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Announcements and Comments

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Announcements and Comments

THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE will be on the Ancient Roman Epic, edited by Hanna M. Roisman and Joseph Roisman, Department of Classics, Colby College.

In March 1995 we will publish an issue about Contemporary Irish Fiction edited by George O'Brien of Georgetown University. The September 1995 issue will be about The African-American Tradition. Essays should be sent, by March 1, to the guest editor, Cedric Bryant, Department of English, Colby College.

The cover of this issue is a reproduction of the American primitive painting *A View of Freeport, Maine* by G.J. Griffin, formerly in the collection of Bertram K. Little and Nina Fletcher Little. Griffin was a house painter in Freeport and painted this scene from a platform in a tree on a hill below the town. It is the only painting known by Griffin and was found in an attic at Mast Landing, Freeport. "Painted by G.J. Griffin" is inscribed on the frame and "Oct. 1886" is painted on the back of the canvas. The painting was acquired by the Littles during the spring of 1955 from Roger Bacon of Exeter, N.H.

In the painting, the buildings of Freeport are tiered on either side of a steep road that divides the town. At the top of the hill a church (no longer standing) overlooks the town. Part way up the hill appear the signs of encroaching industry—two smokestacks and cars of the Central Maine Railroad. The houses and other buildings with their precisely painted windows and architectural details are reminiscent of 19th-century painted children's toys of buildings.

Views of Maine towns and cities are rare, and the painting of Freeport is a welcomed addition to the Colby Museum of Art. It joins a painting of East Machias by R.G. Hall and a view of Skowhegan attributed to J.H. Keith.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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DARRYL HATTENHAUER teaches English at Arizona State University West, has published numerous essays on American literature as well as his own short stories, and is working on a book of literary criticism and a novel.