WESTON LODGE,
16.GROVE END ROAD.N.W.

July 29 h 1879

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WESTON LODGE, 16, GROVE END ROAD.N.W.

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CALDERON (PHILIP HERMOGENES), R.A.

B. 1833. D. 1898.

Philip Hermogenes Calderon, R.A., was born at Poitiers, in May 1833. He was the only son of the Rev. Juan Calderon, a native of La Mancha, sometime Professor of Spanish Literature at King's College, London. Philip H. Calderon was educated in London from his twelfth year, mainly by his father. He began life as pupil of a Civil Engineer, who encouraged him to occupy his leisure time in copying prints after Raphael, and in the end persuaded the father to allow his boy to to become a painter. He began to study in the year 1850 at Leigh's well-known academy in Newman Street, working also at the British Museum and the National Gallery.

When nearly twenty years old he went to Paris and was admitted to the Ecole des Beaux-Arts under M. Picot, Membre de l'Institut, where he spent over one year drawing from the life.

Returning to London he worked at Leigh's School in the evenings, and on Students' days copied Paolo Veronese and Rubens at the National Gallery. Calderon first exhibited at the Royal Academy in the year 1853 a picture with the title—

By the waters of Babylon there we sat down, Yea, we wept when we remembered Zion."

Devoting himself for some years to portrait painting he did not exhibit regularly until after 1857, when he sent to the Academy a picture called "Broken Vows"; it was engraved, and Calderon's name became widely known. His popularity was firmly established by the picture of 1862, called "After the Battle," a little boy in a ruined cottage deserted by his people and sitting on a table alone amidst the victorious soldiery. "Catherine of Aragon and her Women at Work," of 1862, and "The British Embassy, in Paris on the Day of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew," of 1863, ensured his election as Associate of the Royal Academy in 1864. In 1865 Calderon exhibited three pictures, the principal one, "Her Most High, Noble, and Puissant Grace," obtained for the painter the only gold medal awarded to an English picture at the Paris Exposition Internationale in 1867. The same year he exhibited "Home after Victory," and "Evening," at the Royal Academy, and was elected a full member of that body. In 1873. Calderon received a medal at the Vienna Exhibition and in 1878. at the Paris Exposition Universelle a first class gold medal, and he was made a Knight of the Legion of Honour. He exhibited at Paris seven pictures, including "Home they brought Her Warrior Dead," which had been exhibited with great success at the Royal Academy of 1877. He was elected Keeper of the Royal Academy on the retirement of F. R. Pickersgill, R.A., in 1887, an office Calderon filled until his death at his official residence in Burlington House, on Saturday the 30th of April, 1898, the day of the Royal Academy Banquet.