limestone cleavages

John Ruskin

Sold

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Description

John Ruskin (1819-1900)
Limestone Cleavages at Talloires, France

Signed lower right: Limestone Cleavages, Talloires/JR 1862
Watercolour over pencil heightened with bodycolour on buff paper
12.3 by 18.7 cm., 4 ¾ by 7 ¼ in.

Provenance:
North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, their sale, Sotheby's 31st March 1999, lot 173;
Private Collection

Literature:
`Acquisitions', North Carolina Museum of Art Bulletin Biennal Report, Issue IV, no. 2-3, 1st July 1961-30 June 1963, p.64, fig.23;
Catalogue of Paintings, Volume II, British Paintings to 1900, North Carolina Museum of Art, 1969, no.109

Ruskin spent several months in Switzerland and the Haute-Savoie, France in 1862-3. Talloires is on the east bank of the Lake of Annecy, about twenty-five miles south of Geneva. He was working on a book on Swiss towns and studying the geology of the area. In his Deucalion, published between 1875 and 1883, Ruskin writes: `I quickly saw that the elements of the question were all gathered in the formation of the mountains round the Lake of Annecy: and at Talloires, in the spring of 1862, made a series of studies of them, which only showed me how much more study I wanted.'

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