

Modern British Sculptors

MODERN BRITISH SCULPTORS: SOME YOUNGER MEN.

REFERENCE will be made in this article to the work of some of the younger men who have made sculpture their lodestar. These artists are mostly young in years, but they are grouped under this heading more in the sense that their masterpieces, probably, are yet to be created. They have all achieved distinction to a greater or lesser degree, but their lives are still before them and much may be expected in the years to come.

It is fitting that mention should be made of the limitations which affect a full consideration of the rising school of sculptors. So many have departed from their chosen walk in life to take a share in the all-absorbing events of the day that it would not be fair to enter into any comparative analysis of the work done in the past decade. Those who remain are not less loyal, of course, and they would be the first to wish that precedence should be given in the thoughts of the public to those whose names appear in those magic lists under the title "British Artists serving with the Forces." And while on this subject it may be wondered whether in the future there will be reflections of the war in the work of our soldier-artists who, like their great predecessor, Michelangelo, have adapted themselves to new tasks directly opposed to their former peaceable vocations. One learns from the letter of an erstwhile architect that the mysteries of bricklaying have been solved at last, so far as he is concerned, through his experience in manipulating sandbags: will some of our sculptors return from the trenches enlightened in regard to some of the problems of their latent craft?

Sculpture is a neglected art, not by artists them-

selves, for there is no lack of men filled with the right ideals, but by the public. To the majority of people, unfortunately, this most beautiful and substantial art exists only as an accessory to architecture or as a means of occupying spaces at street corners and in parks. Such monumental work causes the ordinary patron of art to consider sculpture as beyond his province. It is overlooked that sculpture also plays an important part in the decoration of the home. A bronze will yield as much if not more pleasure than a water-colour sketch or an etching, but the fact is not appreciated fully. As regards cost the expenditure of less even than five pounds will secure an object of beauty by a sculptor of repute, and this sum is not too much to ask from hundreds of visitors to exhibitions. It is for the young men to cultivate such potential buyers, who would become enthusiastic if they were only initiated into the sculpture



"GRIEF"

BY C. WEB-GILBERT

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