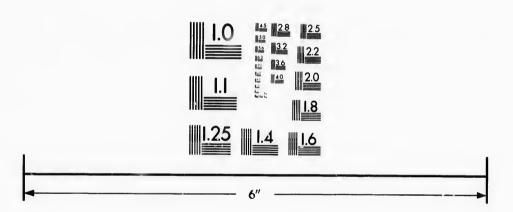


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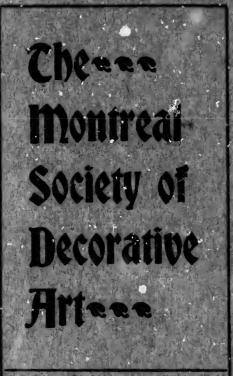
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To MONTREAL

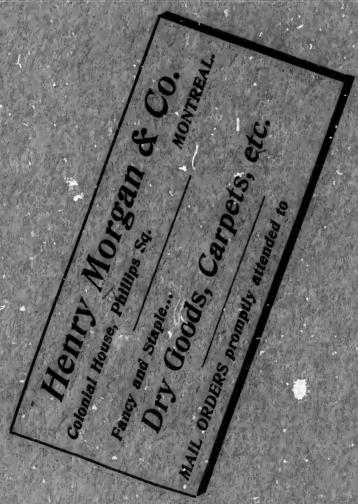
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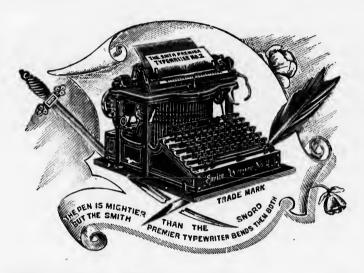
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The Montreal Society of Decorative Art.

ANNUAL REPORT.

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The Committee of the Montreal Society of Decorative Art beg to submit the following report of the work of the year ending April 30th, 1899:

Twenty-three new members joined the Society during the year, four resigned from different causes, and two, we regret to say, were removed by death. Mrs. Molson had been one of the Hon. Presidents since the formation of the Society in 1879; and Madame Guy, also an original member for some years on the Executive Committee.

Present number of members, 90.

Number of contributors during the	year, 13	5.
Amount of sales	52,321	15
Amount realized for orders	1,881	00
Sale of materials	2,756	29
Stamping	622	57
Workroom	131	61
Embroidery classes	80	00

The Committee has to report another year of moderate prosperity, during which the work of the Society has been carried on without material interruption and been the means of assisting and encour-

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ANNUAL REPORT-Continued.

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aging many contributors to depend in some measure upon the sale of their work and the money received from orders to increase a scanty income. Thus the Society has continued to fulfil the two-fold object of its existence, viz.: to cultivate a taste for good and artistic work, and to assist ladies of taste and refinement to lead more independent lives than they could otherwise do. These aims, and not the accumulation of capital, encourage the Committee to persevere under many discouragements which a very limited bank balance and constantly increasing outside competition entail.

The commission accruing to the Society from the sale of work being necessarily small and falling far short of covering necessary expenses, even with the most careful management, it is evident that the success of the Society must continue to depend considerably upon the annual subscriptions of members. This fact was brought prominently before the annual meeting in last year's report, and later, at the suggestion of a kind member, several ladies were asked to join the Society, with the gratifying result that twenty new members were secured early in the year, who expressed their willingness to become annual subscribers, but felt obliged to decline taking an active part in the work.

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ANNUAL REPORT-Continued.

Short courses of lessons have been given during the year at Sherbrooke and at Lachine, with satisfactory results, as well as at the rooms in town whenever required, and several pupils have received the benefit of free tuition when circumstances made it advisable.

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The special exhibition and sale of Christmas work which was opened the second week in December, proved successful. Attention was called to it by advertisement, and cards were sent to a large number of members and friends. Much admiration was expressed by visitors at the beauty of the work displayed, and the amount of sales was probably increased by these efforts; but the competition with the large shops is felt more keenly each year, and especially at the Christmas season.



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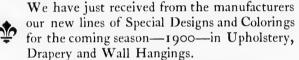
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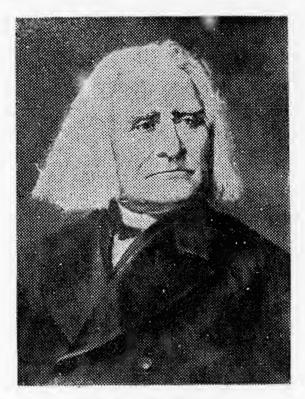
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It is impossible to enumerate the articles to which the various methods of Art Decoration may be applied, as each individual may develop new applications. The Society, however, cannot too thoroughly impress upon contributors, that, if they wish for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

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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, an l, if then unsold will be returned, unless the Committee desire to retain it.

Contributors are required to attach to each article a tag, securely fastened, upon which shall be placed in ink the contributor's letter and number, name of article and price, subject to the approval of the

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If an article is valued at more than the market rate, the contributor will be notified of the fact before it is put on exhibition.

ess

Money received from the sales 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 a subscriber to, the funds of the Society.

All letters requiring a reply must enclose a three cent postage stamp, and contributors desiring articles returned by mail must enclose stamps and take all risks.

To each article contributed for sale will be securely attached a numbered ticket, upon which the price of the article will be plainly marked. The number of the Ticket first issued to a contributor will always

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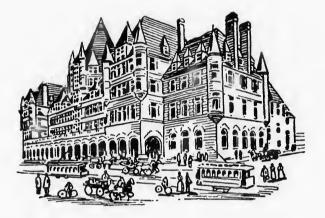
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