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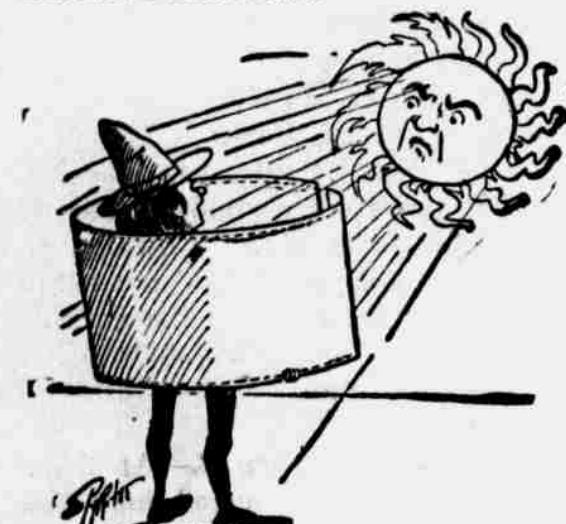
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**ART AND --  
ARTISTS.**

ESTHER  
GRIFFIN  
WHITE

One of the most charming little books issued by Thomas B. Mosher in his Vest Pocket Series, is "A Little Book of Nature Thoughts," selected from the work of Richard Jeffries, by Thomas Coke Watkins. This little book is highly valued by Mr. James Speed whose delightful Nature Studies have been one of the features of the series of entertainments afforded by the Chautauqua. Jeffries was ever a bit of a fatalist as witness this:

"Nature sets no value upon life, neither of mine nor of the larks that sang years ago. The earth is all in all to me but I am nothing to the earth it is bitter to know this before you are dead. These delicious violets are sweet for themselves; they were not shaped, and colored and gifted with the exquisite proportion and adjustment of odour and hue for me."

"There are never two works of equal beauty of any kind, just as there are never two moments of equal pleasure; seize the one you have and make much of it, for such a moment will never return."

Here is something with a positive lyric quality:

"The fervour of the sunbeams descending in a tidal flood rings on the strung harp of earth. It is this exquisite undertone, heard and yet unheard, which brings the mind into sweet accordance with the wonderful instrument of nature."

Mr. Edgar Forkner, who with Mr. Pierce is spending the summer in the artists' country studio, "the cabin," South of town, is doing some stunning work this season. His sketches in water color show constantly increased breadth of treatment and appreciation of varying conditions of color, some of his more recent work displaying a warmth, depth and richness of color absent from his pictures of some seasons since. It is to be deplored that Mr. Forkner has not lately exhibited in Richmond as he is doing the sort of work that wins applause from his fellow artists and has won him a reputation in Chicago where he has a studio, and other large cities of the west in which he frequently exhibits.

Mr. William A. McCord, the well known Cincinnati artist whose beautiful canvases have been exhibited in Richmond at different times, is also devotee of the camera, his pictures taken with the latter being beautifully composed and artistic in effect. There is a wonderful pleasure in composing with a kodak or camera. Any one can take a picture of a person, but it is another thing to make a successful composition. There is as much charm in this as in painting, after a fashion, altho' it takes the artist, acknowledged or in embryo, to accomplish interesting results. Mr. McCord's little marines in photography are perfectly delightful bits of pictorial composition and would interest all admirers of his painting art.

Here is a vivid word picture from Jeffries that might be realized on canvas by an artist of poetic instinct and an interpreter of the meanings of words:

"Out again into the road as the sun sinks, and westwards the wind lifts a cloud of dust, which is lit up and made rosy by the rays passing through it. For such is the beauty of the sunlight that it can impart a glory even to dust."

The writer of this column has recently had the pleasure of receiving Maurice Maeterlinck's bookplate, which, judging from the motif, must be a recent acquisition on the part of the Belgian essayist, poet and mystic, since bears from the chief decorative effect and his poetic treatment of the latter being of comparatively recent publication. The plate is a large one, with a very effective reversal of lettering, the name of Maeterlinck being placed at the top with "Ex Libris," at the bottom. It is a beautiful plate and invaluable from the collector's standpoint.

Maeterlinck in his last volume "The Double Garden," is, perhaps, less caviare to the multitude than heretofore, for his involved symbolic dramatic poems, or poetical plays, have been unintelligible to the average reader of current literature, altho' heralded by certain sets and coteries as the utterances of a genius. All the translations of his work appearing in this country have been charming in format, however, the first, his plays, translated by Richard Hovey and published by the then firm of Stone &

ing and water color and a portrait of the versatile and clever young artist herself. There is the usual piquant editorial comment, notes from various art centers, and the well sustained musical department, with book reviews, etc. "An Ideal School of Art" by the editor is also one of the features of this issue.

James William Pattison has this to say, in the September "House Beautiful," of American art: "Americans are versatile, investigating, conscious of their adolescence, and eager to raise themselves to the highest standards in all things, including their appreciation of art. Their force of character, quickness of wit, and ability to acquire knowledge, have carried them far in the line of product and connoisseurship. It is still too early to determine the results of this union of aggressive youthfulness to many sorts of blood. We are doing splendidly. We have produced a Whistler and a Sargent."

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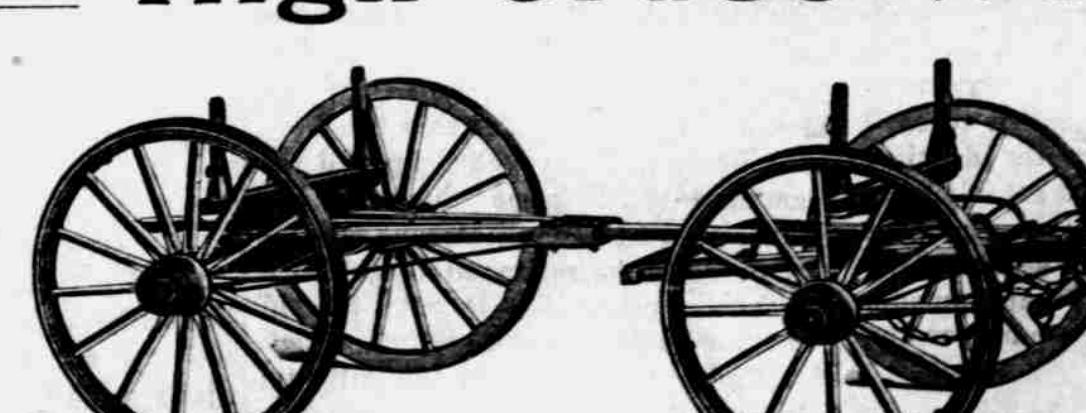
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