



RÉGIS GIGNOUX

France, 1816–1882

(active United States 1841–1869)

View Near Elizabethtown, New Jersey, 1847

Oil on canvas

Gift of Mrs. Carter Galt and
Mrs. Charles C. Spalding, 1972 (4090.1)

This charming winter scene demonstrates the mid-nineteenth-century landscape artist's desire to capture nature in all of its seasonal moods. Here, skaters frolic on a frozen body of water as the sun sets on a chilly afternoon. Régis Gignoux, a French artist who worked in the United States for nearly three decades, painted

both landscape and genre scenes. Although the artist resided in Brooklyn, New York, he made numerous sketching excursions to New Jersey, the Hudson River Valley, and the Adirondack and White Mountains. Gignoux's snowy scene presents an optimistic view of man's interaction with nature, depicting a group of children and adults taking advantage of the season's benefits.

REGIS FRANCOIS GIGNOUX

French, b. Lyon, 1816; d. Paris, 1882

***View Near Elizabethtown,
New Jersey, 1847***

Oil on canvas

Gift of Mrs. Carter Galt and
Mrs. Charles C. Spalding, 1972 (4090.1)

Regis Gignoux was educated at Fribourg, the Academie de St Pierre in Lyon, and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, before traveling to the United States, where he painted for nearly thirty years. The only non-American exponent of the Hudson River School, Gignoux won a reputation for his winter scenes. As a resident of Brooklyn, New York, Gignoux would have had easy access to Elizabethtown—the first capitol of New Jersey—which is located roughly twenty miles outside of New York City.

View Near Elizabethtown, New Jersey

Regis F. Gignoux (1816-1882)

France

Oil on canvas 21 3/4 " x 29" 1847

Gift of Mrs. Carter Galt and Mrs. Chas. C. Spaulding

ARTIST: Gignoux was a French academic painter who lived in the U.S. from 1840 to 1870. (His studies of nature admired) Educated in Fribourgh, the Academie de St. Pierre in Lyon and Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris where he studied under Paul Delaroche. He settled in New York in 1840 and became a skilled exponent of the Hudson River School. His work was widely collected during his lifetime and he achieved a reputation for his distinctive winter scenes. He exhibited widely in the U.S. (Gignoux taught George Inness).

SUBJECT: A charming genre winter skating scene with its lively movement of figures in an enveloping glow of light at sundown. (Anticipates luminous school).

STYLE: Work distinguished by delicate touch and velvet colors. "Applies his talents in a thoroughly American idiom."

Refer to: Wall Text, Gallery 10; McMillian Art Index; Blue Folder