

over that of the two previous years. This encouraging fact (in the face of a lessened revenue) is one of many evidences of a steadily growing taste for artistic productions among our citizens, which it is alike the duty and the earnest desire of the Council to foster most sedulously.

We have to record, with sincere regret, the loss during the last year of two of our oldest and most esteemed members—Mr. Donald Lorn MacDougall and Mr. Thomas Cramp. They were both in their lifetime among the warmest friends of the Association.

CONCLUSION.

In order that the Association may fulfil its proper mission, and meet the artistic wants of a community so rapidly increasing in wealth, it should be in a position to hold more frequent exhibitions. The home production of works of art has been up to this time of necessity limited, owing to the small number of resident artists. It would therefore be necessary to include foreign works, but this would widen the field of artistic thought and effort for the study of our citizens, and would effectually assist them in their endeavours to attain a more cultivated taste and a sounder judgement in art matters. In the initiation of frequent exhibitions of combined foreign and native talent, Montreal would only be following the example of neighboring cities of more recent origin and possessed of a more liberal home production of works of art.

More frequent and varied exhibitions would not only benefit our citizens generally, but would greatly assist and encourage our resident artists, and would be an inducement to others to take up their abode in a city possessed of many attractive surroundings. Private studios would thus be multiplied, and these must ever be sources of educational benefit and enjoyment to the art student and to citizens. There is abundance of art material in the large American and other foreign cities, which could easily be obtained on loan, provided the cost incidental to the collection and freightage