice that he has given tangible evidence of his interest in his loans to the exhibition of pictures which proclaim his excellent judgment and taste as a connoisseur.

De Laszlo Portrait.

Fewer loan pictures are on view than on former occasions but the fifteen comprising this section are indeed gems which greatly enhance the exhibition.

The place of honour has been given to the portrait of Lady Forteviot by P. de Laszlo, and shows a masterly handling of subtle half-tone and a successful harmony of colour.

The pictures surrounding this work have been well chosen, each adding to the quality of its neighbours. In this connection, the small picture immediately below "Lady Forteviot" entitled "Peaches," by Courbet, needs no comment.

Lord Provost of Perth.

Two other pictures by De Laszlo are "The Hon. John Dewar, Lord Provost of Perth," and "Mrs J. M. Fraser of Invermay." The former is a wonderful piece of technical skill, painted with evident care, and is undoubtedly an excellent likeness. As a work of art, however, the latter is even more successful. Although handled with the same ease, it has a wonderful quality which one rarely associates with direct painting. The public of Perth is indeed fortunate in having an opportunity of studying three such examples of this painter's work.

Two gems by Leon Lhermitte are "Le Repos" and "The Harvesters," both of which are typical of the great Frenchman, and depict commonplace subjects, rendered with the sympathetic understanding of the true artist.

"The Young Navigators," by Blommers, is an old friend whose acquaintance one is glad to renew. It is a typical example of the artist's work, and will receive the admiration which is its undoubted due.

One of the outstanding loan pictures is Sir D. Y. Cameron's "A Castle on the North Sea." Painted with consummate skill, the picture embodies the mystery and grandeur associated with the historic ruins of Dunottar Castle.

Lawton Wingate's Work.

At a different school of painting and thought is the picture by Cuyp, "A Pastoral Scene," which, low toned and luminous, will delight few except the very discerning.

One of the happiest pictures in the loan section is Sir J. L. Wingate's "Sunset," a singularly fresh specimen of this artist's work.

J. C. Winton is represented by a large "Vale of Atholl," in which the simple but perfect arrangement of the masses, combined with detail which becomes almost finicky, marks the painting as one of the highest order.

The water colour section is honoured by a sketch by Frank Brangwyn, "Furness," a work which is carried out with the deftness of a master artist and craftsman and which will compel admiration.

Some Fine Portraits.

Portraiture is a distinctive feature of the exhibition, and it is a difficult matter to adjudge in strict order of merit.

Malcolm Gavin's portrait of Mrs Barker is an outstanding piece of work, well balanced and forceful. The modelling is carried out in a big, simple manner, and the technique is unobtrusively good.

Mr David Alison sends a portrait of the Rev. James Campbell, D.D., in which there is strong draughtsmanship and direct painting.

"Roberta" is the subject of a study by Mr Stanley Cursiter, in which the figure, dressed in white, stands out strongly from a very dark background. One feels, however, that the figure is a little detached from the rest of the picture.

Mr David P. Ramsay is exceedingly successful in his full-length portrait of "Miss Helen Marie Elizabeth Mowat," which depicts a young girl of attractively simple manner.

The three portraits by Mr Cowan Dobson are all well painted, but perhaps that of "Mrs Agnes Bergius" is the most pleasing.

Mr Stewart Carmichael.

Mr D. Gordon Shields is represented by a portrait entitled "Miss James," but one regrets that Mr Shields has not sent a more important work.

tion a striking picture, "Arabesque," which is perfectly balanced, and the whole theme well maintained. The colour scheme is cleverly thought out, and the greys are particularly good.

David Foggie, in his "Baiting the Line," shows an original outlook and refreshing change from the hackneyed rendering of such designs, combined with an excellent sense of colour.

While expressed with great refinement, one feels depressed by Stewart Carmichael's "The Wife of Indas," but it is a picture which in certain circles is bound to create attention. Mr Gordon Shields is happier in his painting of "The Bather," which, although a small picture, is handled in a big decorative manner with delightful colouring.

Sunshine and Open Air.

Mr Gemmill Hutchison sends a splendid example of his work entitled "A Good Drying Day," a woman hanging up clothes, with an infant in a basket by her side, redolent of sunshine and fresh air.

Although convincing as a painting, the sentiment of Mr H. J. Dobson's "The Sabbath Hat" is somewhat ordinary.

There are so many excellent landscapes that it is only possible to indicate briefly a few of the most outstanding.

Of particular interest to Perthites is Mr W. M. Fraser's "Hills of Atholl," which exhibits his high standard. It is an outstanding picture, with a low horizon and a big, expansive sky.

Beautiful Landscapes.

Mr Hamilton Whitelaw sends a beautiful picture, entitled "The Hill Farm," in which the colour scheme is refined, and the whole subject is treated in a delightfully decorative fashion. Another decorative landscape, "A Sheep Track," comes from the brush of Mr James Cadenhead, who has succeeded in combining decoration with a sense of mystery with satisfactory results.

"Hardy Scots" is an exceedingly happy conception on the part of Mr George Smith, and displays good quality, maintained throughout. It is a difficult subject, successfully treated.

One of the most attractive pictures is "Looking Towards Dundee: Sunset," from the studio of Mr R. B. Nisbet, a splendid tonal study, rich in luminous greys, and handled with skill. Another artist of real merit is Mr William Walls, whose "Cares and Caresses" amply satisfies expectancy from this quarter.

Mr Sydney Steel's largest picture, "Spoils from the Marshes," is one of the finest he has ever painted. Difficult as such a subject must undoubtedly be, Mr Steel has carried it out with eminent success in his excellent drawing and beautiful tone. In its own category it occupies a high place.

Picture of Balhousie Castle.

A pleasing canvas is "Balhousie Castle," from the brush of Mr Charles Sellars, a picture which cannot fail to arouse considerable interest in Perth city and county. "Beech Woods in October" is a fine example of the work of Mr W. S. MacGeorge, rich in colour and glowing with sunlight.

Particularly successful is Mr D. P. Ramsay's "Strathyre." The grey qualities are excellent, and the peaceful pastoral scenes sympathetically felt. The outstanding ability of Mr Maclauchlan Milne is evinced in his two works, "Jardin de Luxemburg, Paris," and "Rue Royale, Paris."

Mr Robert Hope's "Preston Kirk, East Linton," is a placid scene, admirably finished.

The silver-grey water is well painted in Mr John Bowie's "A Scottish River," and the cattle brouching by the brook side is cleverly suggested. Mr Andrew Douglas' "Cattle in the Meadow" shows a sympathetic knowledge of an interesting subject. Mr Walter G. Grieve has been most successful in his treatment of "At the Studio Window." The strong light from the window reflected in the interior has been cleverly handled, and the feeling of space admirably expressed.

Rising Dundee Painter.

"Loch Katrine and Ellen's Isle," by Mr Payton Reid, is a large picture with a wealth of detail in the foreground; Mr D. M. Sutherland scores a success in his "The Evening of the Fete," and Mr W. Marshall Brown has an excellent example of his work in "Buckie Gatherers."

"Reflections," by Miss C. Bryce Ferrier, Dundee, is a splendidly rendered still life, well coloured and strongly handled. Even a casual glimpse of this young lady's work gives the impression that one is safe in predicting that she will yet go far.

Mr W. Hamilton Pitkeathly's "Ducks" is a painting of merit, carefully handled and possessing good colour. "Kinnoull Hill," by Mr Dougald Walker, is a strongly painted picture, good in colour and soundly considered. "The Road to Birnam" is another good example of Mr Walker's efforts.

In the water colour section the place of honour is given to Mr R. B. Nisbet's "A Calm Forenoon," a splendid example of the artist's work. "Restless Waves," by Mr David West, is a virile piece of work of beautiful quality, and possessing a charm all its own. Strongly rendered in colour is "The Clachan," by Mr E. A. Taylor. Mrs Taylor (nee Miss Jessie M. King) sends a delightful contribution "Kilmenny," which

regrets that Mr. Smeids has not sent a more important work.

Mr. Henry W. Kerr presents a particularly interesting example of his work in "The Session Clerk," a painting which is typical of the character he so charmingly portrays.

Mr. Stewart Carmichael's "A Girl from the Hills" is a delightful study, sympathetically located in his usual poetic manner.

Mr. T. W. Brown is seen to advantage in his portrait of "Miss Cathie Barlow," which is strongly painted, and is an excellent likeness.

Henry Linton has sent to the figure sec-

Taylor (nee Miss Jessie M. King) sends a delightful contribution "Kilmeny," which proves that she stands alone, though many try to imitate her.

Mr. James Smieton has three excellent pictures, most prominent among which is "Pitheavlis Farm." Miss Isabel Lowe has also water colours of interest, and among others who are represented in this section are Mr. M'Boyle, Mr. G. Muirhead, Mr. Scott Rankin, Miss Galloway, and Mr. Cadzow.

Much of the success which will undoubtedly attend the exhibition is due to the indefatigable secretarial work of Mr. John C. Cameron.