

has considerably out-numbered that of members and visitors of both sorts (paying and free) during the year 1886, while the general attendance in 1888 is much more than double that of 1886. It is true that the numbers for 1887 exceeded those for the present year ; but it must be remembered that on the occasion of the Carnival in the former year more than three thousand persons visited the Gallery on the two free days then granted, while a very large increase also resulted in the number of paying visitors at the same period.

In the statement of receipts and disbursements for the year it will be noticed that there is a small deficit. This has arisen from monies having been placed to the credit of the Endowment Fund which would generally have gone towards meeting the regular expenses of the Association. On the other hand, the Treasurer has the gratification of announcing an increase of over twelve thousand dollars in the assets.

### OBITUARY.

Cheering as the prospect of the future is, and reassuring as the advance of the year 1888 has been in the annals of the Association, there is, on the other hand, but too much room for sad reflection in the long list of good friends who have been called away. In the Hon. Robert Mackay the Association lost one who **was ever ready** in any way to be of service to its interests. For several years, in the position of President, and subsequently as Patron, by his knowledge of art, of law and of letters, by his honourable character and considerate kindness to all, he both adorned the prominent position in which he was placed and attracted many to the pleasure derivable from the study and encouragement of the higher forms of culture. The Hon. John Hamilton and Mr. Alexander Murray, whose family occupy a high position among those who have done