

Art Association of Montreal.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896.

It is a satisfaction to the Council to report an improved financial condition for the past year, the shops are rented to a good and suitable class of tenants. The membership has increased in about the same proportion as the last three years, and the Treasurer's Statement shows that a small credit balance has been carried forward.

These results are encouraging, but there is another and important duty, in which the Council must ask the co-operation of the members of the Association. The public generally is so fully aware of the objects of the Association that these require little comment here ; it acknowledges that the aim is good, and worthy of encouragement, but the individual is apt to lose sight of the fact that the responsibility for the support of the Association rests mainly with him. This results to a great extent from the want of any personal appeal ; and here is the work which the Council would urge on every member of the Association with full confidence that if a systematic effort is made, the membership will be materially increased. The Council feels that this is the more important as the Loan Exhibitions are in reality for the enjoyment of the members,—the entrance fees from non-members never being sufficient to meet the expenses—and an appreciation shown by a large attendance is the one return the Association can offer to those who generously lend their treasures for the gratification of the public.