

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Section 12, Pages 331 - 360

A series of research correspondence from the Robert Taft collection relating to frontier artists. Robert Taft (1894-1955) was a professor of chemistry and author on the subjects of photography and art. The artists included here are Sumner Dickerman, E. Didier, Maynard Dixon, William H. Dougal, William Herbert Dunton, John Durkin, Thomas Eakins, Lawrence C. Earl, Thomas Martin Easterly, Seth Eastman, Elk Eber, Frederick von Egloffstein, Henry A. Elkins, Henry W. Elliott, George H. Ellsbury, W. A. Emory, Henry F. Farny, Father Nicholas Point, Harry Fenn, and Mary Hallock Foote.

Date: 1930-1955

Callnumber: Robert Taft Coll. #172, Box 21

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 308632

Item Identifier: 308632

www.kansasmemory.org/item/308632



Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

1
CHARLOTTE HALLOCK TUTTLE
WILLOW TREE ROAD
MILTON, ULSTER CO.
NEW YORK

Mary Anna Hallock -
Youngest daughter of
Nathaniel and Ann Burling Hallock
was born at Milton, New York,
in 1847.
She had done a considerable
amount of illustrating before
her marriage to
Arthur D. Foote, in
February 1876.
There were three children.
over

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

1. Arthur Bealings Foote, born
in California in April 1877.
 2. Elizabeth Townsend Foote, born
in Milton, New York - 1882.
 3. Agnes, born in Coeur d'Alene
Valley, Idaho.
Agnes died when about
fifteen years old.
- For a number of years the
Footes lived in Idaho, where
Mr. Foote was connected
with the Coeur d'Alene
irrigation project.

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

3

CHARLOTTE HALLOCK TUTTLE
WILLOW TREE ROAD
MILTON, ULSTER CO.
NEW YORK

It was after her marriage
that Mary Hallork Foote
became even better known
as a writer, than as an
illustrator.

For years The Century Magazine
published her work, and
from time to time her stories
appeared in book form.

She used to say she could
write in rail road stations
with pad and pencil the

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

4
only needed equipment, and
the wife of a civil engineer,
traveled much in the days
in which she did most
of her writing.
Perhaps her most settled
home, after the years in
Idaho, was in Grass Valley,
California. —

She died at the home of
her daughter, Mrs. Swift,
in Massachusetts in 1938 (I think)

Her relatives are in
California, and rather

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

CHARLOTTE HALLOCK TUTTLE
WILLOW TREE ROAD
MILTON, ULSTER CO.
NEW YORK

distant relatives, still are to be
found in Milton.

Those who ever knew
Mary Hallock Foote, gladly
remember her great
personal charm.

over

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

illustrations I remember -
"Mexican Skeletons" -
Louisa Alcott's
"Under the Lilacs" ^{in St. Nicholas}
Fennypson's "Princess" - ^{magazine}
Ingfellows' "Skeleton in Armor"
Many others - but
time fails - as this must
go -



Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERT T. INGRAM, President
MISS ANNIE F. COLLIN, Vice-President
RALPH E. DEEDLE, Secretary
MRS. ELIZABETH BROCK
EDEN K. SMART

Grass Valley Free Public Library

MISS JANE WHELAN, LIBRARIAN

Grass Valley, California

August 23, 1941

Mr. Robert Taft,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Taft:

Mary Hallock Foote was born at Milton, New York November 19, 1847. She studied at the school of Design for Women in New York and became an illustrator for several magazines. She wrote many stories many illustrated with her own drawings. In 1876 she married Arthur D. Foote, a mining engineer thereafter her life was spent in mining communities in Colorado, Idaho, and California. She lived in Grass Valley approximately thirty years, going to Boston a few years prior to her death. Died at Boston, Massachusetts June 25, 1938. Mrs Foote is survived by her son A. B. Foote (mining engineer), three grand children Mrs Raymond Conway, Evelyn & Jeanette Foote all of Grass Valley, and a daughter Mrs Elizabeth Swift of Boston, Mass.

I delayed answering your inquiry as I was making efforts to get a clipping of



Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERT T. INGRAM, President
MISS ANNIE F. COLLIN, Vice-President
RALPH E. DEEDLE, Secretary
MRS. ELIZABETH BROCK
EDEN K. SMART

Grass Valley Free Public Library

MISS JANE WHELAN, LIBRARIAN

Grass Valley, California

the obituary, but as it was published several years ago I was unable to get it for you.

I have a clipping of Mary Hallock Foote's obituary in our own files. Following my method of preserving local history I placed the obituary notice in one of Mrs. Foote's illustrated books. In the same book I have saved an obituary of her husband A.D. Foote.

If you think that book would be helpful to you in your work (which I doubt) I could lend the book to you feeling assured of its safe return.

Hoping your questions are answered and anxiously awaiting the publication of your book.

Very Truly yours,
Jane Whelan.



Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

August 30, 1940

Mr. A. B. Foote
Grass Valley, California

Dear Mr. Foote:

I have in preparation a book The Frontier in Picture which is to deal with the artists and illustrators who recorded the life and growth of our American west. Included in the list of artists that I have under study is your mother Mary Hallock Foote. Could you supply me with a photograph of your mother made preferably in the 80's or 90's? Do you know if any of her original western sketches that appeared with her articles in the Century and other magazines are still extant? I am particularly anxious to have this information concerning your mother and she is the only woman among the two-hundred artists that I have under study. If you do not have the information are there other members of the family who possibly might have it? Thank you greatly for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft.

RT/cv



Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Arthur B. Foote
Civil and Mining Engineer
Member A. S. C. E., A. I. M. E.

Box 1026
Grass Valley, California

Sept. 6, 1940

Dr. Robt. Taft
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Taft:-

This in answer to yours of the 30th. regarding Mary Hallock

Foote.

I am having reproductions made of two photographs of my mother taken in the 80's or 90's. As there are no duplicates of the photos. I prefer to send photographs of them.

Quite a number of her drawings appear in the two volumes "Proofs from Scribners Monthly and St. Nicholas" published by Scribners & Co., 1880, and "Selected Proofs from Scribners Monthly and St. Nicholas" published by the Century Co. in 1881.

I have 25 or 30 proofs of drawings that have been published in various publications. I would be willing to send these to you for reproduction provided I could have some positive assurance of receiving them back. There are very few original sketches in existence. Most of her drawings were made directly on the wooden blocks that were engraved, and the later ones reproduced by photogravure were not returned by the publishers.

The photographs of my mother will be sent in a few days, as soon as I receive them from the photographer. The publishers' proofs will be sent upon receipt from you of directions for forwarding that will insure their return to me.

Very sincerely yours

Arthur B. Foote

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

October 1, 1940

Mr. Arthur B. Foote
Box 1026
Grass Valley, California

Dear Mr. Foote:

Thank you greatly for sending the proofs of your mother's drawings and for the negatives. These have been examined, several that interested me have been copied, and prints from the negatives have been made. I am returning the material to you by express, prepaid and trust that you receive it promptly and in good condition.

Sincerely yours,

RT/cdo

Robert Taft.

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

March 5, 1949

Miss Ina T. Aulls
Denver Public Library
Denver, Colorado

Dear Miss Aulls:

Thank you for the prompt return of the Mathews manuscript. I am glad that you liked it. I shall make a change or two in the notes from your suggestions. Thanks, too, for the prints of the two Graham pictures.

When you find time will you have copied or photostated--whichever is the more convenient for you--any material that you have on Mary Hallack Foote. I should have at least one woman represented in my group and Mrs. Foote is about the only one. When I was there last summer I noted that there were some references to her in the Leadville Chronicle, New Year's edition, 1880 and Leadville D. Chron. May 29, 1879, p. 1, c. 4. Will you also send me the item on J. Harrison Mills from the Rocky Mountain News, Aug. 27, 1882, p. 3, c. 2?

Thanks again for your help.

Sincerely,

Robert Taft

RT:c

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER
DENVER 2, COLORADO

MALCOLM GLENN WYER
Librarian

March 11, 1949

Dear Dr. Taft,

I have not found much about Mary Hallock Foote so far but I will send on these things.

Just to keep up with the scraps of information- I have recently acquired a copy of the Custer picture by Feodor Fuchs. You might want a copy some time.

Signed Feodor Fuchs '76

Designed by Feodor Fuchs - Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1876 by Seifert Gugler & Co. with the Librarian of Congress at Washington, D.C. - Published by the Milwaukee Litho. & Engr. Co.
Custer's Last Charge
Custer's Todes=Ritt.

I do not have the paper but I have the record from the Cheyenne Leader for June 13, 1874 in which it referred to Mr. Jules Tavernier, an artist from Paris, engaged by Harper's Weekly, at Forts Laramie and Fetterman and the agencies making sketches which will appear in Harper's. Went with Major T.S. Stanton, Paymaster. Also Red Cloud Agency. A portfolio of pictures and sketches. If you do not have it you may want to have it checked. One of the staff members in the department who was here several years ago when you asked for information about Tavernier recently wrote to me from Hawaii that she found some pictures there by him and wanted to know if he was the same artist. So you see your work continues to be of interest to one of the staff who has been married and gone for some years.

I was quite mixed up over what Ben Draper found on Whittredge. It was the article in the Brooklyn Museum Journal for 1942. I thought it was more of a diary and not published. You probably have had it but we have a copy if you have not seen it.

Sincerely,

Dina Quiles

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

E. MAURICE BLOCH

September 10, 1950.

Dr. Robert Taft, Editor
Transactions Kansas Academy of Science
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Taft:

I found the reprints for your recent chapter to "The Pictorial Record of the Old West" awaiting me on my return from my vacation. Many thanks!

The chapter on W. A. Rogers and Mary Hallock Foote is most interesting and contains some very useful information for my growing knowledge of American illustration. Seems like the old-timers at the Cooper Union were not aware that Mrs. Foote was a former Art School student there...

All best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

E. Maurice Bloch
E. Maurice Bloch

The Cooper Union Museum
Cooper Square
New York 3, N.Y.

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Mary Hallock Foote

If those who have carefully followed American literature for the last ten years were bidden to make choice of the most typical series of Western stories written by a woman, I fancy a majority would promptly elect Mary Hallock Foote. Western in very truth of scene and "color" and outlook, marked by all the instincts at once of woman, artist, poet and story-teller, The Led-Horse Claim and its fellows are of a quality that refuses to be forgotten, even amid the avalanche of clever work that yearly, now, crowds itself off the brink of remembrance. There is at least one busy reviewer, smothered under thousands of stories and of illustrations a year, who has not seen The Led-Horse Claim since its first publication, but who is unable to forget the title story or its frontispiece- for Mrs. Foote can illustrate as exquisitely as she can write. That same fine and vital quality is in all her work; and with it all that undefinable but unmistakable largeness of soul which belongs to our horizons. Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Channing among the southern orange groves, Mrs. Foote among the Sierra mining camps, Mrs. Higginson in the Olympic pines, and all unlike as unlike can be- what is it gives to all their work the sympathy whose lack chills the technical perfection of the only New England woman that may be compared with them?

Mrs. Foote's home is in Grass Valley, Cal., the longest-enduring and most productive nest of quartz mines in the Golden State. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, publish her books- The Chosen Valley: The Led-Horse Claim: John Bodewin's Testimony: The Last Assembly Ball and The Fate of a Voice: In Exile, and other stories: The Cup of Trembling, and other stories.

The New League for Literature and the West
by Chas. F. Lummis
In The Land of Sunshine v.3 no.5 April, 1898.

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Mrs. Foote.
the best of our designers
on the wood.
W. J. Linton

p464 American art
Vol 1 Walter Montgomery
Boston, 1889

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Lawrence, Kansas, _____, 19_____

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men of World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

Amount from the donor named below the amount of \$_____

CHARLES B. HOLMES, Treasurer

By _____

Lawrence, Kansas, _____, 19_____

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men of World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

Amount from the donor named below the amount of \$_____

CHARLES B. HOLMES, Treasurer

By _____

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Look up Foote's Tahiti
Bodevin's Testimony
(1886)
Try vols 31 & 32 (OS)
Vol 31 (OS) 1886 (MS 9)
60-73 377-388 665-676
229-243 558-572 829-838

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

wrence, Kansas, _____, 19_____

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the
scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men
World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

ot from the donor named below the amount of \$_____

CHARLES B. HOLMES, *Treasurer*

By _____

wrence, Kansas, _____, 19_____

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the
scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men
World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

ot from the donor named below the amount of \$_____

CHARLES B. HOLMES, *Treasurer*

By _____

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Coeur D'Alene
Century n 5 vol 25 (1893-4)
pp 502-514
722-731
895-908

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

wrence, Kansas, _____, 19_____

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the
scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men
World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

pt from the donor named below the amount of \$.....

CHARLES B. HOLMES, Treasurer

By

.....

.....

.....

wrence, Kansas, _____, 19_____

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the
scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men
World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

pt from the donor named below the amount of \$.....

CHARLES B. HOLMES, Treasurer

By

.....

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Foote - Utah
 Vol 15, p 788; Chi. 1928
 Foote, Arthur De Wint
 Calif 1875, New Almaden
 Minn 1876-7; Black, 1878; Leadville
 1879-80; Mex, Black, Idaho 81-82;
 Idaho 83-83; Calif 1884

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

wrence, Kansas, 19.....

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the
scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men
World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

ot from the donor named below the amount of \$.....

CHARLES B. HOLMES, Treasurer

By

.....

.....

.....

wrence, Kansas, 19.....

MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WORLD WAR II

the State of Kansas to receive and expend money and install on the
scenic memorial driveway with a campanile honoring the 8000 K.U. men
World War II of whom 261 gave their lives.

ot from the donor named below the amount of \$.....

CHARLES B. HOLMES, Treasurer

By

.....

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

7 vote, Mrs Mary (H)
19th Century Readers
Smile to Per. Feb 1899
vol 1, p 962
many out in Aust & Atlantic
+ illus. - actually about in
Australia
4919/10
my 26/2/1900
94.
1900
Mrs E
J. J. J.

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

I hereby apply for membership in the Kansas Academy of Science and enclose \$1.00 as my first annual dues which is for a year's subscription to the "Transactions."

My name is

My address is

My position (work) is

My School Degrees are

I am (am not) a member of the American Association for Advancement of Science.

Recommended for membership by

.....

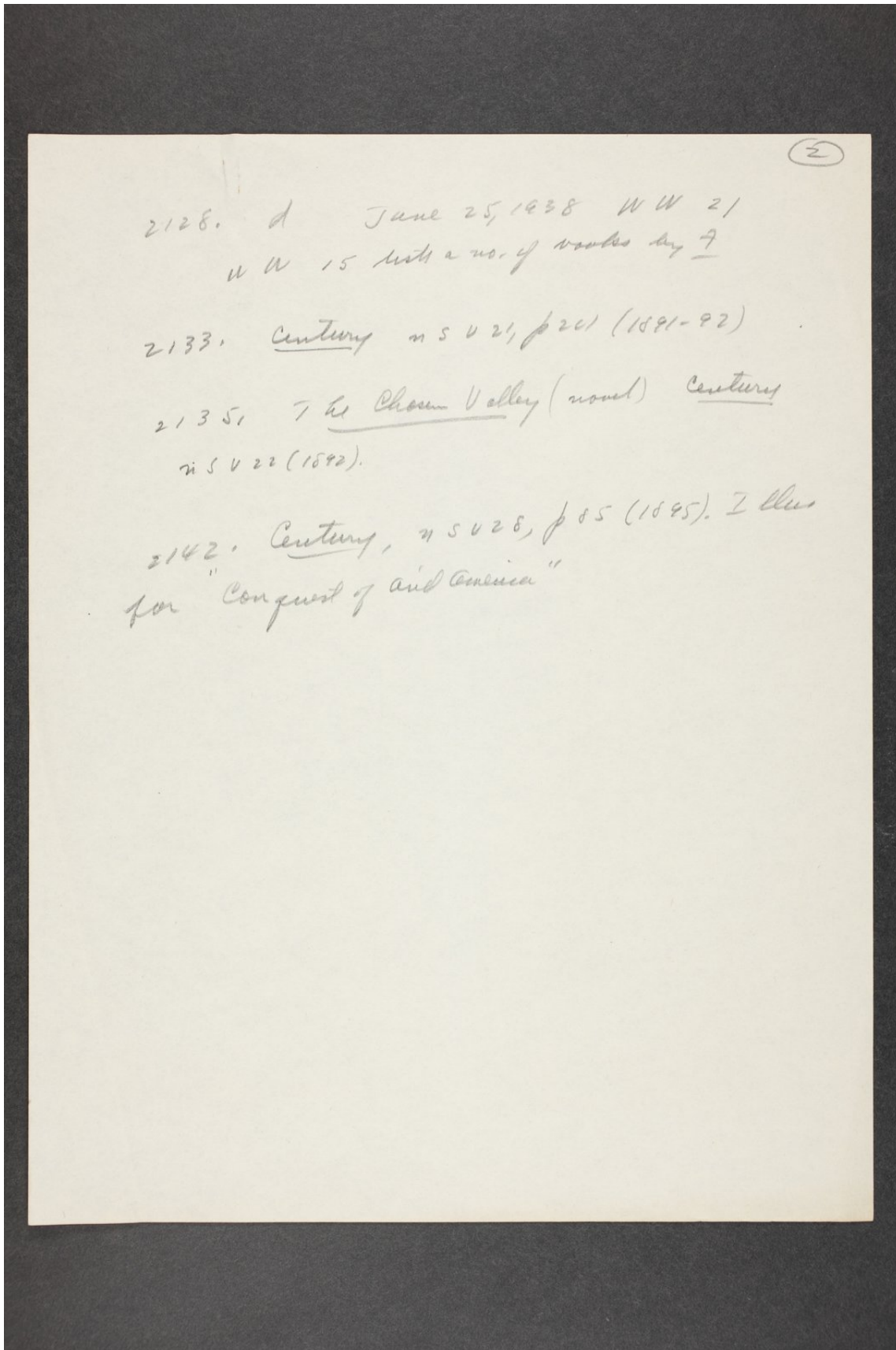
Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Mary H Foote

1704. "Looking for Camp" in The Century
gallery, 1893
1905. Calif illus in Scribners v 15 & 16
1878-79.
1908. Leadwell illus in Scribners v 18
p 501 (1879).
1910. Myra illus in Century n 50 & 2, 1881 -
1912. The Red Horse Claim (story & illus)
Century n 5, v 3, 1883
2115. 5 illus in Cent n 5 v 15 (1888-89)
p 108 p 448 p 686
p 163 p 500
2118. more in Cent n 5 v 16, 1889
p 3, p 298, p 341, p 501, p 812
- 2121 Cent n 5 v 17, p 56 (1888-90).
2122. 7 illus in "Good Hermitus of Calif."
2126. to Milton, NY, 1847
Mrs archer de la int Foote

Original of
~~the~~ the
 Omaha Dec 1877-81

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote



Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

Prof. Taft:

Topeka Public Library typed this article from the
Outlook.
The article of p. 910 is "Artist-Authors" by Alpheus
Sherwin Cody.

L. LeRoy

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

"Mary Hallock Foote is an artist-author who is perhaps the best-known woman illustrator that we have, and at the same time she is as much an artist-author combined as is Howard Pyle. She, too, comes of an old Quaker family (like so many of our illustrators). Her ancestors were among the earliest settlers on the Hudson above New York, and her own early home was at Wilton. She had every advantage of education and society which the time and her parents' means afforded during the years immediately following the war, when, however, illustration was in its infancy. For four winters she studied art in New York, three at the Cooper Institute and one in the studio of Johnson Frost--that is, she studied art when she was not enjoying life, for she admits that she was not a very serious student, and could not well resist the social pleasures that were pressed upon her at the houses of the friends with whom she lived. Says she: 'New York was the world to me, and its manifold life was "all a wonder and a wild desire." I was too happy to be serious about anything, and too mixed up learning to know myself and so many other things. Art never was to me, nor ever could be, the whole of life.' Those who have read her stories will readily agree that had she not been a happy girl like other girls, and not too serious an art student, she never would have caught the simple spirit of girl life so sympathetically; for, after all, art does not exist for art's sake, but for the sake of the human life it may be the means of expressing; and one feels a thrill of genuine pleasure when Mrs. Foote owns that she had 'a beautiful time when she was a girl,' though she thought she was 'working hard.'

"She married an engineer, and went out to Idaho to live, where she has been ever since and is now. She says the magnificent material for literary and artistic work came upon her so intensely that she determined to see what she could do with it. In order to illustrate what she wrote, she renewed her art studies, though she says her skill has always been defective. Until very recently she drew on the block of wood, after the old style, because she did not like to trust herself with a new medium. She is an author first, who has found out what an advantage it is to make one's own illustrations. Her first work was accepted by the 'Century,' and her books have been brought out from the first by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

"It is noteworthy that the artist-author has never had to go through the discouraging process which beginners in literature pure and simple usually have to undergo. There are very few of them, but they have all been unusually successful. The combination of art and literature is a power in itself. When the two are mechanically set side by side, as in our great magazines, a wonderful result is gained, as is seen by their enormous success. But when the graphic art and the verbal are united in one and the same person, the result is more noteworthy still. It is like the discovery of a new kind of genius."

--from an article, "Artist-Authors", by Alpheus Sherwin Cody. The Outlook, May 26, 1894. page 911

Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote



DESIGNED BY MARY HALLOCK FOOTE.

THE SHERIFF'S POSSE.

ENGRAVED BY F. FRENCH.