

**Our Twenty-second Annual Exhibition** now in progress presents some new features or at least, such as are novel to

our walls. A new mode of selection, namely the use of the ballot by the whole society, was tested and, on the whole appears to be an improvement on the old method of leaving both the power and onus in the hands and on the heads of the hanging Committee. It will be for the Society to determine in the future whether to adopt the new plan or any other. To our great regret the date of opening conflicted with that of the Art Association of Montreal, to which fact we may attribute a slight reduction in the number of works sent in, and this, combined with the greater severity of selection (it being by secret ballot) rather curtailed the catalogue, but by inference must have elevated the standard of quality in those which passed the ordeal. This seems to be generally admitted, while the odium of rejection is divided among all the members who voted, and may in a measure attach even to such as neglected to use their franchise and perform their duty.

**The Opening** was attended by a large and appreciative gathering of our friends and those interested in Art matters in Toronto, his Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, pronouncing a short address on the occasion. His Excellency, the Governor General, who has graciously consented to become a Patron of our Society, expressing his great regret at being unable to be present both on his own account and that of the Countess of Aberdeen. Considering the exceptionally fine weather prevailing we cannot flatter ourselves upon much increase in the numbers visiting the gallery. The extreme dullness of commerce this year may in a measure account for this. And another and perhaps more potent cause may be found in the fact of our having allowed the Art Union to rest. Its plan was one successfully presented during the first twenty years of the