

has never come before us in such a shape as to admit of such discussion. But a circular has been sent to our members, attested by several well-known names, inviting the consideration of the Council to the feasibility of such a plan. I therefore deem it advisable to make this passing allusion to the subject in question. May I be allowed to urge the importance of adding to the number of our Works of Art in these Galleries? At all times, and under all circumstances, and especially until the Association is able to purchase fresh attractions out of its annual income, every individual member (and our members should be commensurate in number with our educated citizens), I say every individual member should endeavor to aid in this good work, and take an unselfish pride in contributing to public enjoyment by the donation of a picture or pictures. If a generous enthusiasm animates the minds of our members, they will ever be desirous of enriching our art collection, and, while increasing public interest, cultivate the taste of the citizens of Montreal. I have now to resign into your hands the office of President of this Association, which you did me the honor to confer upon me last year. As you are aware, I am shortly about to leave this beautiful and pleasant city, my happy home for over twenty years. I can, therefore, no longer hold office in connection with this Society. It gratifies me to reflect that my year of presidential office has been characterized by growing prosperity, although this satisfactory feature is in no sense due to my tenure of the Presidentship. It is my hope that at all events I have done no harm to the Association, and, under any circumstances, I should have suggested my retirement and the appointment in my stead of some citizen, who, generous in his fostering love for art, and his unselfish desire to benefit others besides himself and his family, would, by example as well as precept, improve the usefulness of the society. I am glad to think that we have such men in our midst. I shall never lose my interest in the Association. Its cause is the cause of Art, and my connection with it has been invariably interesting and pleasant. I purpose continuing my annual subscription, and shall gladly be of any service at any time to the Art Association of Montreal. (Applause.) I now beg leave to move the adoption of the report.