

embodied the proceedings of 'earned societies, had also been made duty-free. Sculptures, drawings, prints and painted glass, by acknowledged masters, are still subject to customs-duties at rates varying from 20 up to 35 per cent. *ad valorem*. *

EXHIBITIONS.

The first exhibition held during the year was opened on the 22nd January. It consisted of works by amateurs, residents in this city, and was the first public exhibition of the kind hitherto held in Montreal, and proved of special interest to the friends of the contributors, as well as to the general public. Many of the works displayed considerable talent, and the collection, as a whole, was a creditable one. The contributions exhibited were as follows:—One hundred and twenty-nine water-colors, seventy-one oil-paintings, forty-two pencil-sketches, fifteen sketches in pen and ink, eleven crayons, and a clever portrait-bust modelled in clay.

The second exhibition of the year was that of works by Canadian artists, which opened on the 12th, and closed on the 28th of April. This exhibition is an annual one, and is looked forward to with much interest as one of the artistic events of the year. Ninety-eight oil-paintings, and seventy water-colors were sent in for exhibition, a falling off in numbers compared with the ex-

* The following bills, which have been introduced in the House of Representatives now in session at Washington by Mr. Perry Belmont, have the approval of the Society of American Artists of New York, as stated by Mr. William M. Chase on behalf of a committee of that organization.

A BILL in relation to the importation of works of art :—

SECTION 1.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that no duties shall be levied or collected on any works of art, either ancient or modern, but the same shall be wholly exempt from duty; and the term "works of art," as here used, shall be understood to include all paintings, drawings, photographs, and statues in marble or other stone.

SEC. 2.—That all provisions of law inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES.

AN ACT in relation to the importation of classical antiquities :—

SECTION 1.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that no duties shall be levied or collected on any objects of classical antiquity imported into the United States, or on any plaster casts of said antiquities, but the same shall be wholly exempt from duty; and the term "objects of classical antiquity" as here used, shall be understood to include all such articles whether manufactured or produced before or during the mediæval period.

SEC. 2.—That all provisions of law inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.