

cream are the best tints. The works of Donatello and Della Robbia are especially fascinating to children.

In framing pictures secure plain mouldings. Ornate, gilt frames are in very bad taste. Remember that a dark picture is made lighter by a very dark frame and that a light picture is made darker by a very light frame.

Get good copies only of the best pictures. In some of the school-houses visited by Mr. Stetson, the only decorations were some glaring posters issued by a manufacturer of chewing tobacco. Plain, bare plaster is far more artistic than such decoration.

Call in the local woman's club where there is one to aid in the adornment of the school-rooms.

The league offers opportunities for a revival of the old-fashioned "lyceum." There should be meetings at the school-house devoted to literary work. Study of the lives of men famous in the history of the state, items of town and country history, is very valuable and in many communities has proved successful.

Photographs should be taken of all work done by the local league and should be sent to the state secretary for the annual exhibition

#### MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE.

The form of organization of the School Improvement league ought to be explained briefly. The leagues are of three kinds, namely: local leagues, organized in the several schools of a township; town leagues, whose membership consists of the officers of the local leagues and a state league, whose members are delegates from the town leagues.

The regular membership of the local leagues and a state league, whose members are delegates from the town leagues.

The regular membership of the local leagues is made up of pupils, teachers, school officials, and other citizens. The contribution of five dollars, or more, entitles a person to honorary membership. The president of a local league is ordinarily the teacher of the school in which it is organized. When any person has paid into the treasury through fees or donations, or both, the sum of five dollars, he is entitled to the diploma of the league signed by the state superintendent of instruction, the superintendent of the town in which the school is located and the teacher in charge of the school. A person holding a diploma is entitled to vote in his own league, at the town league, or at any meeting of the state league.

The membership fee is fixed at not less than one cent a month for each pupil, and ten cents a school term for other members.

With a membership of 30,000 and a constantly growing enthusiasm, this league promises to be of great help in raising the whole standard of living in Maine. The promoters of it have many circumstances on their side. They have a population that is practically homogeneous racially, that is, almost free from distinction of caste and class spirit, that is keenly alive to influences that make for good. Maine has for years exerted a political force in the country that is all out of proportion to the population and wealth of the state, by virtue of the character of the men who have been put in office, and kept there. The