

by iconoclasts. It would be well that these facts should be understood by well-meaning enthusiasts who, mistakenly, advocate varnishing or otherwise treating ancient mural paintings, whether in *fresco* or *tempera*, still *in situ*, to 'preserve' them. It cannot be too strongly insisted, that not only is such treatment unnecessary but that, as has been demonstrated in the past, instead of preserving, it only hastens destruction. With the arrest of such active causes of destruction as those above mentioned, the paintings will endure by their own vitality, and need no doctoring.