

Mr. Wm. McLennan's instructive paper on "Engraving," read on the 25th February before a large audience, lent additional interest to the Exhibition.

This was followed in April by the Second Annual Exhibition of Paintings by Canadian Artists. The collection contained several works of conspicuous merit, but, as a whole, did not manifest the progress which the preceding exhibition (1880) had led some sanguine critics to expect. Amongst the more noteworthy pictures, were Mr. Homer Watson's "*Old Stone Road, Dundas*," painted with a true feeling for nature; and a vigorous head by Mr. R. Harris, Toronto, entitled "*A Man of no Account*." Through the liberality of one of our members, the latter picture has become the property of the Association.

On the occasion of the Provincial Exhibition held at Montreal in September last, the Citizens' Committee granted to the Association the sum of fifty dollars, with the understanding that our gallery should be opened for ten days at the charge of ten cents. The loan collection was considerably augmented, and the gallery attracted many visitors. Two thousand three hundred and fifty persons paid at the door, and 616 catalogues were sold.

The fourth and final Exhibition for the year was that of *Decorative Art*, opened on Monday evening, December 5th, by a *conversazione* with music, which was attended by more than two hundred members and friends of the Association.

The Exhibition remained open until the 21st December, and was visited during these fifteen days by upwards of 1,400 members and friends, and by 378 non-members paying 25 cents each. A copy of the printed catalogue is submitted herewith. A large number of objects of a decorative and artistic character were contributed; many of them of great value and rarity; the whole of which, the committee are pleased to report, were removed, exhibited and returned to their owners without any breakage or loss. The fittings procured for this exhibition have been so arranged as to be of permanent use in the future.

Notwithstanding the somewhat disappointing receipts for admission, the Committee are sanguine that when the accounts are adjusted, the expenditure will be found not to have exceeded the appropriation made by the Council for this Exhibition.

6. LECTURES AND ENTERTAINMENTS.

The lecture season of 1881 was inaugurated on the 21st January, by Mr. J. W. Gray, with a paper upon the subject of