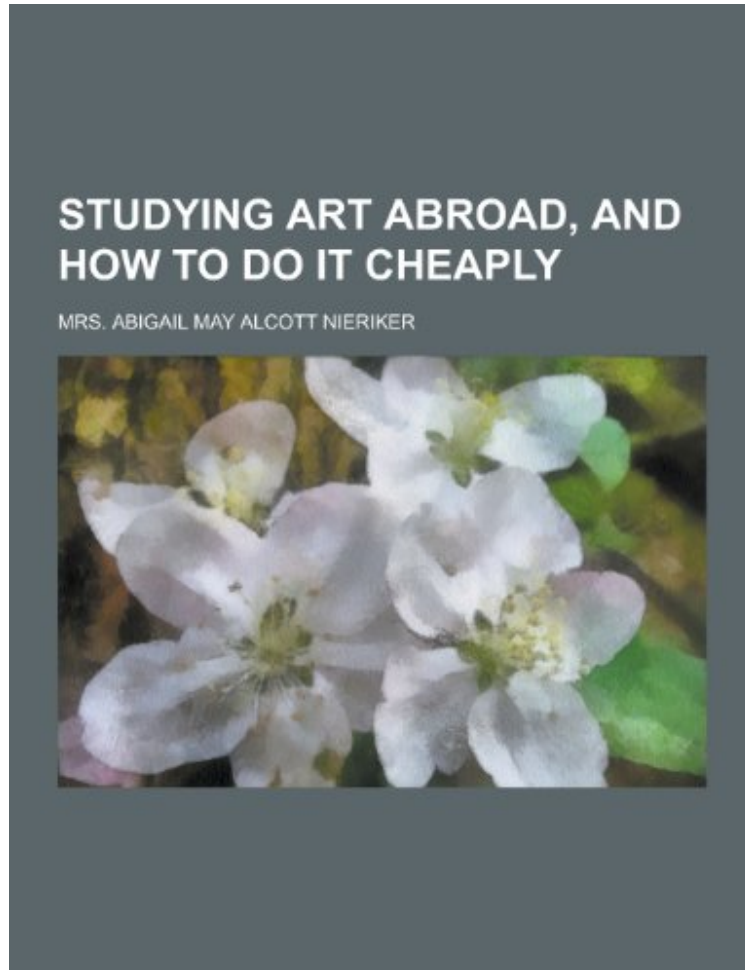


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## Studying Art Abroad, and How to Do It Cheaply

*Mrs Abigail May Alcott Nieriker*  
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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1879 edition. Excerpt: ... CHAPTER V. ROME. Rome, in my estimation, is the place for a student of sculpture rather than of painting; and as to what art advantages it offers at the present time, I can give but little information, having studied there fot one winter only, some years ago. True it is, however, that the happy graduate of l'licole des Beaux-Arts, whose trial sketch receives the Prix de Rome, finds in the solemn atmosphere of the old city sufficient inspiration to accomplish the great

picture that, later exposed in - Paris, makes his reputation, and perhaps adds his name to the already long list of French masters. But the thorough familiarity with Roman history which is always required of a Beaux-Arts student accounts for this choice of locality, as well, perhaps, as for the many Neros, Caligulas, and togaed senators who annually make their appearance on canvas of immense proportions. Monsieur Hebert was a recognized critic in Rome for some time, and Monsieur Bellay much liked as a teacher in water-color heads; also Mr. Crowninshield, from Boston, opened his studio to a class of ladies in sketching from nature. A few of the Italian painters received female pupils, wishing to work from the draped living models, mostly in water-colors also, they themselves forming an evening class, which met in a large, dusty room, off a little street just behind the Via Babuino. They were a lively set, smoking or singing as they painted, in a bold, dashing style, from the pretty or interesting model posed under the brilliant reflectors of the raised platform. And even in this artificial light their touch was certain and effective, so much so that it would have been instructive to watch them work, if the smoke of numerous cigarettes and increased confusion, as it grew...