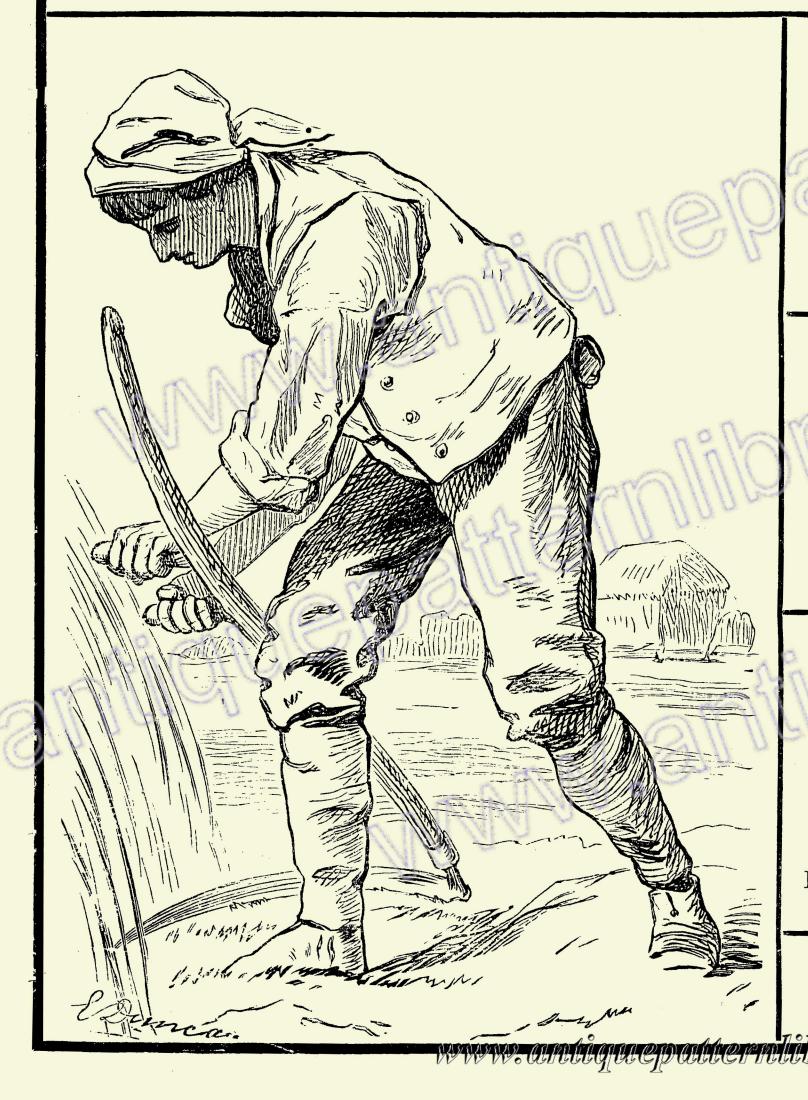
## · VERE · FOSTER'S · DRAWING · BOOK ·



EMBRACING
EVERY DESCRIPTION
OF DRAWING,
WITH PAPER FOR COPYING.

NEW EDITION.

# RUSTIC FIGURES

DRAWN BY
EDWARD DUNCAN, R.W.S.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART.
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BOARD OF NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

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#### NEW EDITION.

## VERE FOSTER'S DRAWING COPY-BOOKS.

RUSTIC FIGURES.-BY EDWARD DUNCAN, R.W.S.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

LANDSCAPE DRAWING IN PENCIL has been rather fully taught in the Books on TREES (J¹, J², J³, J⁴), and LAND-SCAPE IN PENCIL (K¹, K², K³, K⁴), and though in the more advanced of these, animals and figures have been introduced in a few instances, it was thought advisable to have a separate book for RUSTIC FIGURES. The Academic study of the Human Figure is reserved for a more advanced stage (Q¹, Q², Q³, Q⁴); but much good, and more interest, for young people who have begun to practise landscape will be obtained by the careful copying of Mr. DUNCAN'S interesting little rural sketches. Landscape art should always be enlivened, when possible, by the introduction of figures or animals; or, when possible, a boat, smoke, a flock of birds—anything that will impart the idea of life, air, or motion. These

The late Edward Duncan was one of the most versatile of artists that England has produced, equally facile princeps of Landscape, Marine, and Figure, and an excellent draughtsman as well as an accomplished painter. Mr. Vere Foster was fortunate enough to secure his services for many of his works, in the prime of his artistic powers, and these studies are proofs of his skill in Figure sketching. In copying such subjects the general outlines of the whole figure should be lightly sketched in firsttaking care that the head, limbs, hands, and feet are in proper proportion to one another. This sketch must be only in outline, and very faint, as doubtless it will have to be altered considerably before it is found correct. No shading should be done till the whole outline is absolutely as correct as the pupil can make it. In shading, let each line be copied honestly, and the hatching kept as open as in the original. The pencil must have the finest possible point for drawing the features, limbs, and hands. A certain amount of freedom of line is permissible in Rustic Figures, which could not be allowed in studying the drawing of the Human Figure from the cast or the antique.

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

The examples must be copied without the aid of rulers or mechanical instruments. All measurements should be made by the eye alone; it is merely waste of time to do by mechanical means what is intended as an exercise to train the eye and the hand.

accessories are also useful in lending distance to a sketch, by the

perspective treatment of the scale of size and prominence. At the

proper time the drawing of Animals will be taught; meantime we

confine our attention as to living objects to the present small

collection of Rustic Figures, which may interest and assist the

youthful artist to enliven his own Sketches of Landscape.

It may be well to caution the student against despising easy

examples, and attempting subjects which are in advance of his capacity. Rather let him be sure that, however easy it may appear, to copy an example well he requires to do his very best.

In working out each example let the student try to remember



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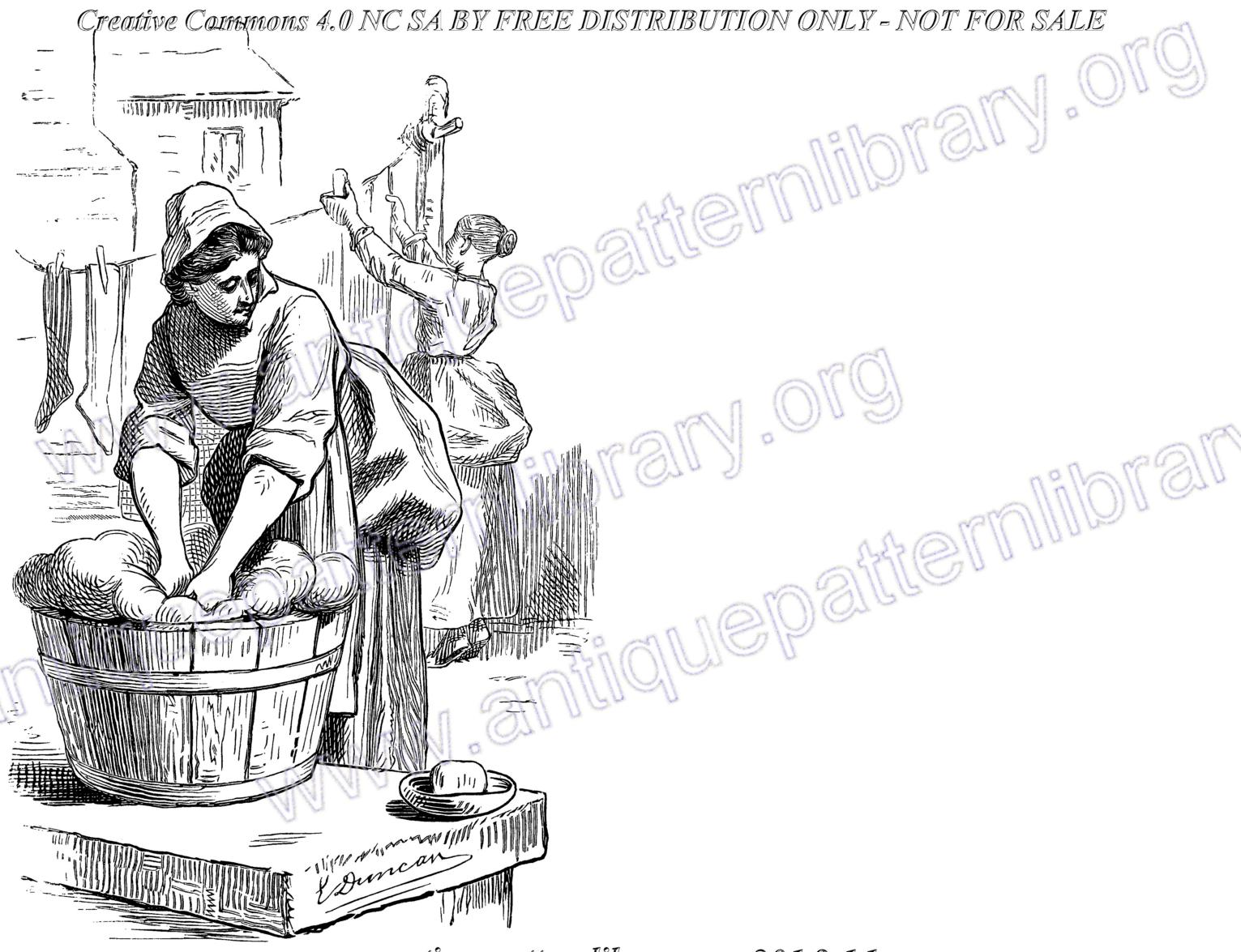
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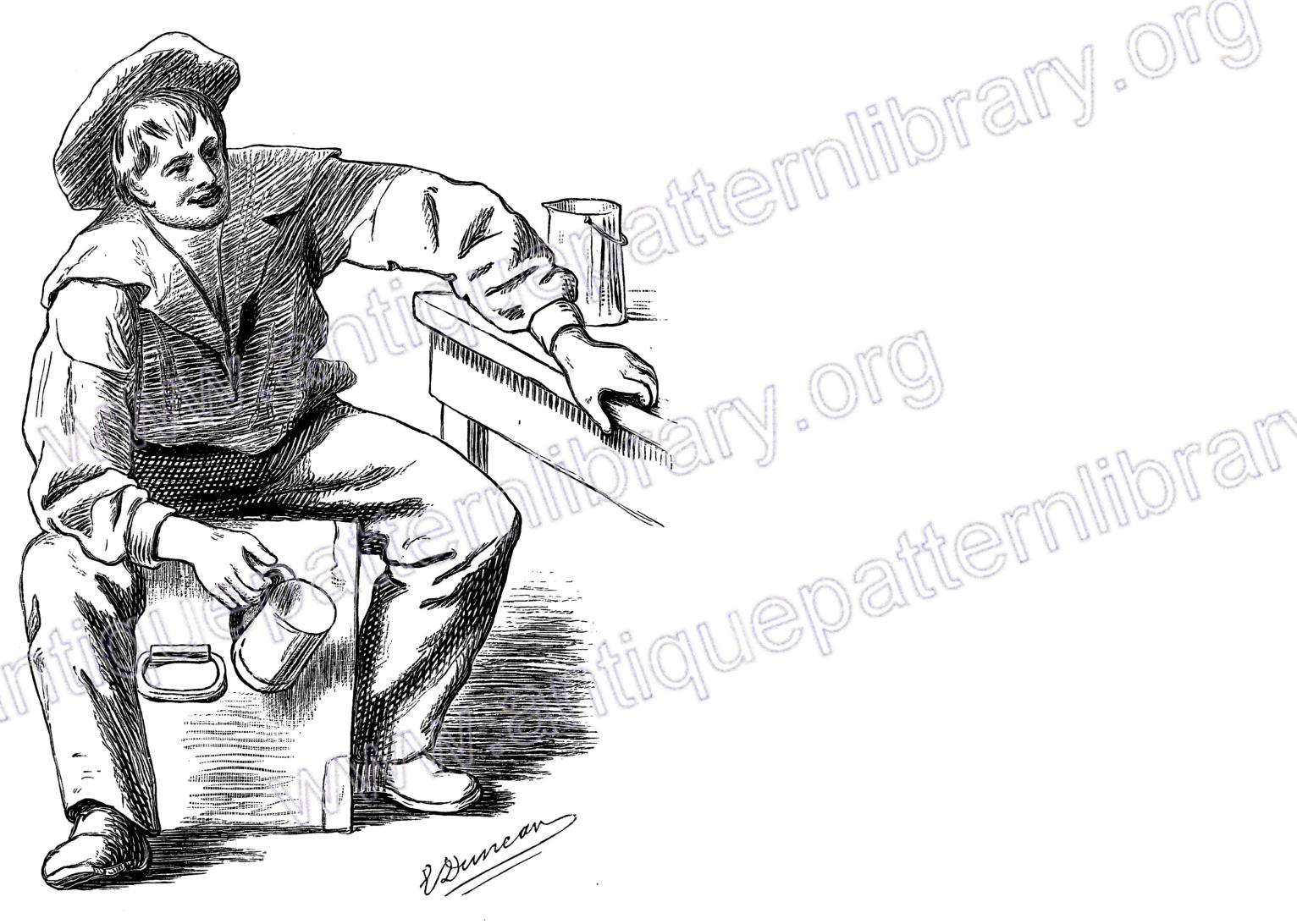


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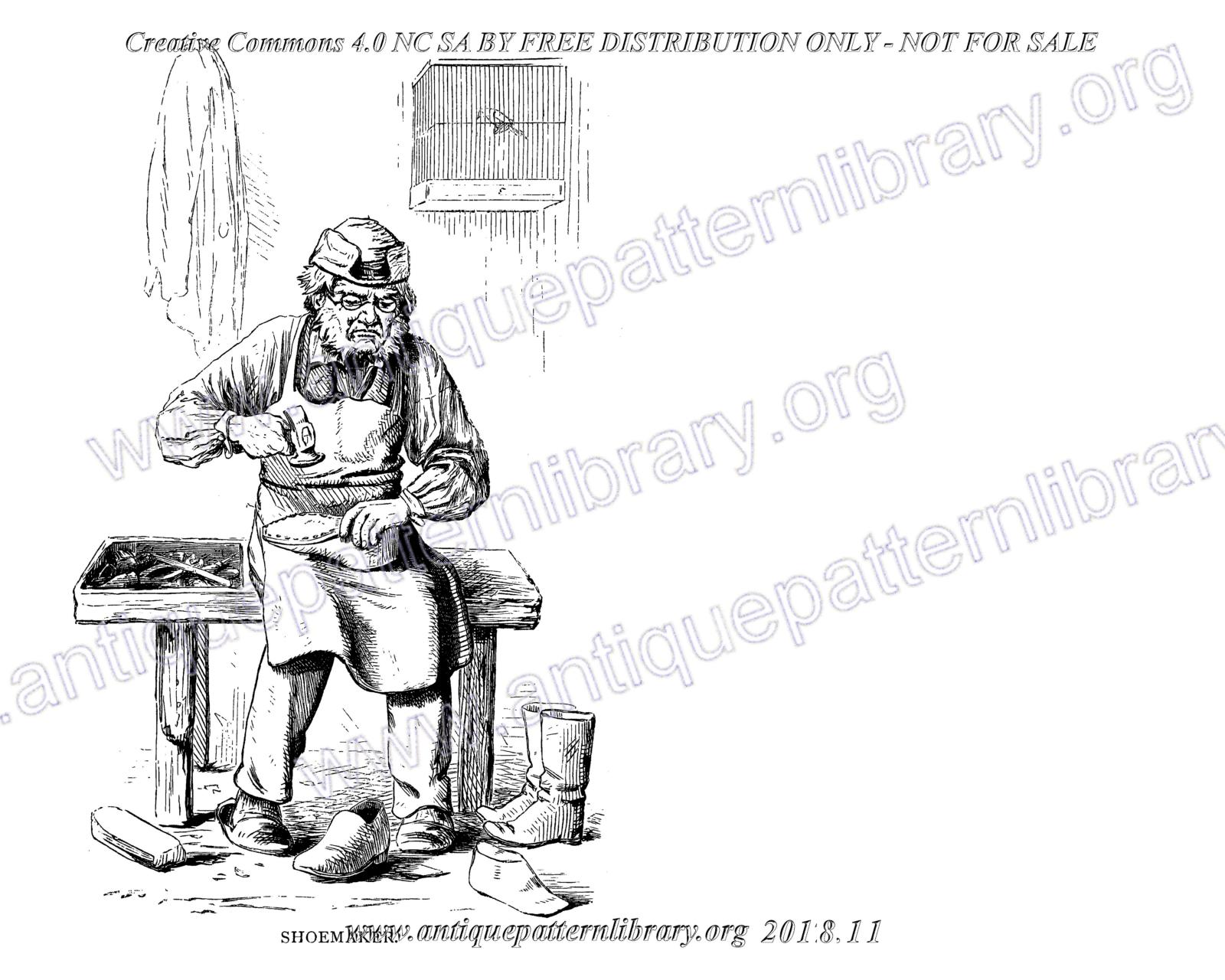


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## VERE FOSTER'S DRAWING COPY-BOOKS.—GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS—Continued.

that he has something beautiful to copy, and let him be sure that to copy it well, however easy it may look, he requires to do his best.

He has three very interesting things to do:—first, he has to imitate the form, to reproduce line by line, each straight line in the example with perfect straightness, each curved line with a curve the same in character, and faithfully copied from start to finish; secondly, he has to do this with a firm free line, which when finished shall look, and be made up of one stroke, and one only (the pencil point should be broad enough, when lining in, to give the full breadth of line required at once, without any patching up or 'faking,' as it is called, with a number of little strokes); thirdly, he has to keep his paper clean, not by scribbling it over with hard random lines and then cleaning it with india-rubber, which is sure to give the paper a rubbed and greasy appearance, but by cultivating the habit of drawing so *lightly*, so *carefully*, and so *sparingly* that there will be very little that is wrong in the drawing, and nothing that a slight touch of the rubber cannot remove.

When speaking of india-rubber, it is well to impress on young pupils the importance of keeping it always fresh and clean. It is too often the case that the indispensable rubber is found in the boy's pocket stored in the same treasury with butter-Scotch or toffy.

The student should remember that a wrong line, even only a sketching line, is work thrown away; and that *one* right line which it has taken six seconds to draw is of more value than six wrong ones which have been dashed in in one second.

The student should be as thoughtful in putting his first sketching line on paper as in completing his last finishing touch, although for the latter more steadiness of hand and skill of touch are required; but the *placing* of every line requires equal thought from first to last. He should try always to have only lines on his paper that really mean something; so that, at whatever stage his drawing may be, he will not be ashamed if his teacher should see it.

Steadiness of hand and correctness of eye will not come at once. But until they come let the student persevere in drawing a *clean* line, and in leaving a *clean* paper, and take it for a sign that though he may not be skilful at least he is not careless. The importance of always having a good point on the pencil, and a sharp knife to cut it in the form shown at the top of the chapter, cannot be too strongly impressed on young artists. A blunt point and a stumpy pencil are liable to produce a bad line and unsteady drawing.

## PRACTICAL HINTS.

Position of the Body.—The student should sit square to the desk or table, which should be of sufficient height that he may sit nearly upright. The right hand should be supported by the wrist and little finger, and the pencil should be held much as a pen in writing, but rather more upright, and held freely but firmly between the thumb and the first and second fingers, the distance between the forefinger and the point of the pencil being a little more than an inch.

POSITION OF THE BOOK.—The bottom of the book should be kept parallel with the front edge of the desk, and as far from it as the convenience of the pupil may require, to allow the free action of the right arm and hand.

Pencils, India-rubber, &c.—For Freehand Drawing HB or F pencils are mostly used; for general use HB is to be preferred. The india-rubber should not be kept in the hand or in the pocket, as there will always be a certain amount of moisture, which, adhering to the rubber, will render it unfit for use. Ink-eraser should not be used, as it destroys the surface of the paper. Always use a loose sheet to put under the hand. Begin at the top and draw the upper portion of the left side first. The value of this advice will be found when actually drawing, as, by beginning either at the bottom of the drawing, or at the right-hand side, the hand would cover up the work as it proceeds, smearing it, and also giving additional difficulty in drawing the two sides alike.

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