


ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

Last May a local art league was formed to put works of art in the school rooms on scientific and artistic principles. It costs fifty cents annually for adults and ten cents for school children to become members. The league has a large and growing membership, and we wish every adult and school-child were members, so that the League could push its work rapidly for two or three years, till the rooms are fairly well decorated. The idea is to give all the children, rich and poor alike, some fundamental ideas of true art as their school course progresses, and all this without trenching on their regular school work. It is all the art culture some children will ever get, and if it does no more than create a disgust for the whole set of coarse, and often vile pictures of the daily and other papers, it will be a valuable result.

We spent half an hour yesterday morning with Mrs. Vail (President of the League), looking over the work already done, and were surprised at the results. We found in the hall ten photographs of Thorwaldsen's bas-reliefs, presented by President Everett of the school board. Mr. F. C. Brown, gave two fine pictures of the American company's steamships and \$5.00 in cash, and others have done more or less. In the main hall as you enter is a fine copy of the Winged Victory. In the first grade is the series of the Procession of the Flowers, so that the little children are taught to follow the flowers all through the season. In the second room, is Raphael's St. Cecilia and for statuary, the Flying Mercury. In the third are Breton's Lay of the Lark and Barye's Lion, as choice a little bit of statuary as we have seen. In the fourth are Lion's Cattle in the Highlands, very fine, and Barye's bas-relief of Singer Boy. In the fifth, the Sistine Madonna and another Barye's Lion. In the sixth, water color of St. Marks in Venice. In the seventh, Venetian water colors and bas-reliefs, and in the eighth, a choice Guido's Aurora.

The executive committee, besides the president, Miss Cushman, are Mrs. H. C. Street and Thomas T. Watson, and they have done lots of hard work. Next week there will be in the Chicago Art Institute an exhibit of art work by the city school children, and they want our eighth grade to see it. They have a scheme also for some extra fine decorations in the eighth room. For the short time the league has done remarkably well: let them be encouraged.

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