

## MODERN PAINTERS.

By J. A. JOHNSON.

Editor's Note.—The following interesting sketch of the great English artist, Turner, was written for the *BLUENOSE* by Mr. J. A. Johnson. This is the first of a series that Mr. Johnson will contribute from time to time. We have no doubt that this department will interest a large number of our readers who devote a certain amount of their time to art and art subjects. Mr. Johnson has for a number of years taken a great interest in things pertaining to such matters, and while not an artist himself, is yet a competent judge of pictures and painters.

## TURNER.

**J**OSEPH M. W. TURNER, was born in London in 1775, and died in that city in 1851. He was self taught. The son of a hair dresser, he had a very limited education, and that devoted principally to the study of reading, writing and ciphering.

His specialty in art was land-scape painting. At a very early age he showed an inclination for drawing, and his father on this account, wished him to become an architectural draftsman, and apprenticed him to a celebrated man in this branch of business. The latter, however, soon sent the boy home and told his father that he did not think he would ever succeed in it. Another, however, in the same line of business, Thomas Malton, at once appreciated the boys great gifts and recommended to his father that he send him to the school of the Royal Academy. Turner accordingly entered the school at the age of fourteen, and at the age of fifteen one of his pictures was accepted and exhibited by the Royal Academy.

Turner made very few friends. He was brusque, almost to rudeness. His mother died insane, and although he never exhibited any signs of insanity, yet this may explain some of his peculiarities.

A great traveller, he travelled over the greater part of Britain and the continent, almost always alone; if he had a companion he always concealed the sketches he made.

His two great objects in life were to perfect himself in land-scape painting and to make money. He was possessed of great energy and was almost untiring in his work. Up to 1850 he exhibited 259 pictures at the Royal Academy; 17 at the British Institute; and 7 at Suffolk Street. His sketches from nature, principally in water colors, reached almost to thousands.

At the age of thirty he painted "The Shipwreck," and at the age of fifty-four "Ulysses Deriding Polyphemus," pictures which for force, general effect and power of coloring have not been surpassed in modern art.

It is admitted that he was the greatest land-scape painter since the days of Claude Lorrain; and he never has had an equal as a water color painter.

He valued his own works very highly; and it is related of him that, when he endeavored to purchase some of his early works which had been sold at small prices, and the owners refused to sell them, he burst into tears.

He died worth 140,000 pounds, and was buried in the crypt of St. Paul's.

The following are a few of his pictures and prices realised:

"Cologne," sold in 1854.....	£2,100
"Carrying out an Anchor to a Dutch Man-of-War," sold in 1856....	3,000
"Venice, Grand Canal and Rialto," sold 1872.....	4,000
"Junction of Thames and Medway," sold 1872.....	4,567
"Dunstonsborough," sold 1874....	4,305
"Grand Canal, Venice," sold 1875	7,350
"Rome," sold 1878.....	6,142
"Ancient Italy," sold 1878.....	5,460
"Modern Italy," sold 1878.....	5,250
"Walton Bridge," sold 1891.....	7,450
"A Trout Stream," sold 1893.....	5,400

And many others, which would total over 200,000 pounds.

Besides his oils, 750 water colors have been sold since 1804, one going as high as 3,307 pounds. 36 of his water colors sold for more than 1,000 pounds each.

## IN MILITIA CIRCLES.

(Continued from page 3.)

An officer in the second battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles serving in South Africa, writes to the commanding officer of one of our city battalions, some very interesting lessons of the war. Among other things he remarks that our Canadian horses stood the work in South Africa much better than either the English or Australian horses that worked alongside of them. Good for the Canadian cavalry horse.

The officers of the 66th P. L. F. having spent a large sum of money on their mess at the Armories, are now in possession of very handsome quarters. The rooms are furnished and fitted on a very elaborate scale, and the officers are to be congratulated on having such well fitted and convenient quarters for the accommodation and entertainment of their guests.

The inspection of the 66th P. L. F. by the Commanding Officer took place on Tuesday, the 23rd, on which occasion the regiment presented a full muster. The final inspection by the District Officer Commanding will take place at the Armories on Tuesday, November 13th.

On November 5th. Capt. H. B. Stairs will be entertained at a banquet by the officers of the 66th P. L. F., which was his regiment before leaving for South Africa, and to which he is still attached, his service in South Africa having not interfered with his connection with this regiment.

The other officers of Co. H. will also be entertained at the same banquet, the function being in celebration of the return from South Africa. The 66th regiment is to be congratulated upon the fact of having furnished two officers and a large number of men to the Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry for service in South Africa. It is said that this regiment sent a larger quota than any other in Canada.

The Dartmouth Companies of the 63rd Rifles paraded with the regiment at the Armories for the first time Wednesday evening. The men turned out in force and were played from the ferry to the armories by the 63rd band. They made an excellent showing.

OF INTEREST  
TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

**B**READ is the staff of life," therefore it will interest housekeepers to know whether they are likely to pay high prices for flour during the coming winter. It is not probable that the announcement of the recent decline of 5 cents a barrel will make people hopeful of lower prices, for certainly such a decline is too insignificant to warrant any expectation of lower retail prices. This much, however, can be said for a certainty, viz., that flour made from Ontario wheat will be no higher than it is now, and it may possibly be lower. The reason of this is that in Ontario the wheat crop was fairly good, while in Manitoba it was in most sections very poor. But those who use flour made from Ontario wheat will not feel the effect of the high market. If people want hard wheat flour, however, which is made from Manitoba wheat, they will have to pay high prices for it, and the more there are who demand it the higher will the price be.

Supplies of creamery print butter in Halifax are very light at the present time, and this condition of affairs is accompanied by a large consumption. Many people are asking for it, and people also want large quantities of dairy butter. Nearly all the butter being consumed here to-day is produced in Nova Scotia. None is brought in from outside sources.

Housekeepers may experience some difficulty in getting nice, fresh eggs, for storekeepers cannot obtain large supplies. Consequently they may have to pay higher prices.

People who consume large quantities of canned fruits and vegetables are likely to find before spring that they will have to pay higher prices. There is one thing that is remarkably low, all things considered, and that is canned salmon; for as a matter of fact it is possible to buy it more cheaply here than in British Columbia, whence we get our supplies. This state of affairs obviously cannot continue long. Canned peas are now costing storekeepers a little more than they were and are likely to cost them more still, for which reason it is likely that housekeepers will have to pay higher prices in the course of a short time.

The season for Gravenstein apples is very nearly over, but there are still large supplies of this fruit seeking sale and apples will likely remain cheap.

## The Professor.

"I can't believe a man is telling the truth," observed the doctor, "when he says, a few hours after he has been knocked out in a prize fight, that he 'never felt better in his life.' It sounds fishy."

"More than that," remarked the professor. "It sounds Sharkey."—*Chicago Tribune*.