

important points. It may be confidently affirmed, that the Spring Exhibition of 1885 contained works by Canadian Artists superior in quality to any previously exhibited within the Gallery of the Association, while the success of the Art Classes under the tuition of Mr. Harris does not admit of doubt. Nevertheless, it is desirable, as far as possible, to place the Association in a position independent of contingencies, so that its usefulness may not be jeopardized by seasons like the present, which are liable to recur from time to time.

With a view therefore to the future stability of the Association, the Council would reiterate the importance of the formation of a sufficient

SUSTENTATION FUND,

so that the working of the institution may not be hampered by the chances of commercial depression. If a sufficient sum were raised, the voluntary contributions which are now imperatively necessary to sustain the Association, might be employed in the acquisition of additions to the art collection, or expended in other ways for the furtherance of art culture, which the progress of the time requires. It is, in the opinion of the Council, their bounden duty to be constantly adding to the works of art in their custody, in order that the Gallery may keep pace with the knowledge of the day, that it may become more and more worthy of the City of Montreal, and may furnish increasing and interesting material for the student and lover of art.

EXHIBITIONS.

The Annual Exhibition of Canadian Art, held under the auspices of the Association, was opened on April 13th, and closed on May 2nd, 1885. The collection comprised 151 works in all ;—viz., 95 oil paintings, 34 water colours, the remainder consisting of architectural drawings, etchings, and examples of stained glass. The two last were a new departure in our exhibitions. The prominent feature in this year's exhibition, as well as in that of last year, was the increased number of figure