Study on the Greta, Yorkshire, 2nd September 1839

James Duffield Harding

Sold

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Description

James Duffield Harding (1797-1863)
Study on the Greta, Yorkshire, 2nd September 1839

Signed with initials: JDH/on the Greta/Yorkshire/Sepr 2 1839
Black chalk and stump heightened with bodycolour on buff paper
26 by 38 cm., 10 ¼ by 15 in.

Harding, the son of an engraver and drawing master, first exhibited at the Society of Painters in Water-colours in 1818. He travelled widely in Europe and was an influential drawing master who also wrote popular instructional books on drawing. John Ruskin was among his pupils and Edward Lear's early drawings also show his influence. Ruskin described him as `after Turner, unquestionably the greatest master of foliage in Europe.'

He may have visited the river Greta in Yorkshire as a result of seeing John Sell Cotman's famous series of watercolours drawn on the Greta in 1805. Harding published two lithographs in 1841 titled `Beech and Ash on the Greta' and `Ash at Greta Bridge'.

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