

VERSAILLES FETE TO ECLIPSE SHAKESPEARE BALL IN MAGNITUDE

Royal Academy Exhibition Turns Out Uninteresting

Mainly a Display of Portraits and Most of These of Persons Totally Unknown in Society or to the Ordinary Spectator and by Unknown Artists.

TWO "PROBLEMS" BY MR. COLLIER AND MR. BUNDY

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — IT is said that once that the one hundred and forty-fifth exhibition of the Royal Academy of Arts at Burlington House is not a popular academy. That was what the newspapers said of last year's academy, but this one is even less popular. A mere glance at the walls makes one wonder what is happening to English art. It is said that there is a slump in art nowadays; that all the money available is being spent on the acquirement of old masters, which are now realizing such fabulous prices. It is true that there are many fine examples of the work of such well known portrait painters and landscape artists and subject painters as Professor Sir H. von Herkner, Sir P. Burne-Jones, Mr. William Llewellyn, Mr. J. J. Shannon, Sir E. J. Poynter, Mr. John Lavery, John S. Sargent, Sir Luke Fildes, Mr. Joseph Farquerson, the Hon. John Collier and others, who are old friends, and some by welcome newcomers; but it is on the whole a most uninteresting exhibition.

It is mainly an exhibition of portraits—portraits of distinguished personages and beautiful women by noted artists, but in a great measure portraits of persons who are totally unknown to society or to the ordinary spectator, by unknown artists, so that one marvels how they ever got a place on these walls.

On the other hand it is perhaps good for some of the less known landscape and subject painters that there is a pleasure to turn from there to look at pictures which under other circumstances might have passed almost unnoticed.

To take the portraits first, interest will naturally centre on the much talked of picture by Mr. John Lavery of the King and Queen with the Prince of Wales and Princess Mary at Buckingham Palace. It is expected that this would prove the feature of this year's exhibition. To say it is a disappointment is putting it mildly. Some may say they recognize the King in the group, but it would be hard to see any likeness in either the Queen or the Prince and Princess. On the other hand, the portrait of the King by Mr. Arthur S. Cope, painted for the United Service Club, is an admirable portrait, perfectly lifelike and a credit to the painter. That by Mr. William Llewellyn of the Queen, also for the United Service institution, depicting her majesty in court dress, with diamonds, is, in fact, only a moderately good presentation and is hardly likely to find many admirers.

Of the portraitists none is so successful as Professor Herkner. He is represented by a half dozen portraits of interesting well known persons. Including Sir Berkeley Moynihan, F. R. C. S., with hands in the pocket of his coat; Lord Shuttleworth of Cawthorne, admirable in the strong expression of the mobile face; Mr. Justice Gregorie Deane, Viscount Morley, in his doctor's robes; Dr. Arthur Hertz and Sir Frederick Macmillan, interesting, too, is Francis Olaf of Norway, by Mr. Herbert Stanley, a bright, sunny picture of the popular little Prince of Norway that brings a pleased smile to the spectator.

In the portraits of women, none is more successful than Mr. Solomon J. Solomon. Those of Mrs. Gladstone, Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Chamberlain, Mrs. W. P. Woodhouse, Mrs. G. C. W. Henderson, a three-quarter length, are well-nigh perfect specimens of this art. Both are clad alike in black velvet dresses, with purple scarves thrown lightly over their shoulders; both are posed alike, leaning on the pedestals of pillars with a leafy background. Sir E. Burne-Jones, represented by two portraits—Sir Edward Elgar and Mr. Richard Ward—and Mr. J. Shannon adds to his great reputation by five portraits, notably Mrs. E. Wynne Chapman, in white and blue spotted muslin dress, standing under a tree. Her smile is charming; and the animated, smiling of Florence, daughter of Mr. C. W. Henderson, a three-quarter length, are beautifully portrayed; but Lady Ashby St. Ledger and her son, the child leaning over his mother's knees, is one of the most attractive picture portraits in the exhibition.

Mr. John Lavery is more successful with his portrait of Lady Gwendolen Spencer Churchill than in his royal group; and a couple of mountain scenes, "The Summit of the Jungfrau," and "Japanese Switzerland," show him at his best.

The late Francis Paget, D. D., Bishop of Oxford, is shown by Mr. Sydney P. Hall in his robes as Chancellor of the Order of the Garter, and two other fine, strongly expressed portraits by the same artist are General Sir Dighton Probyn and the Rev. Douglas Macleane, Canon and prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral. Bernard, son of Mr. H. C. Brassey, M. P., by Mr. Ralph Peacock, is an admirable picture portrait. The boy is seen in white sweater and knickers, and bare limbs, standing by a stream with fishing rod, apparently cut by himself from a tree; and Mr. Onslow Ford is represented by only one, Lord Wellington, High Steward of Cambridge University.

Another interesting portrait is that of Sir Frederick A. Eaton, secretary of the Royal Academy, seated at his desk in his office, by Sir E. J. Poynter, who has also a portrait of Sir Edward White, and three other works all in strong contrast to each other. One is "The Vision of St. Paul," a reclining figure hidden in the dark forest foreground, and the "vision" a nude figure

descending in a circle of blue light in the background; another is "At Low Tide," a rocky figure of a nude girl sitting on a rock in a cavern; and the third is an exquisite water color drawing entitled "May Day on the Lake."

The portraits of Mr. John S. Sargent, which in past years were features of the academy, are now absent. He is now contenting himself with live studies. Of these "Spanish Gypsies," a small canvas of a scene in Spain, with a group of gypsies, sheltering from the heat of the afternoon sun, is one of the attractions of Gallery III, where the majority of the most interesting pictures are hung.

Among other of Mr. Llewellyn's portraits besides the royal picture is an excellent three-quarter length of the Viscountess Maitland, in white satin empire dress, leaning on a pedestal, over which is thrown a blue cloak, the Lady Harlech and the Hon. Mrs. Maitland; and Sir Fildes is represented by two, Viscountess Downe and Mrs. Sofer Whitburn.

The feature of gallery VI is a life size equestrian portrait of Earl Roberts, by Adrian Jones, in which the distinguished general is depicted sitting on his charger on the top of a kopje, at the time of the South African war, while underneath his khaki-clad troop are seen firing from the bushes on the floor of a library, clinging to the knees of her bewildered husband. She has apparently just made a confession, and the question to be answered is, will he pardon her? As in all Mr. Collier's problem pictures, the question might be answered in more than one way, and "The Fallen Idol" is likely to be the most talked of picture in this year's Academy. The man's eyes seem to express at once amazement, grief, anger and pain, and the softness of a love yet quenched. His left hand covers his wife's but, half clenched, it does not seem to denote relenting.

"The man went in for gorgeous embroideries and brocades, and the seams of their coats were sewn in pearls and other jewels. They wore tremendous periwigs—very uncomfortable. I should imagine, for a hot night in June."

Groups are being made up to represent historic personages at the various courts of Europe about 1680. The most splendid of these is that of Louis XIV. himself, arranged by Lady Paget.

The part of Louis will be taken by Count Saurmarokoff Elston, a young Russian nobleman, who has been at Oxford. The seams of his gorgeous costume will be sewn with real sapphires and diamonds. The Dauphin will be another Oxford man, Prince Paul of Serbia, the nephew of King Peter.

A very interesting quartet will be Racine, a part to be taken by Mr. F. E. Smith, K. C. M. P.; La Fontaine of "The Fables," by Mr. A. E. W. Mason, novelist; Mignard, the painter, by Mr. Benjamin Franklin, a descendant of Benjamin Franklin and stepson of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M. P., and Moliere.

At midnight, Louis, attended by his court and attended by his bodyguard of Swiss Guards, will hold a reception of other sovereigns of the time, who will be attended by their respective courts.

The English Court is being arranged by Lady March, whose husband is a direct descendant of Charles II. Lady Drogheda is arranging the court of the Great Mogul; Lady Garvagh, a Dane herself by birth, that of Denmark and Norway; the Duchess of Somerset that of Spain, Lady Allington and Lady Maud Warrender that of Russia, and the Countess Blucher von Waldstadt that of Brandenburg, the States that has since expanded into Prussia.

COURT OF LOUIS XIV. TO BE SEEN AGAIN AT LONDON COSTUME BALL



Historic Personages to Appear for Charity in Dress of 1680 at Albert Hall.

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — NOW it is expected that the Versailles costume ball, at the Albert Hall, which will be the biggest thing of that sort during the season, will eclipse the Shakespeare ball, out of which \$60,000 was cleared. As far as possible the costumes will be of 1680, the year in which the Dauphin, the son of Louis XIV., was married.

"It was the most magnificent period of costume that ever was," Mr. Herbert Rowley, the well known authority on historical and theatrical costume, said to an interviewer, "as regards both men and women."

"The men went in for gorgeous embroideries and brocades, and the seams of their coats were sewn in pearls and other jewels. They wore tremendous periwigs—very uncomfortable. I should imagine, for a hot night in June."

The King was so delighted with his experiences in the potteries that he is entering with added zest and enthusiasm into the arrangements for further tours in industrial centres of his kingdom. In addition to the Lancashire tour in July, he hopes to see the great shipbuilding yards of the Tyne and the Wear, the iron foundries in the Middlesbrough and Stockton districts, and the "heavy woolen" localities of the West Riding, of Yorkshire.

Horses in Art as Well as Flesh at Olympia

Exhibition of Paintings, Photographs and Models in Connection with the Horse Show.

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — AN exhibition of paintings, photographs and models of horses, which is to be held at Olympia this year concurrently with the International Horse Show, promises to be a very attractive addition to the features of this great show.

King, Enthusiastic Over Potteries, to Make Tour of Industrial Centres of Great Britain.

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — THE two final courts of the season will be held on successive nights—Monday, June 9, and Tuesday, June 10. At these the assemblies will be very great, as many will attend who have been prevented from one cause or another from attending court previously this year, but who will be anxious to do so before the season closes.

The royal circle at each of these courts will be larger than has hitherto been the case, though it is hardly likely the Duchess of Connaught will be able to be present.

There will be two state balls at Buckingham Palace in June, the first probably on June 13, which is just before the Ascot meeting, for which there will be the usual big party at Windsor Castle.

The Queen is said to be determined to set an example to society women and others by the simplicity of her toilet this season. Whenever she has made a public appearance in the last few weeks she has worn an inexpensive dress of quiet color and quiet in style, almost devoid of trimming. She may be said to ignore absolutely fashion in regard to matters sartorial. She has never worn the fashionable hat squashed down on the head, and her hair is dressed now as it was when she was married, nearly twenty years ago.

Notwithstanding the fact that she has the finest jewels of any Queen in Europe, she never wears any save earrings, except when in full dress, and these, though of matchless quality, are curiously unobtrusive.

Colonel Hall Walker, M. P., has promised eighteen works of famous animals by such well known artists of the horse as Haywood Palmer, Ernest Adams and Captain Adrian Jones. Captain Jones will exhibit a number of his own works, including figures of Perseus and Vinagar Hill, and the Demote McCalmont as well as a bronze of Zinfandel in training, a thoroughbred which is the property of Mr. Fagan, of the British (Natural History) Museum. Mr. Walter Winans is exhibiting seven oil paintings by Thomas Blinke, besides some of his own bronzes, two of which will be entered for competition.

Substitute for Petrol Now Near Discovery in London

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — THERE is a rumour that Londoners know nothing about London. Not one cockney could name correctly all the stone palaces that lie around the Imperial College at South Kensington. Most persons regard them vaguely as adjuncts to what is equally vaguely known as the "South Kensington Museum."

One of these institutions revolted the other day and held a reception specially for the purpose of making its objects and achievements known. It was the Imperial College of Science and Technology, which links together as in a chain, incorporated the old Royal College of Science, the Royal College of Mines and the City and Guilds (Engineering) College—and is itself a unit of the University of London.

In the Imperial College they are cultivating the germs of many a business in Guinny. The adoption for instance of an effective substitute for petrol will have an enormous effect on the automobile and many other industries. In the laboratories of the Imperial College of Science this problem is being brought daily nearer solution.

While the Stock Exchange was indulging in financial hysterics about rubber, the college was carrying on researches of the most vital kind, to insure the preservation and productivity of rubber trees. One result of this has been an enormous demand for graduates of the college on rubber plantations.

One graduate, having become director of several rubber companies and made a fortune, said to be as much as \$5,000,000, has presented \$5,000 toward the new home for the Botany department in which he worked.

Some of the wonderful laboratories of this department were shown by Professor Maxwell Lefroy, the man who saved the Ceylon silk industry by a timely discovery. Here students were at work cutting up cockroaches to find the nature of the parasites inside them and delving into many other secrets of insect life. Professor Lefroy and his assistants are going shortly to spray 800 trees in Richmond Park with lead chromate, a substance which, according to his investigations, should make short work of the caterpillars, at present ravaging the tree-tops, and at the same time prove harmless to the deer.

In another department there are lumps of wood which to the layman look like material for log fires. They are specimens worth about \$1,500, for they illustrate several diseases which, because of the activities of nature's little nuisances, or the carelessness of inexperienced foresters, attack and kill trees. The study of these diseases has meant the saving of thousands in lands where forestry is a matter of importance.

Mr. and Mrs. Havelock Ellis, After 22 Years of Married Life, Friends

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — THE theories of Mr. Lillian Bell, the American novelist who has declared that husbands and wives should live apart, have a distinguished English supporter in Mrs. Havelock Ellis, the well known writer and lecturer, who has been married for twenty-two years, but only occasionally lives under the same roof as her husband.

Mrs. Havelock Ellis, who is a charming woman with a vivid personality, told an interviewer something of the ideas on which her marriage was based.

"We began with the idea that we would see very little of one another," she said. "We were determined not to lapse into the peaceful or off-hand 'Yes, dear' and 'No, dear' of the usual married couple. The result after twenty-two years of marriage, is that we find ourselves still eager to meet as often as possible."

"I have my quarters in town, and my husband has his. Then I have a little cottage in Cornwall, and he has one in Middlesex. We invite each other for little holidays and get the greatest possible enjoyment out of them. On one occasion we were travelling to Cornwall together and attracted the attention of some others in the same compartment, who afterward, wondering who we were, described us to a friend. 'Oh, they must have been the Havelock Ellises,' said our friend, recognizing our description. 'Oh, no,' said the

other, 'they couldn't have been married. They were so interested in each other.' "Of course, we were interested in each other. We hadn't met for two weeks, and had all sorts of things to talk about. Another delightful thing which I should miss if we lived in the traditional way is the letter that comes at least once a day. I know husbands and wives who have never had the pleasure of writing to one another since their wedding. I do not say that the system would suit all persons, but I am convinced that those of highly sensitive natures, who cannot stand the strain of continued intimacy. There are others, of course, who have not the slightest conception of genuine romantic love and never will have. My husband is a philosopher, and it is absolutely essential to him that he should be alone during a great deal of his time, while I am a social being. Think how absurd if he were always imploring me to stay at home, or if I were constantly dragging him out!

"I believe that each man and wife should work out his or her own scheme of marriage to suit their individual temperaments and without regard to present conventions. Look at the married women of to-day. Look at their faces—no hopes, no happiness. Many of them have as low an idea of love that one wonders how they can endure existence. They look on it as a sort of disease that has to be got through somehow or other. 'The best things—really the only things—in life are faith, and work, and love.'"

HORNETS MALIGNED; REALLY THEY'RE PETS

Little Innocents Quite Willing To Be Friendly, Says Their Earnest Defender.

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — WASPS occasionally have been heard of as pets, but it has been reserved for Major Hurstons to do the job for Major Hurstons. He writes in Knowledge he states that, when walking down Chiswick lane many years ago, he discovered hornets busy around four straw hives in the front garden of a cottage.

"I entered," he says, "and asked the proprietor to let me observe them. I found that he had no bees. He lifted up a hive and let me observe the queen at work. He said that he felt no danger whatever."

Major Hardy adds that he personally has no fear whatever of these innocent and useful creatures, who seem quite willing to share our dwellings with us if encouraged to do so.

It may be recalled that Mr. Bates in his account of his experiences on the Amazon states that at first he killed hornets which flew near his face. But having observed them closely and noted that they killed them and was rather glad of their company.

It is suggested that the time may come when every well regulated household will keep its hornet to deal with flies, as it now keeps its big dog to guard against burglars.

Interfered With. Washington Star: "How far has our member of Congress got along with the tariff?" asked the man who was leaning against the bay window. "It's a long way from through yet," replied Farmer Gortseoff. "As far as I can judge by the paper he's breaking' hand-capped by a lot of fellows breakin' in an makin' speeches an' usin' up his time."

Water Diviners Are Dealt a Hard Blow

Report on Recent Exhaustive Tests Goes Against the Men with the Little Sticks.

(Special Dispatch.) LONDON, May 24. — WATER diviners are hit hard by the conclusions contained in the report of the Royal Commission on the Municipal Engineering, of the committee which recently conducted exhaustive tests of the powers of seven water diviners over a carefully selected site at Guildford. On the whole, it is stated, the diviners have failed to carry conviction.

The general conclusions of the committee are that whatever sensitiveness to underground water may exist in certain persons, it is not sufficiently definite and trustworthy to be of much practical value.

Moreover, the lack of agreement with each other shows that "it is more a matter of personal magnetism than any direct influence of the water. The diviners as a rule confine their attention to small streams of water, and as there are few places where these cannot be found they may well show a large percentage of success."

These scientific remarks are justified when it is noted that part of the test was carried over a lawn that covered a reservoir, and that though one or two of the diviners said there was some indication of water, the basal twigs of none of them showed an agitation commensurate with so large a body of water directly beneath their feet.

In other parts of the test also the diviners—who, it is noted, showed an entire absence of agreement in their findings—though indicating "water" more or less definitely, said nothing of a large sewer on a well known spring yielding 50,000 gallons per hour.

The Amateur Gardener. "At gardening I'm not a bit of a hand, indeed. I thought I had an eye plant, but it was a weed."

THEY ARE A OF A British Steamer Le Ruthie Full particulars were yesterday from their agent, of the recent attack on the steamer by Chinese pirates, 700 tons, flying a flag, and owned by a firm.

Sandeman in his Guild states that the steamer, some 400 passengers, was boarded at 7 p.m. by 150 pirates mingled with the crew. The vessel steamed into the Caspian Pass, a pre-arranged signal, their attack.

They first secured the chief officer and chief engineer, then proceeded to kill if they offered resistance.

The first man shot was the protectorate waters on the shore, where he tended to beach her, after ransacking the vessel at the wheel refused, and riddled by shots from volvers, he fell dead at Mr. Cornwall, chief of vessel, who is also a member of the Guild, states that he was in the trouble and heard the sound of fire and he first thought it had been discovered.

passengers, which appeared common occurrence on coast, but upon opening door he was astonished crowd of Chinamen dressed in clean clothes pointing him at close range.

He was ordered to hands, and, seeing this was useless, had no alternative but to comply with their demands of the Chinamen who

50 cents