

Church Bazaar

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temples on the grand scale — all built between 1660 and 1760, in *Schweizer Barockkirchen*, in which the magnificent photography of Hans Seeger illustrates the theses of Herr Landolt. This work cannot be properly understood without a companion of the same scale and format: *Das Chorgestühl in der Schweiz*, where the same photographer provides the pictures for Herr Paul Leonhard Ganz. This book is an epitome of Swiss ecclesiastical art from the early Middle Ages to the close of the eighteenth century, and it shows the Swiss in a domain where their genius extends beyond its rivals — that of woodwork and wood-carving. No country in the world — not even Germany — can show a finer collection of carved choirs in abbey churches and cathedrals. Wood, as Ruskin points out, in *The Bible of Amiens*, can fold like silk, shine like metal, and recapture the subtle movements of flame itself. These two books, not only in their unrivalled collection of expert illustrations, but in the masterly essays with which Herr Landolt in the one case and Herr Ganz in the other have accompanied them, provide essential documents in the evolution of European art. *Die Kirchliche Baukunst in der Schweiz* covers the same ground in another attractive volume, while *La Sculpture Suisse*, with especial attention to Fribourg and Neuchâtel, shows the Swiss at work not on wood, but stone.

While Herr Landolt takes ten great churches to illustrate the spirit of baroque art, Professor Gantner in his authoritative volumes traces the detail of ecclesiastical art from the earliest periods to the Gothic culmination as it meets the Renaissance. He does not present the same array of imposing photographs, but provides rather the first thorough and scientific account of Swiss sculpture, frescoes, stained glass, and tapestries in their relation to the Catholic tradition from its origin to the Reformation. His first volume extends from Roman-Helvetian origins to the end of the Romanesque period: the second concentrates on Gothic. This field has not been fully explored hitherto, although Herr Peter Meyer has recently published two excellent sketches of the subject for the general reader. The single historian of the subject was Rudolf Rahn, whose *Geschichte der Bildenden Kunst in der Schweiz* is over seventy years old. Well

written and wide ranging as it was, this work can be compared neither in detail nor in presentation to that of Professor Gantner.

The nearest approach to a specialized study of the castles of Switzerland was made long since in the collection of *Die Burgen und Schlösser* of the various cantons which was begun nearly twenty years ago and which is now reaching its end with a fourth volume treating of the Grisons; this collection is decorative, however, not scientific. Its counterpart is the attractive volume by Herr Peter Meyer, *Das Schweizerische Bürgerhaus und Bauernhaus*. One of the traditional charms of the country is its domestic architecture; it dignifies Schaffhausen and Stein am Rhein and lends constant charm to the homely finish of the châlet. Fresco, woodwork, gables, mottoes, windows, and above all proportion combine to satisfy; at the least, they fit admirably into mountain scenery.

In the two monographs mentioned, Herr Meyer takes us over the whole field of Swiss art. *Art in Switzerland* is not meant to be more than a sketch; but *Schweizerische Stilkunde* is a subtle and penetrating essay; it anticipates not a few of the conclusions of Herr Landolt and of Professor Gantner. The combination of the arts can be admired in the manifold photographs of *Switzerland: The Traveler's Illustrated Guide*, which should open the eye of the most unsophisticated tourist to the taste and achievements of the Swiss.

CHURCH BAZAAR.

In order to help maintain our Church and continue with the work which is so vitally necessary, especially these days, a bazaar will be held, on Saturday, October 15th, 1949, at the Lecture Hall, Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, W.C.2.

Refreshments will be served during the afternoon and evening and any gifts to tea, sugar, cakes and other eatables will be greatly appreciated.

We thank you very much for all you are doing for our Church and we hope that you will support our Bazaar both by sending your gifts and by your attendance on October 15th.

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