

FAMOUS ACTORS

connoisseur of the arts." Thus amateurs and connoisseurs are included, despite the definition of an amateur as "a person who loves nothing" and of a connoisseur as a "person who knows nothing."

At midnight on the last night of 1888, when bells, whistles, and horns were ushering in the new year, Edwin Booth, standing in front of the fireplace in the great hall on which a log crackled and blazed, presented in the simplest manner possible to the members of the club, by that time already grown to 100, a deed of gift to the house. From above the mantle, as he stood there, not as the actor, but as the simple, lovable man and loyal son, there looked down upon him the face of his father, Junius Brutus Booth, out of the canvas, by Sully.

It sometimes has been said in criticism of the Players' that the mixed membership has resulted in swallowing up the actor element, and that the last person you meet at the