

admission higher than is possible or prudent just now; and with the improvement of public taste, and growing appreciation of good work, we need not fear the recognition and ultimate reward in Canada of those artists who have talent, and honestly make the best use of it.

It was hoped that the invitation to manufacturers to offer prizes for designs, suited to their different undertakings would have been more largely responded to. Enough has been done, however, to stimulate invention among designers and art students, and to point the way to the attainment of one principal object of the Academy, namely: The establishment and appreciation of good art industry in Canada.

Some exception has been taken, naturally, to leaving Montreal and Toronto, the chief cities of the Dominion, last upon the list of places selected for holding exhibitions. This has been done at the express desire of His Excellency, and has been cordially assented to by the artists, although their immediate personal interests would have been best served by holding the exhibitions in the largest and most wealthy places; but Montreal and Toronto have already efficient art organizations of their own, and I am confident that their liberal and public spirited citizens will be glad to lend a helping hand, in the first place, to those who have no such advantages. We may reasonably hope that in Halifax, St. John's and Quebec, the visit of the Academy will lead to the formation of such local art societies as may be best suited to their circumstances and available material.

Any city which fails to form and support some such local association can scarcely be deemed sufficiently advanced in civilization to justify a second visit of the Academy. London, in the west, has much to offer as inducement to hold an Academy Exhibition there, and the generous appreciation of art which has induced so many artists to make their home in the Province of Ontario, will no doubt soon make it advisable to add the Forest City to the list.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

L. R. O'BRIEN,

*President Canadian Academy of Arts.*

The Government of Canada gave the most generous and cordial support to the Academy, placing at its disposal a commodious building for the use of the opening Exhibition at Ottawa, admirably arranged for the purpose under the personal direction of the Hon. Mr. Langevin, Minister of Public Works.

On Saturday, March 6th, 1880, the first meeting of the members of the Academy was held, the Council for the ensuing year elected, and he first Exhibition opened by His Excellency the Governor-General.