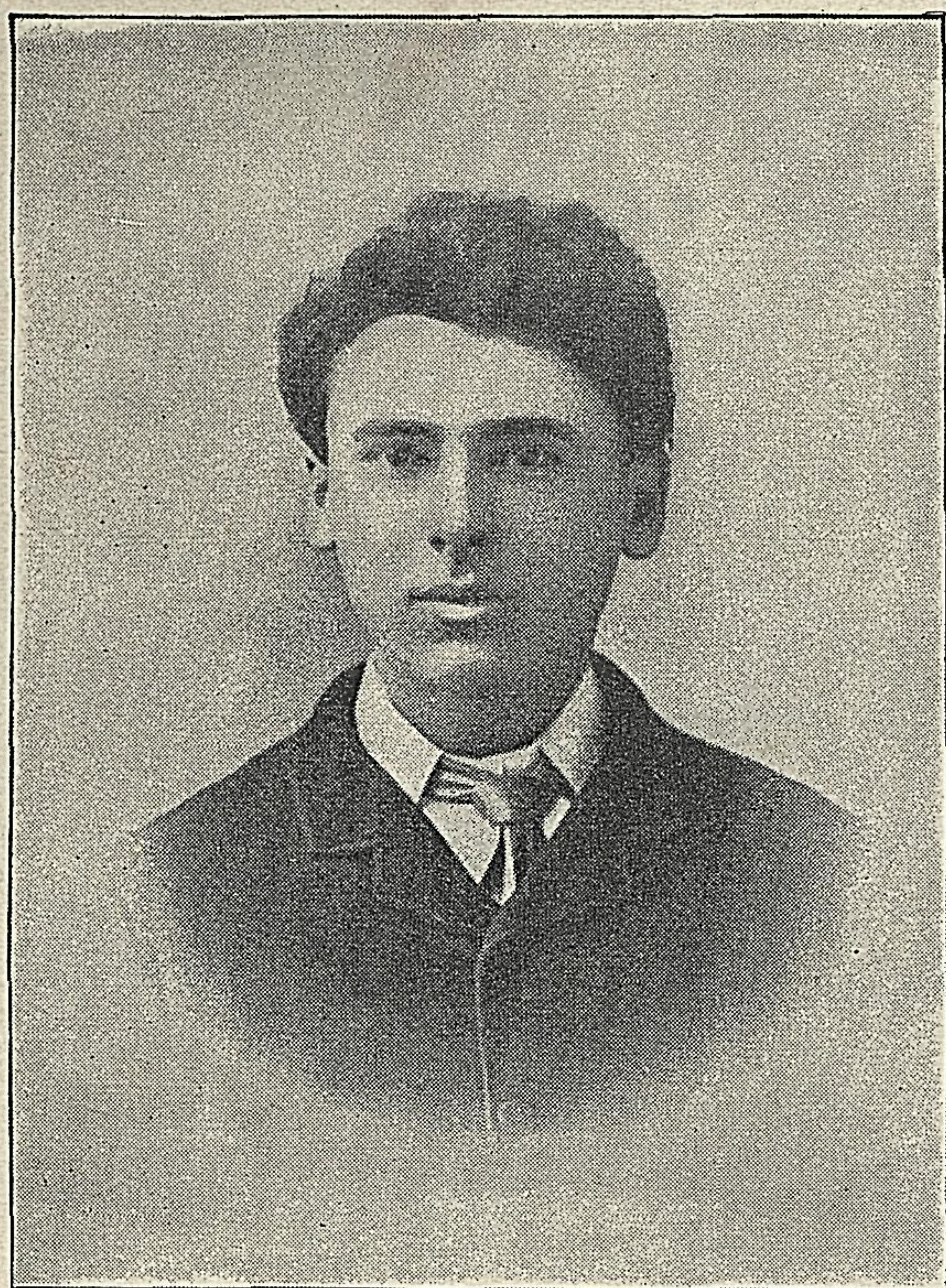




A YOUTHFUL PORTRAIT OF MR. SETON-THOMPSON.

in this volume that it was with difficulty he could be induced to talk of anything else.

"I see," said the visitor, "that you have Botticelli and Japanese tapestries on your walls. Why do you like them?"

"I like the Japanese and the pre-Raphaelites," answered the artist, "because they tell the truth. They are interested in nature. I hate the art that tries to be pretty. I have no patience with the cry of 'art for art's sake.' I like art for nature's sake. When I am in the Rockies, I never want to draw. I only draw and write when I am not living.

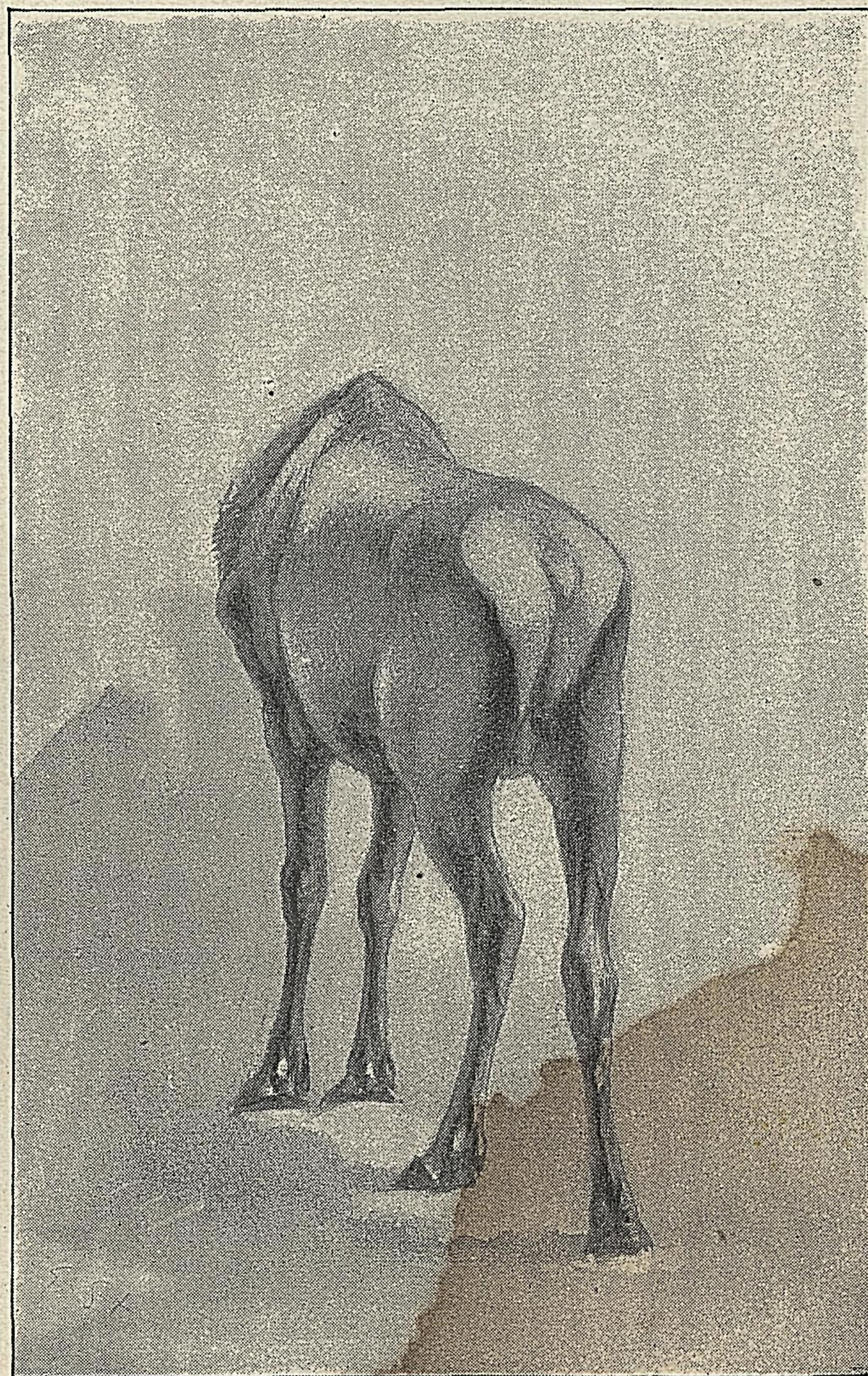
"It is wonderful," he proceeded, "how the truth will prevail. Throw five lies and three truths together, and the lies will be swallowed up. When I gather material from cow-punchers, the forty-niners, etc., I take down all they say, for I find that only the truth will remain when it is sifted."

Mr. Seton-Thompson illustrates the rare case of a man with predominating scientific interest who is also an artist. In his case, art, although merely a hand-maiden to science, is not crushed out, as it usually is, by the scientific habit of mind.

Like most men who work all the time,

Mr. Seton-Thompson's habits are very simple. As his wife remarked; "He is abnormal in no particular. He rises regularly at 7 or 7.30" ("6.30" interrupted her husband), "and works continually, and without putting his feet on the table. It is consequently difficult to find him in a picturesque attitude. His amusement is in working at scientific books or making investigations. He does not care for sports, and belongs to no clubs. The editor of one of our literary reviews asked him some time ago to join a club. 'Is it the sort of a place where I can take my wife to dine?' he asked, innocently. He is very domestic and rarely goes to the theatre; but when he does, his mind churns on the play for weeks and distracts him from other things. Whatever comes before him receives the keenest attention. He does not care for animal pets, for they are tame, but is fond of going to the Zoo."

Mr. Seton-Thompson is writing, in



AN UNFINISHED SKETCH.