

ELEAZER HUTCHINSON MILLER (1831 – 1921)

Eleazer Hutchinson Miller was born in Shepherdstown, Virginia (now West Virginia) in 1831. The sixth of ten children, Miller exhibited a natural talent for drawing throughout his childhood. By the age of fifteen he was painting oil portraits of his friends. With the encouragement of his family, at seventeen, Miller moved to Washington, D.C. where he began his formal artistic training at the Academy of Drawing and Painting. Run by "Mr. Gibson," this was the Washington's only school devoted to drawing at the time. Miller financed his education by working at a newspaper, the *National Intelligencer*, for several years.

In 1885, Miller opened his own studio and established a reputation as a portrait painter. Aside from his commissioned portraits of prominent men in the nation's capital, Miller also produced a number of watercolors, crayon drawings and etchings. His etchings were featured in several books, including Robert Burns's *Tam O'Shanter* and Rebecca Ruter Springer's *Songs by the Sea*. The artist died at the age of 90 at his home in Washington, D.C.

Miller's works can be found in several notable museum collections, including the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.