



*The following is the Property of  
SIR RICHARD SYKES, Bart.,  
and has been removed from Sledmere, Yorkshire.*

# PICTURE.

## PIETRO PERUGINO

### 68 A PIETA

In the centre, the Virgin is seated on a ledge under a Renaissance Arch, wearing red and blue robes, looking in adoration at the Dead Saviour, Whose body she supports on her knees, His Head is leaning against the shoulder of Saint John the Evangelist, who is kneeling, robed in red and blue, and His feet rest on the knees of the Magdalen, who is seated, her hands clasped in prayer, with the pot of ointment on the ground before her; Joseph of Arimathea and a female Saint stand on either side of the composition; through the niches in the background is seen a view of a hilly country with Calvary on the left

*Signed* PETRVS PERVSINVS PINXIT

On the spandrels of the arches are the arms, in the dexter corner, of Claude Gouffier, Knight of the Order of Saint Michael, and in the sinister, those of Gouffier impaling La Tremoille, his first wife being Jacqueline de la Tremoille, daughter of Georges Lord of Jonville

According to Vasari, Ed. Le Monnier vi., p. 36, this picture was executed for Claude Gouffier, who was created Marquis of Boisy (1566), and Duke of Roannais (1566)

*On panel—67 in. by 68 in.*

*Engraved by Claude du Flos in the Crozat Cabinet*

*Formerly in the Collection of Philippe Duc D'Orleans, Regent of France, and purchased in 1798 by Sir Christopher Sykes for £60 at the Sale at the Lyceum in the Strand, when the Orleans Collection was brought to England and dispersed after the execution of the Regent's great-grandson, the notorious Philippe Egalité*

*Exhibited at Burlington House, 1883, No. 188*

In the picture by the same artist in The Uffizzi, Florence, there are considerable variations from this Panel. The Florence Panel has four receding Arches, (instead of two), there is practically no landscape in the background, the figures are slightly differently draped, the Magdalene looks down in prayer, and she is without her pot of ointment

*See Illustration*