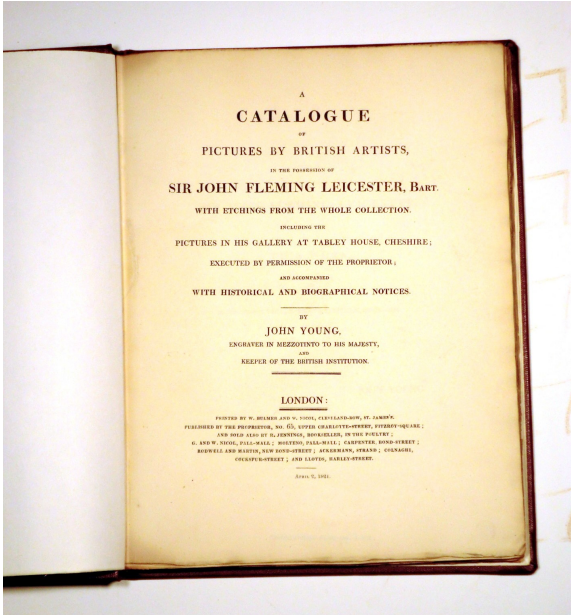


SIR JOHN FLEMING LEICESTER'S COLLECTION OF MODERN BRITISH PAINTINGS – ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF SELECTED WORKS OWNED BY A MAJOR PATRON OF BRITISH ART IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY



Wealthy British nobleman and politician Sir John Fleming Leicester, 1st Baron de Tabley (1762-1827) was a key supporter of British art and formed a significant collection of paintings by British artists of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. He displayed his collection in special galleries at his London residence, which he opened for public view, and his family home, Tabley House in Cheshire. Some of his paintings are still in the Tabley House collection, including a Turner painting of the house and a Joshua Reynolds portrait of Leicester.¹ Many others were sold shortly after his death in a Christie's auction on July 7, 1827. In addition to collecting, Leicester was actively involved

in the promotion of modern British artists, particularly of Turner.² He participated in several British arts societies and helped found the British Institution for Promoting the Fine Arts in the United Kingdom.³ This catalogue describes and illustrates sixty-nine paintings from Leicester's collection – all by the most significant British artists of his time.

Young, John. *A Catalogue of Pictures by British Artists, in the Possession of Sir John Fleming Leicester, Bart. With Etchings from the Whole Collection. Including the Pictures in his Gallery at Tabley House, Cheshire; Executed by Permission of the Proprietor; and accompanied with Historical and Biographical Notices.* 2nd ed. London: The Proprietor, 1821. Hardcover, 31 pages, 33 plates, 69 lots, illustrated (etchings).

The catalogue lists works by Thomas Gainsborough, Sir Joshua Reynolds, J.M.W. Turner, Henry Fuseli, George Romney, Sir Thomas Lawrence, and Benjamin West, among others. Each entry includes the artist's name, a title, and dimensions. Many have a description, ranging in length from a single sentence to a short paragraph, some including brief literary quotations. An etching of each painting is also given, along with an introduction by Young about modern British art. The catalogue has a modern, hard-cover library binding from the Getty Museum Library, from which it was de-accessioned. It is in very good condition.

\$200.00

NOTES:

1. "The Art Collection". Tabley House website. <http://www.tableyhouse.co.uk/art.html>. Accessed Oct. 18, 2014.
2. Cannon-Brookes, Dr. Peter. "More About Tabley House Collection". Tabley House Collection Trust, BBC, and Public Catalogue Foundation. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/galleries/collections/tabley-house-collection-1354/foreword>. Accessed Oct. 18, 2014.
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Leicester,_1st_Baron_de_Tabley

