A HANDBOOK FOR PAINTERS AND ART STUDENTS ON THE CHARACTER, NATURE, AND USE OF COLOURS, THEIR PERMANENT OR FUGITIVE QUALITIES, AND THE VEHICLES PROPER TO EMPLOY Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

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A Handbook for Painters and Art Students on the Character, Nature, and Use of Colours, Their Permanent or Fugitive Qualities, and the Vehicles Proper to Employ by William J. Muckley

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WILLIAM J. MUCKLEY

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HANDBOOK



ON THE USE OF COLOURS, ETC.

A HANDBOOK

FOR

PAINTERS AND ART STUDENTS

ON THE

CHARACTER, NATURE, AND USE OF COLOURS,

THEIR PERMANENT OR FUGITIVE QUALITIES, AND THE VEHICLES PROPER TO EMPLOY.

ALBO

SHORT REMARKS ON THE PRACTICE OF PAINTING IN OIL AND WATER COLOURS.

BT

WILLIAM J. MUCKLEY, AUTHOR OF 'THE MANDAL OF ARTISTIC ANATOMY,' ATC.

SECOND EDITION.



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1862

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170. k. 164.

EDWARD J. POYNTER, ESQ., RA.

THIS HANDBOOK

FOR: THE USE OF PAINTERS,

AND ART STUDENTS,

IS VERY RESPECTFULLY

DEDICATED

BY THE AUTHOR.



Extracts from a Letter written by E. J. POYNTER, Esq., R.A., to the Author, and printed by permission.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have read through your work on Colours, etc., which, as being the result of your own experience, cannot but be of great value both to students and painters.

The colours which you recommend are those which I have been in the habit of using, and though the palette thus composed is limited, it comprises colours brilliant enough for most purposes, as may be seen in your own flower-groups.

It cannot be too strongly impressed on students of painting, that the use of such brilliant colours as orange vermilion, for instance, in flesh-painting, is not only dangerous, from the uncertainty attending the preparation of the pigment, but unnecessary, and destructive, moreover, of the purity and delicacy of the tints; it is worse than useless to employ a bright colour which has to be qualified by an admixture of other pigments to break its harshness, when a simple earth would be sufficient for the purpose. As a rule, purity is lost, rather than gained, by the use of colours more brilliant than is necessary.

All your remarks on vehicles, habits of painting, etc., seem to me admirable.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD J. POYNTER,

28, Albert Gate, S.W.



PREFACE.

THERE have been several books published in this country intended to instruct the painter in the proper use of colours and vehicles, etc. These works have not had the consideration which they have deserved, being, I suspect, either too diffuse or not sufficiently ready and practical for the painter's use. Be this as it may, many pictures produced at the present time are undergoing rapid changes, sometimes even before they leave the studio of the painter, so that in a few years hence, it is probable little will remain of their original beauty. This clearly shows how small an amount of knowledge has been acquired by the painter of the chemistry of colours, their stable or fugitive character, their action on each other, or the vehicles necessary to convey them to canvas.

The present Handbook is intended to supply, in a