# MONTREAL SOCIETY ...

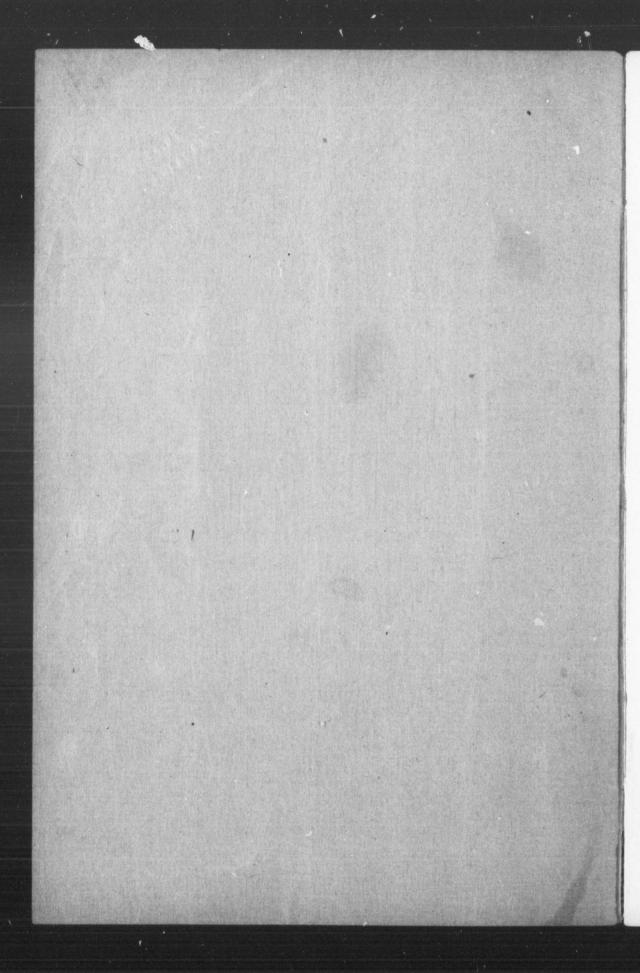
# DECORATIVE \* ART

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# TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Montreal Society of Decorative Art

FOR YEAR ENDING 30th APRIL, 1891.

ORGANIZED, APRIL, 1879. INCORPORATED, OCTOBER, 1879

NO. 2288 ST. GATHERINE STREET.

**Montreal**: PRINTED BY MORTON, PHILLIPS & CO.

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1891.

#### DECORATIVE ART SOCIETY.

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President :

MRS. GEORGE W. STEPHENS.

Vice-Presidents :

MRS. GREENSHIELDS, MRS. STIMSON, MRS. HENEY.

Secretary-Treasurer,

MISS HILL.

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Madame Boyer Mrs. Burnett Mrs. Clouston Mrs. Crane Mrs. S. Davis Mrs. Drummond Mrs. Dyer Mrs. Elmenhorst Miss Gillespie Mrs. E. B. Greenshields Mrs. J. G. Grant Mrs. Hebden Mrs. Hingston Mrs. J. H. Joseph Miss Law Mrs. H. Mackenzie Mrs. W. R. Miller Mrs. J. H. R. Molson Mrs. Edward Murphy Mrs. Redpath Mrs. Robert Reid Mrs. M. P. Ryan Mrs. Frank Stephen Mrs. F. Wolferstan Thomas Miss Wheeler Mrs. Wurtele

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## Society of Decorative Art.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The twelfth annual meeting of the Montreal Society of Decorative Art was held at the rooms of the Society, 2288 St. Catherine Street, on Wednesday, May 13th, 1891.

There were present :---Mesdames Wheeler, G. W. Stephens, E. B. Greenshields, Guy, Heney, Mackedie, W. F. Torrance, Hebden, Stimson, F. Stephen, Sise, Misses Wheeler, Hill, and George Durnford, Esq.

Mrs. Wheeler presided, and called upon the Secretary to read the minutes of the last annual meeting.

The report of the Executive Committee was then read by Miss Wheeler, and the Treasurer's report by Mr. Durnford.

The following resolution was then moved by Mr. Durnford, seconded by Mrs. E. B. Greenshields, "That the reports be adopted, and under the direction of the office-bearers, printed for circulation.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then pro-

Vice-Presidents-Mrs. Greenshields, Mrs. Stimson, Mrs. Heney.

Secretary-Treasurer-Miss Hill.

*Executive Committee*—Mrs. James Bell, Mrs. Chas. Clouston, Madame Guy, Mrs. Ives, Mrs. Mackedie, Miss K. Scott, Mrs. Sise, Mrs. W. F. Torrance, Mrs. Waddell, Miss Van Horne.

General Committee—Madame Boyer, Mrs. Burnett, Mrs. Clouston, Mrs. Crane, Mrs. S. Davis, Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. Dyer, Mrs. Elmenhorst, Miss Gillespie, Mrs. E. B. Greenshields, Mrs. J. G. Grant, Mrs. Hebden, Mrs. Hingston, Mrs. J. H. Joseph, Miss Law, Mrs. H. Mackenzie, Mrs. W. R. Miller, Mrs. J. H. R. Molson, Mrs. Edward Murphy, Mrs. Redpath, Mrs. Robert Reid, Mrs. M. P. Ryan, Mrs. Frank Stephen, Mrs. F. Wolferstan Thomas, Miss Wheeler, Mrs. Wurtele.

After a vote of thanks to Mrs. Wheeler, who had so ably filled the chair, the meeting adjourned.

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

It is gratifying to record the progress of an institution devoted mainly to helping people to help themselves. The Montreal Society of Decorative Art has carried on its work unobtrusively during the past year, and its Committee now beg to lay before you the following summary of what has been done since the last annual meeting.

The year just closed has been an uneventful one in our annals, but it is believed that satisfactory results have accrued to members, who are grateful for the help extended to them by this Society. Our work is of a distinctively benevolent character, and the commercial element has from the first been restricted to such transactions as were absolutely essential to the achievement of our benevolent purpose. Our results, therefore, are not to be measured by commercial standards; yet we believe that the statements we lay before you to-day will show you that we have been guided by business principles, though these principles have not formed the foundation upon which we have built.

The following abstract of statistics gives at a glance an outline of the work done during the year .—New members, 3. Withdrawals, 7. Present number, 89. Number of contributors, 136. Value of articles accepted by the Committee, \$3,107.10. Amount, of sales, \$2375.50. Amount realized for orders executed, \$960. 86. Result of sale of materials, \$1,454.54. Amount received for stamping, \$512.09. Work done in rooms, \$71.37. Value of stock belonging to contributors on hand, April 22nd, 1891, \$1,179.90. Value of stock of materials on hand, \$471.92. Result of embroidery classes, \$80.25.

Four young ladies have again attended the course of 1890-91 in the Art Gallery, with, it is thought, very satisfactory results; the work of some of them, shewn at the recent exhibition, having been pronounced highly creditable by competent judges.

Bearing in mind that the aim of the Society is partly educational, and also to increase the number of well-instructed and reliable workers to carry out the orders entrusted to the Society, the Committee last autumn organized a course of free lessons in needlework, by which fourteen contributors to the rooms were enabled to avail themselves of the instructions of Miss Brock, the competent teacher of the Society. Lessons were also given in the very useful art of making up and pressing their work, in which some otherwise good workers were deficient.

In compliance with a request from a lady in the Eastern Townships, who guaranteed a certain number of pupils, Miss

Brock visited Stanstead in September last, and gave a course of lessons, which resulted very satisfactorily to the pupils as well as to the Society.

During the season of Lent another course was given in the rooms of the Society, at the low rate of fifty cents per lesson; of which several ladies availed themselves. The Committee, therefore, have reason to believe that a useful effort has been made, attended by more or less success, to raise the standard of the work, to improve its quality, and thus to make it more saleable, as well as more profitable to the workers.

An effort has been made during the past year to prevent the accumulation of unsaleable work in the rooms, and a suggestion to contributors to reduce the price, after a certain time, was willingly complied with by many, and a cheap sale was held in March in which many articles held over from the Christmas season were disposed of, and those remaining were returned to their respective owners.

It will be easily understood that the ordinary expenses of the Society have a tendency to increase as time goes on, whilst, from various causes, the number of annual subscribers has gradually diminished; so that the Committee has been forced to exercise the greatest care with regard to the necessary expenditure. Fortunately the sale of materials, which was cautiously entered upon two years ago, and also the business of stamping, which is in charge of Miss Sewell, have proved as remunerative as they were indispensable, and they have afforded the Committee much encouragement in carrying on the work of so great practical value to numbers of ladies who depend to a large extent upon the Society for the disposal of their useful and artistic products.

A new branch of the work has sprung up within the past year. A request from Hamilton, Ontario, that a box of "commenced work" be sent there was gladly complied with, and the result has been a considerable sale of similar material on several occasions. Recently a request of the same kind has been received from St. John, New Brunswick, which, it is hoped, will be productive of equally satisfactory results. Thus is the work of the Society enlarging, and its interest extending in different directions.

It is pleasant to record the fact that the very efficient staff of last year still remains in charge of the rooms, and Miss Alice Esdaile, the indefatigable superintendent, and her assistants, Miss Isabel Brock and Miss Sewell, continue to merit the warm thanks of the Committee, who have shewn their appreciation of the diligence and efficiency of these ladies, by granting to each of them an increase of salary.

The cordial thanks of the Society are again tendered to the Council of the Art Association for their continued kindness in receiving pupils at reduced rates; also to Messrs Hall & Scott, and Mr. W. V. Gordon for continued favours.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JANE E. HILL, Secretary-Treas. THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH THE DECORATIVE ART ASSOCIATION. FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th April, 1891.

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JANE E. HILL, Sec.-Treas.

G. DURNFORD, C. A.

Audited and verified, May, 1891.

DR.

ASSETS.

		727 49				465 00	\$1,192 49
\$ 471 92	255 57		35 00	200 00	230 00		
Stock on hand as per list			······································				
Stock on han	Cash		Perforator	Patterns	Furniture		

# LIABILITIES.

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Audited and verified May 11th, 1891.

G. DURNFORD, C.A.

JANE E. HILL, Sec. Treas.

STATEMENT OF ANNUAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE SHOWING PROGRESS OF THE SOCIETY FROM 1881 to 1891 INCLUSIVE.

RECEIPTS.											
FOR THE LEAK LANDING OUT APRIL	1881 \$2,428 65	\$3,279 99	\$1,679 05 \$1,679 05 962 71	\$1,442 06 707 00 133 75	1885 \$1,712 64 112 60	\$1,629 15 290 85	\$2,034 38 417 17	\$2,430 89 \$44 82 	$\begin{array}{c} 1889\\ \$3,267 73\\ 1,107 85\\ 55 46\\ 55 46\\ 356 53\end{array}$	\$2,702 10 \$2,702 10 1,235 38 1,235 38 1,117 04 467 18	\$ 2,375 50 960 86 151 62 1,454 54 512 09
Members and associates subscription Unclaimed sales Tuition fees Donations Legacies, '' E. Mackay'' Sundries Insurance	550 00 200 15 126 67	630 00 635 75 130 10 18 41	<b>560</b> 00 787 00 126 50 253 00 <b>1</b> 75	535 00 982 40 63 80 372 70 200 00 4 30	324 00 3 75 121 97 8 96	500 00 90 10 67 53	431 00 33 04 	<b>413</b> 00 51 35 8 26	453 00 66 50 57 20	415 00	396 00 5 16
Annual Totals	\$3,305 47	\$4,694 25	\$4,370 01	\$4,441 01	\$2,283 92	\$2,577 63	\$3,097 73	\$3,860 38	\$5, '85 38	\$6,140 82	\$ 5,855 77
EXPENDITURE: Paid to contributors if for orderals if Expenses if Expenses if Fixtures if Tuiton	\$2,189 79 300 00 483 22 61 45 144 52	\$2,966 00 300 00 957 52 60 67 545 09	\$2,390 43 330 50 991 52 715 44	\$1,941 03 300 00 1,053 03 73 51 856 13	\$1,712 64 228 50 521 34	\$1,470 28	\$1,833 18 180 00 651 29	\$2,189 01 49 16 270 50 596 28 130 00	$2^{2}$	\$2,433 85 988 47 988 47 1,133 96 695 25 682 92 116 54 150 00	<ul> <li>2,139</li> <li>794</li> <li>44</li> <li>794</li> <li>44</li> <li>1,100</li> <li>92</li> <li>00</li> <li>100</li> <li>100</li> <li>100</li> <li>100</li> <li>100</li> </ul>
Annual Totals STAT	\$3,178 98 TEMENT OF	\$4,829 2 WORK	8 \$4,427 89 \$4 PRESENTED,	\$4.223 70 D, ACCEF	\$2,462 48 PTED, ANI	\$2,124 19 0 RETURN	\$2,664 47 VED, 1881	.223         70         \$2,462         48         \$2,124         19         \$2,664         47         \$3,234         95         \$6,393         44           ACCEPTED, AND RETURNED, 1881         LOUBUVE.         1891         LOUBUVE.	\$5,393 44 JUSIVE-	\$6,200 96	\$ 5,976 88
Value of work accepted			\$5,388 00 1,679 05	\$3,646 00 1,442 06	\$2,387 45 1,712 64	\$2,542 39 1,629 15	\$3,800 42 2,034 38	\$3,148 13 2,430 89	\$4,176 45 3,267 73	\$3,313 88 2,702 10	\$ 3,107 10 2,375 50
" Returne			\$3,708 95	\$2,203,94	\$ 675 81	\$ 913 24	\$1,766 04	\$ 717 24	\$ 908 72	\$ 611 78	\$ 731 60

#### **BY-LAWS.**

13

#### I.

All elections shall be made by ballot.

#### II.

At a meeting of the General Committee *seven*, including the office bearers, shall form a quorum ; at an Executive Committee, *three*.

#### III.

There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Society to receive the report of the Committee, and to elect officers in May, notice thereof being given at least eight days before.

#### IV.

There shall be a meeting of the general Committee held on the first monday of every Month, and the Executive Committee weekly on Monday; also a Semi-annual Meeting of all members of the Society in November or December, to keep up interest in the work done.

#### V.

The Executive Committee shall have power to call a special meeting of the General Committee at any time, notice to be sent to the members eight days before.

#### VI.

Twenty of the ordinary members shall have power to call a Special Meeting of the General Committee by sending a signed notice to the Secretary at least a fortnight before the time desired

for the meeting, the Secretary to give notice to the Executive Committee immediately on receipt of such requisition.

#### VII.

Matters of importance shall be decided by vote of the General Committee at a meeting regularly or specially convened; in the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary, it shall be competent for the General Committee to fill such office provisionally until the next annual meeting; but in the event of circumstances occurring needing prompt and immediate action, the Executive Committee has power to act on its own responsibility.

#### VIII.

All business to be discussed at a meeting to be proposed through the presiding officer, such questions to be handed in, in writing, before the business of the day commences; she shall declare the decision and have a casting vote.

To prevent confusion and ensure attention, all remarks must be addressed to the presiding officer.

#### IX

All members have the privilege of admitting articles for sale at the rooms of the Society, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee and rules of the Society's Constitution, and shall be entitled to be charged ten per cent. on sales made.

#### Χ.

With a view to the assistance of ladies in reduced circumstances it is intended to admit work not strictly art work, if superior of its kind and presented through a member, and also to exhibitfor sale china, paintings and articles of value, provided however that, if objection is made by any member of the Executive Committee, the question shall be decided by a vote of the majority.

#### XI.

Articles placed in the rooms, and remaining unsold or unclaimed for six month's time, can, after being duly advertised, be sold for the benefit of the Society, in whatever manner the Executive Committee may see fit to arrange, according to conditions specified on the printed receipt given to contributors. All agreements with employees to be made in writing.

#### XII.

These By-Laws to be amended at any meeting of the General Committee, provided seven days notice be sent of the amendment to each member.

#### FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give to the Montreal Society of Decorative Art, incorporated under Act of Provincial Parliament, October, 1879, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_\_dollars, to be paid to the Treasurer for the purposes of said Corporation.

#### RULES FOR ENTRANCE OF WORK.

Colors, carving, and line decoration applied in an artistic manner to furniture, to articles of household use, or to those of personal luxury, lace work, and needlework, as developed by the English School, come under the head of Art-work.

It is impossible to enumerate the articles to which the various methods of Art Decoration may be applied, as each individual may develop new applications. The Society, however, cannot too thoroughly impress upon contributors, that, if they wish for prompt and ready sales, they must expend their efforts upon articles which are saleable as well as artistic.

Any Art work of ordinary merit, excepting wax work and feather flowers, may be exhibited and sold in the rooms of the Society of Decorative Art, yet such exhibition or sale may not be construed as a mark of the Society's entire approval. All first-class standard work offered for sale shall be stamped with some seal not easily counterfeited, as an official guarantee of its superior excellence to the general public.

Although the Society engages to give all proper attention to goods entrusted to its care, it will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage. All articles sent to the Society for sale must be delivered free of expense, freight or express charges.

Every article offered for sale must be represented through a member of the Society, but may be addressed to the care of the Lady Superintendent, who will submit it to the Executive Committee, subject to their approval or rejection; if not accepted, notice of its refusal will be sent within one week of its receipt to the contributor, at whose expense it must be removed.

Accepted work will be exhibited during three months, and, if then unsold, will be returned, unless the Committee desire to retain it.

Wax and feather flowers, hair and leather work, splatter and splinter work and card board are too perishable and unsaleable to be accepted.

Contributors are requested to fix their prices, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. In cases when the Committee consider the price of any article lower than the market rate, it will be raised without consulting the contributor, who will receive the benefit of the increased valuation.

If an article is valued at more than the market rate, the contributor will be notified of the fact before it is put upon exhibition. Articles upon which a price has not been plainly and legibly marked will be marked by the Executive Committee.

Money received from the sale of articles will be forwarded to the contributor, with a deduction of 10 per cent. and postages, which will cover the charges of the Society. It is not necessary that a contributor should be a member of, or subscriber to, the funds of the Society.

To each article contributed for sale will be securely attached a numbered ticket, upon the reverse of which the price of the article will be plainly marked. The number of the Ticket first issued to a contributor will always represent the work of said contributor upon the books of the Society, and should be added to the name and address in all business letters addressed to the Society.

Letters can be addressed to

#### MISS ESDAILE,

Lady Superintendent of the Rooms of the Society of Decorative Art, 2288 ST. CATHERINE ST.