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Art Association of Montreal.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL,

For the year ending December, 1885.

The year 1885 has proved to be one of exceptional depression, as far as the mercantile interests of Montreal are concerned. All public institutions, of the character of the Art Association, which depend for their pecuniary support upon the voluntary contributions of the community, must of necessity be injuriously affected by such commercial depression. It is therefore to be expected that the Council, in presenting this, their Annual Report, are constrained to acknowledge a falling off in the revenues of the Association.

Much as this is to be regretted, it has neither proceeded from, nor has it caused, any decadence in the ordinary working of the Association. The Exhibitions, as far as excellence is concerned, have been admitted to be in advance of those in previous years; the Lectures given were not inferior to those delivered before the Association in former seasons; and there has been a slight increase in the number of students attending the Art Classes. The number of ordinary visitors to the Gallery, including those on free days, has been larger than heretofore, and there appears to be no abatement of interest in the work of the Association. No retrogression, to say the least, is manifest with reference to these