

Having thus severally given sketches of the persons whose portraits have been added to the Picture Gallery during the past year, we must close this Report with an appropriate reference to the artists who have executed the pictures.

It will be seen that Samuel M. Brookes and Thomas H. Stevenson, of Milwaukee, have painted the most of them—nine of the twelve portraits, and the two historic landscapes. We last year sketched Mr. Brookes' career as an artist. His great forte is in securing a faithful expression, while Mr. Stevenson excels in sketching landscapes and finishing up pictures. We regret that we do not possess the necessary data for a proper notice of Mr. Stevenson, which we hope to give another year.

Of F. B. Carpenter, who painted the excellent portrait of the late Hon. Ben C. Eastman, we present the following sketch: He was born in Homer, Courtland county, N. Y., August 6th, 1830. His father was a farmer; and he was first incited to draw by a rude sketch upon the inner door of the district school-house where he attended, which had been made by an older boy of the name of Otis who spent a year or two in the neighborhood, and attended the same school. This gentleman is now surgeon of the California Steamship Company's steamer "Illinois." Young Carpenter's father violently opposed the tendency of his son's taste to art, which became a strong passion with him. His first portrait was painted unknown to his father, with white lead, common lamp-black, and a piece of venetian red which he found, and which, having become hardened by age, was the exact consistency of brick dust. He was then only thirteen years of age.

So rapid was his progress, that his father's prejudices were in a manner overcome, and he was at length permitted to spend a short time with Mr. Thayer, an artist of Syracuse. He remained with him about five months, and is much indebted, for his after success, to Mr. Thayer's excellent system