HOW TO IDENTIFY PORTRAIT MINIATURES

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How to Identify Portrait Miniatures by George C. Williamson & Alyn Williams

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GEORGE C. WILLIAMSON & ALYN WILLIAMS

HOW TO IDENTIFY PORTRAIT MINIATURES

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LONDON: GEORGE BELL AND SONS, YORK HOUSE, PORTUGAL STREET, W.C.

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[Collection of Mr. E. M. Hodgkins TWO CHILDREN, NAME UNKNOWN, AGED FOUR AND FIVE, 1590

(From the Hankins Sale, May, 1904)

ATTRIBUTED TO LAVINA TEERLINCK

HOW TO IDENTIFY PORTRAIT MINIATURES

BY

GEORGE C. WILLIAMSON, LITT.D. AUTHOR OF "THE HISTORY OF PORTRAIT MINIATURES." ETC., ETC., ETC.

WITH CHAPTERS ON HOW TO PAINT MINIATURES

BY

ALYN WILLIAMS, R.B.A., A.R.C.A.

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PREFACE

I T has been suggested to me that many persons unable to acquire my larger "History of Portrait Miniatures," would be glad to have a small work giving such assistance to the collector of miniatures as is needed, with respect especially to signatures, dates, colouring, and other means of identification. Hence the issue of this handbook, which it is hoped will be of service to the industrious collector.

I.

The opportunity has been utilized to incorporate a few extra facts that have come to my knowledge since the issue of my larger work, and to give illustrations of certain miniatures recently sold.

In view of the revival of the art of miniature painting, it has also seemed a fitting opportunity to add some chapters dealing with the practical side of the art, and these chapters I have prevailed upon my friend Mr. Alyn Williams to write, considering that as the leading miniature painter of the day he was better qualified than any other person to give the instruction required. He has

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PREFACE

dealt with the special qualifications needed in a miniature painter; with the training, so absolutely essential and so often neglected; with the method of lighting and posing, and with colours, materials, and methods of painting. The practical teaching which he gives in his part of the book will, I think, be welcomed by all persons who are engaged in this fascinating art, and I have to express to him my thanks for so kindly giving me his assistance in the production of this volume.

I have also to say how very grateful I am to all those collectors who have lent me their miniatures for representation in the book, and may specially mention in this respect Mr. E. M. Hodgkins and Messrs. Duveen, who have allowed me to depict the miniatures they have recently acquired at the famous Hawkins Sale, which have not before been illustrated.

THE MOUNT, GUILDFORD, July, 1904.

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