

# AMATEUR ARTISTS' ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Unique Society of Men Who Paint for Pleasure Will Show Their Work This Week—Eakins Has Painted H. O. Tanner's Portrait



PORTRAIT OF H. A. TANNER

By Thomas Eakins.

The Philadelphia Amateur Artists' Association will hold its sixth annual exhibition in a hall of the Young Men's Christian Association on Frankford avenue, beginning with to-morrow and continuing all week.

This unique organization acknowledges that its "object is to encourage an interest in art as practiced by amateurs, and to afford the public a chance to see its extent and growth." The society was founded by a few men who paint for pleasure only—men who do not depend on the sale of their pictures for a livelihood. The exhibitions these amateur artists have arranged each year for the last six years have brought together sometimes as many as two hundred pictures. As all of the exhibitors are practically self taught, any result they would achieve would be commendable. As a matter of fact some of the exhibits have been more than merely negatively interesting. The association awards no prizes, and there is no jury of selection. Everything that is sent is hung, and the only criticism made is the obvious comparison, which the exhibitors themselves may see, of the exhibited works.

The exhibition of water colors by Mr. F. Hopkinson Smith, now showing at the Art Club, will continue until Saturday of this week. Already seven pictures have been sold from this collection.

Collections of exhibits for the annual exhibition at the Academy of the Fine Arts will be made in Philadelphia, New York and Boston by the Academy's agents this week. In this city collections will be made between Washington and Columbia avenues, and Delaware avenue and Forty-second street on Monday and Tuesday. The forthcoming exhibition will be the seventy-second arranged by the Academy. It will be open from January 10 to February 28.

The Boston Art Club's sixty-seventh exhibition of oil paintings and sculpture is scheduled to open on Friday evening of this week, January 2. It will close January 31.

The Photographic Society has definitely completed the purchase of its new house at 1722 Arch street. The price paid was \$18,000 and the alterations will cost \$6,000. The house will be immediately put in readiness for the uses of the club.

The Plastic Club will hold its annual "rabbit" on Saturday evening of this week. The occasion will be an "Arabian Night's Entertainment."

On Friday evening of this week the Rev. Charles Wood, rector of the Presbyterian church at Twenty-first and Walnut streets, will lecture at Griffith Hall, the proceeds to swell the fund for a new auditorium at the School of Industrial Art. The subject of the lecture will be "Around the World Experiences."

Thomas Eakins has recently finished a strong portrait of the American painter, Henry Ossawa Tanner. The Inquirer today reproduces this picture. It is a curious composition. The head is excellently well drawn and is an unmistakable likeness of the man. As a composition, however, the canvas is obviously shirked. It is not Mr. Eakins at his best, though Mr. Tanner's friends will recognize its value as a portrait.

Mr. Tanner is in this country for a brief stay of several months. He will go back to Paris shortly. This painter is almost the only representative of his race who has ever won distinction in art. He is the son of Bishop Tanner, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and though he was born in Pittsburg, his American home is in Philadelphia, where his people live. He studied at our own Academy here, and in Paris with Benjamin Constant and Jean Paul Laurens. Of later years he has painted only religious pictures, and in choosing these themes he is practically alone among modern painters of distinction. He has traveled in the holy land and many of his finest works were inspired by the scenes of that historic country. He has received many medals. The first public recognition of his work was an honorable mention awarded him for his Salon picture of 1896. He received a medal of the third class in 1897 from the Paris Salon. The Walter Lippincott prize at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts was awarded him in 1900, and in the same year he received a second medal at the Paris Exposition. He was given a silver medal by the Pan-American Exposition jury in Buffalo last year.

His "Raising of Lazarus" was bought by the French Government for the Luxembourg Gallery. Two of his important paintings are owned in this city. His "Annunciation" is a part of the Wilstach collection in Memorial Hall, and his "Nicodemus" was bought by the Academy of Fine Arts for its Temple collection in 1900.

The holiday magazines bear testimony to the industry and imagination of the ever-increasing list of illustrators who claim or have claimed Philadelphia as their home. The three "Red Rose" artists have contributed largely to the current periodicals, and as usual the strength and originality of their work dominates each issue wherein it appears. Of the three artists who live at Villa Nova in the picturesque old inn, Jessie Willcox Smith seems just now to be doing the most effective illustrations. In the Christmas Scribner she has a charming series

of drawings, depicting most sympathetically scenes in "A Mother's Day." The six drawings, which are very satisfactorily reproduced in color, bear the sub titles, "Morning," "In the Garden," "Fairy Tales," "Supper," "Checkers" and "Bed Time." Miss Smith sees with a kindly eye the incidents of family life. In the November Harper's Bazar she has four drawings making a little story without words of the emotional situations in "The Twilight of Life." They are labeled "The Last Child Gone," "The First Grandchild," "The Second Honeymoon" and "Night." Miss Smith has illustrated also for the December Century an article by Lillie Hamilton Welsh on "The Day Nurseries of New York."

This issue of the Century contains also a decoration by Sarah D. Stillwell for "A Christmas Hymn for Children," by Josephine Dodge Daskam.

The last instalment of Anne Douglas Sedgewick's curious story, "A Forsaken Temple," is accompanied by a drawing made in her Philadelphia studio by Charlotte Harding. "Lovey Mary," by the author of the popular "Mrs. Wiggs," begins in the December Century and is illustrated by Florence Scovel Shinn.

The Christmas Scribner's contains a quaint Eastern tale, "The Desert," by Arthur Cosslett Smith, with illustrations by F. Maxfield Parrish. The announcement for the coming numbers of this magazine has among its list of illustrators these artists on whom Philadelphia has a claim: Howard Pyle, F. Maxfield Parrish, William Glackens, Henry McCarter, Violet Oakley, Vernon Howe Bailey and Jessie Willcox Smith.

The drawings in color of the "Great Southwest," made by Mr. Parrish for the Century Magazine, and reproduced in a recent issue, have secured for the young artist of Philadelphia origin a commission from the Century Company to make a series of pictures in color of Italian gardens and the castles of the Rhine, a congenial task and one well suited to Mr. Parrish's skill. Mr. and Mrs. Parrish will go abroad in February.

The Shinnas are frequent contributors to the magazines. The cover of the Christmas Critic is the work of Everett Shinn, and two of his pastels are used to illustrate a poem, "The City," by Walter Malone, in the same number of the same magazine. Mrs. Shinn has made some of her droll pictures in line for "The Water Melon Stockings," in the Christmas St. Nicholas. The Shinnas have definitely settled in New York and they are living now in Waverly place. They have lately bought a country home near the now-popular artist settlement at Dublin, New Hampshire.

The town house of these two interesting people is made the subject of a paper by Charlotte Moffitt in the December number of "The House Beautiful."

Harper's Bazar offers an opportunity for many of our local illustrators. Sarah Stillwell, a recent pupil of Howard Pyle, who is working now in a studio of her own at 1628 Chestnut street, illustrates for every issue of this magazine a simple little child's verse always written by Katharine Pyle, a sister of the master illustrator. Miss Stillwell's drawings are always naive, handled with simplicity, yet with fine insight into the view point of the child. The cover for the January Bazar is the work of Mrs. Alice Barber Stephens, who is spending this winter in Paris with her friend Mrs. Kelly, another Philadelphia artist, living now permanently in Paris.

Another Philadelphia illustrator with a Chestnut street studio is Margaret Hinchman. Miss Hinchman has in the December McClure's two full page illustrations for a poem by Josephine Daskam entitled "Dreams."

Mrs. Clara W. Medeira, a Philadelphia artist spending the winter in Paris, is studying at the Parker studio, whose classes receive the criticisms of Simon and Cottet.

To-morrow evening the Drexel Chorus will give the annual Christmas concert in the auditorium of the Drexel Institute. The oratorio of "Stabat Mater" by Rossini will be sung under the direction of Mr. Charles M. Schmitz, director of music at the Drexel Institute.

The soloists will be Madame Emma Suelke, soprano; Miss Kathryn McGuckin, contralto; Mr. Harry B. Gurney, tenor; Mr. Henri G. Scott, bass. The organist will be Mr. James M. Dickinson, and the pianist, Mr. Louis Volmer.

Miss Katharine Cohen, who went to Paris in October to spend the winter, is studying at one of the Julian schools and working in a studio of her own.

The Christmas season at the art schools has been observed by holidays of varying lengths. The School of Design, the School of Industrial Art and the Drexel Institute all give their students a full two weeks' vacation. The Academy schools are closed only on Christmas and on New Year's Day.

The students of the School of Design have been working for a set of prizes in a competition of original designs for metal bedsteads. The prizes have been apportioned as follows: A first prize of \$35 to Blanche R. Brown, a second prize of \$25 to Irene E. Yorgey, a third prize of \$15 to Ethel H. Borer, a fourth prize of \$10 to Marion K. Zane, a fifth prize of \$10 to Edna Speakman and a sixth prize of \$5 to Marion K. Zane.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rosenthal received in Mr. Rosenthal's studio, at 1530 Chestnut street, yesterday afternoon from four until six o'clock.