

CITADEL, QUEBEC, JUNE 8TH, 1879.

DEAR MR. O'BRIEN,—I am only, comparatively speaking, a stranger here, and cannot know how such a scheme as that we have discussed will be taken up. I may, however, give you my impressions for whatever they are worth.

1st. That the existing Art Societies of each Province be requested to elect a certain number (which need not be much restricted) to represent the Province in a Dominion Art Association. Perhaps all present members of Provincial Societies might be willing to join.

2nd. That the Dominion Art Association (or whatever name is given to it) should consist of a President, Academicians, Associates, and Honorary Members. The last class might include all men willing to assist, everywhere, if approved of by the members who are not honorary.

3rd. That the objects of the Association be the exhibition of (1) Pictures on loan ; (2) Pictures by Artists who have not exhibited at any Dominion Exhibition held at the city in which the Dominion Exhibition for the year is held ; (3) Architectural Drawings ; (4) Designs for Manufactures, these being drawings and designs for all sorts and kinds of useful things, from wearing apparel and embroidery to designs for new stoves and implements.

4th. That it be a standing rule that each capital city of each Province be visited in turn by the Dominion Exhibition, *leaving, of course, the local societies to have an exhibition of their own each year as they like.* This would bring the exhibition to Ottawa only after Halifax, Fredericton, Quebec and Toronto had been visited, namely, every fifth year. No. 4 seems most necessary, as the jealousy between our widely scattered cities is great. We may except Winnipeg and Victoria until they are united by rail ; and for the want of good communication, Prince Edward Island might also be left out as far as an exhibition to be held there is concerned. In the meantime, it should be satisfied, I think, with having some members elected to the Association, and the share in prizes any of its artists or draughtsmen might obtain.

It is a question whether, in such a widely extended population, men can be brought to work together for art purposes ; but the attempt might be made, and could at all events do no harm. Forgive the crudeness of these suggestions, and believe me,
yours sincerely,

LORNE.

In September of the same year, His Excellency and Her Royal Highness visited the rooms of the Ontario Society of Artists in Toronto. On this occasion His Excellency presided at a meeting of the Artists, when the project of the formation of an Academy was discussed, and the following resolution unanimously adopted :