

G.H. EDWARDS

(British School, 19th century)

View from the Grande Terrasse at St Germain-en-Laye

signed on fence: G.H. Edwards; inscribed lower right: The Terrace. St Germain – near Paris. GE. 1855.

ink and watercolour

350 x 515 mm

This 19th century watercolour was painted by the little-known British landscape artist G.H. Edwards. Edwards is often, and understandably, confused with the later British landscapist of the same name, George Henry Edwards (1859-1918). The present work however, signed and dated to 1855, predates George Henry's birth by some four years and therefore must be attributed to the illusive G.H.

The Grand Terasse, from which the present view is drawn, was originally designed for King Louis XIV by André le Notre, the French equivalent to Lancelot "Capability" Brown. By the 19th century however, the promenade's cinematographic vantage point, en route to the town of Saint-Germain-En-Laye, had become a favoured topos for plein-air artists.

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