About this picture.

The picture reproduced on the next page is a copy of an original oil painting by Emil V. Bott, a Pittsburgh artist born in Frankfort on the Main, Germany; it was presented to the Pittsburgh Liberal League, later known as the Secular Society, by James E. Emerson, on January 29, 1883, the 146th anniversary of Thomas Paine's birth; after the dissolution of the Secular Society it came into the hands of Roman Stanley, who died March 24, 1914; on May 3, 1914, it was presented to the Pittsburgh Rationalist Society by Frank Richter on behalf of Mr. Stanley's estate.

This information is from the back of the post-card size picture of this painting that was scanned for this CD. The spelling on the picture is "Pittsburg," but it was Pittsburgh Pennsylvania because Roman Stanley is mentioned on page 573 of "400 Years of Freethought" by Samuel Putnam, 1894, as:

"The Pittsburgh Union has been a shining landmark. Every lecturer who goes there is delighted with the large audiences, its splendid receptions, and its Paine celebrations of magnificent proportions. Roman Staley and his associates have done well at this famous post."

Emmett F. Fields

("400 Years of Freethought" is reproduced on Bank of Wisdom CD-ROM #2, "An Introduction to Freethought, The Religion of Freedom)

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