

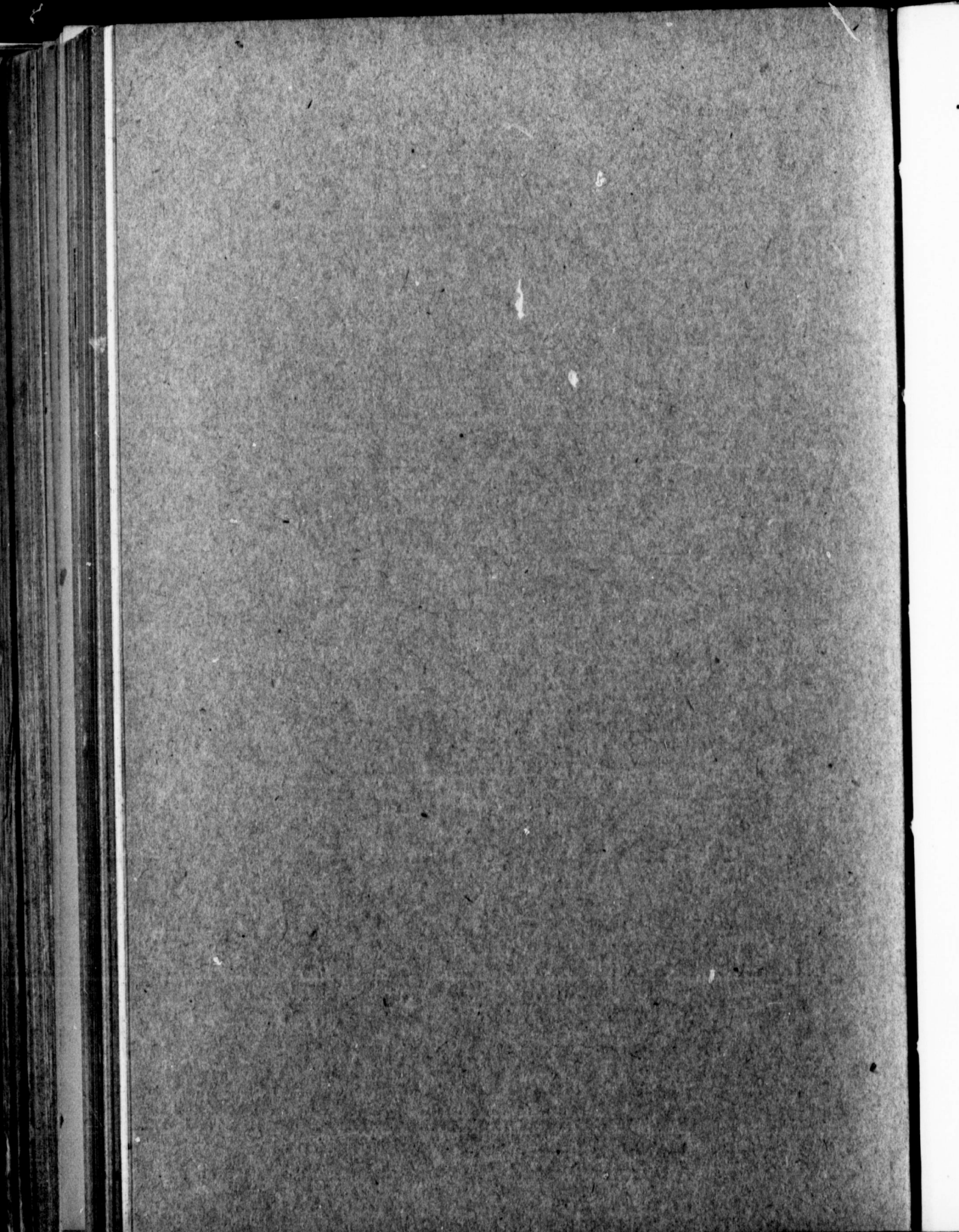


Royal Canadian

Academy of Arts



REPORT for 1899





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Royal Canadian Academy of Arts

✿ 1899 ✿

Founders

THE MOST HONORABLE THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS LOUISE.

Patron

HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MINTO,
Governor-General of Canada.

Honorary Patron

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE.

Officers

President, ROBERT HARRIS MONTREAL.
Vice-President, A. C. HUTCHISON "
Secretary-Treasurer, JAMES SMITH TORONTO.

Council for 1899 and 1900

ONE YEAR	TWO YEARS
J. C. PINHEY Montreal.	C. E. MOSS Ottawa.
J. HAMMOND "	F. M. KNOWLES Toronto.
D. B. DICK Toronto.	E. W. GRIER "
L. R. O'BRIEN (died while serving) "	HOMER WATSON Doon.
T. M. MARTIN "	M. MATTHEWS Toronto.
WM. CRUIKSHANK "	J. HOPKINS Montreal.

Associates

CHARLES ALEXANDER..... London.	MAURICE CULLEN..... Montreal.
W. E. ATKINSON..... Toronto.	LAURA MUNTZ..... Toronto.
A. COX..... “	GEORGE HARVEY..... Halifax.
J. W. L. FORSTER..... “	HENRY MARTIN..... Toronto.
R. F. GAGEN..... “	G. BRUENECH..... “
W. HOPE..... Montreal.	C. M. MANLY..... “
J. C. MILES..... St. John, N.B.	P. G. WICKSON..... Paris, Ont.
HARRIET FORD..... Toronto.	EMMA S. WINDEAT..... Toronto.
SARAH HOLDEN..... Montreal.	W. A. SHERWOOD..... “
J. L. GRAHAM..... “	CARL AHEENS..... “
MRS. H. M. REID..... Toronto.	SYDNEY TULLY..... “
WM. REVELL..... “	E. DYONNET..... Montreal.
J. T. ROLPH..... “	F. A. VERNER..... London.
A. C. WILLIAMSON..... “	MARGARET HOUGHTON..... Montreal.
GERTRUDE SPURR..... “	FLORENCE CARLYLE..... Woodstock.
J. ARCH BROWNE..... “	EDMUND MORRIS..... Toronto.

Associate Architects

JAMES BALFOUR..... Hamilton.	W. C. HARRIS... Charlottetown, P.E.I.
JAMES NELSON..... Montreal.	JOSEPH W. POWER..... Kingston.
JOHN GEMMELL..... Toronto.	S. H. TOWNSEND..... Toronto.





Royal Canadian Academy

Report for the Year 1899

THE Academy, during the past year, has to record with deep regret the death of one of its earliest and most distinguished members, L. R. O'Brien, R.C.A. His occupation of the Presidency at the time of the Academy's foundation and for many years after, and his constant and deep interest in its welfare, are too well known to the members to make comment necessary here.

At the Annual General Meeting the vacancy declared for an Academician was filled by the election of F. S. Challener, painter, of Toronto. The voting on the names of those proposed as Associates resulted in the election of Maurice Cullen, painter, of Montreal.

At the General Meeting also the final revision of the Constitution was confirmed.

C. J. Way, R.C.A., having returned to Canada, has been placed on the list of Active Academicians by the Council.

The Annual Exhibition was held in Montreal in the galleries of the Art Association, arrangements having been made with that body as in previous years. It was opened on the evening of the 7th of April by His Excellency, the Governor-General, who, with Her Excellency, came from Ottawa to be present. The number of works exhibited was as follows: 151 oil; 109 water-colors, pastel, architectural and other drawings; sculpture 1. The attendance was 4,040. The exhibition appears to have been generally considered as one of the best yet held by the Academy.

The grants placed at the disposal of the Resident Academicians for disbursement in supporting Free Life Classes have been made as heretofore, where reports and audited accounts have been sent in to the Council.

It will be remembered that during the previous year a Memorial was presented to the Dominion Government inviting attention to several matters of importance in the field of Art, prominent amongst which was that of representation of Canadian Art in the coming Paris International Exhibition, the other subjects being an increased grant to the Academy with the object of permitting it to extend the scope of its usefulness as to holding exhibitions, etc., and the foundation of Art Scholarships. Some months ago the Committee placed in charge of this business by the Council had an interview with the Premier on these subjects and also on other questions on which the Academy, in conjunction with the Ontario Society of Artists and the Art Association of Montreal, had approached the Government, namely, Art lotteries as then permitted by law and a specific duty on pictures. To leave the Members of the Academy to infer that the not inconsiderable time and trouble which have been thus taken in endeavoring to obtain from the Government any consideration of the claims of Art in Canada, have so far been fruitful of any result, would be to create a wrong impression.

With regard to the Paris Exhibition, the surprise which those interested in Canadian Art will feel and the disappointment of Artists that no representation is attempted, warrant a statement of the whole case here.

The Memorial presented considerably over a year ago to the Government embodied amongst other matters a request that application might be made in good time for space for a representation of Canadian Art in the Paris Exhibition, and it was pointed out that if this were not done early, difficulties would be likely to arise. As the urgency of the case was thus dwelt on in the Memorial, it was inferred after the acknowledgment of its receipt that something would be done, or that at least we should have been informed if no action were taken. To the surprise of the Committee, on going to Ottawa by appointment, it was found that nothing had even been attempted. After learning that a regulation of the Exhibition authorities prevented any Colony exhibiting as such in the building devoted to the Fine Arts, we requested the Government to make immediate

application to the English Fine Art Commission to grant us a part of the space allotted to the Empire. In case of the failure of this application, the Minister asked whether we would care to make an exhibit in the ordinary Canadian section. This we assured him the Academy would not do, considering that it would be better for Canadian artists not to exhibit at all than to do so elsewhere than in the Fine Art building. In this the members of the Committee feel sure that the self-respect of the Academy and of every Canadian artist of repute will uphold them. Application was then made by the Government to the English Fine Art Commission for space. The replies were that the space granted to it being altogether inadequate (and indeed it seemed to be absurdly so), no concession could be made, that the Fine Art Commission had decided to confine its operations to the Art of the United Kingdom, and that it was not possible to devote any portion of the space to Colonial works of Art. Thus the matter stands. Our hard position is evident. Debarred from exhibiting by the authorities of the Exhibition because we belong to a Colony, and should by their regulations exhibit as part of the Empire; by the Empire we are also shut out from any share of the space allotted to it because we belong to a Colony.

The next Annual Exhibition will be held in Ottawa, and will be opened on the fifteenth of February. The Council decided on this as the best date, for though inconveniently early in some respects, it interfered least with the wishes of the Art Societies in Montreal and Toronto to hold their exhibitions in March. To arrange a date perfectly satisfactory to all when Exhibitions in the three cities come in the same year, appears to be impossible.

Attention may be here called to the fact that owing to the unusually small hanging space available, the Exhibition being this year in Ottawa, the Council trusts artists will see the necessity of limiting their contributions accordingly, otherwise disappointment is sure to occur. This need not be to the detriment of the Exhibition if there is a general inclination to substitute quality for quantity and size in the works sent in.

A statement of accounts by the Treasurer duly audited is appended.

ROBERT HARRIS,

President R.C.A.

ROYAL CANADIAN

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

RECEIPTS

From the 31st December, 1898, to 31st December, 1899

Cash in Dominion Bank 31st Dec., 1898.....	\$2,611 85	
“ Hand.....	1 30—	\$2,613 15
Academician Fees.....	181 00	
Associates Fees.....	91 00—	272 00
Interest on Bank Deposits.....		25 00
Dominion Government Grant.....		2,000 00

\$4,910 15

Cash in Dominion Bank Savings Department.....	\$2,825 00	
“ “ “ Current Account.....	89 57	
Cash in hand.....	10 00	
		<u>\$2,924 57</u>

ACADEMY OF ARTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899

PAYMENTS

From the 31st December, 1898, to 31st December, 1899

Grants to Advanced Arts.....	\$525	50
Montreal Exhibition Expenses.....	526	10
Catalogue Illustrations.....	30	00
Mileage and Committee Fees.....	362	00
Secretary's Salary.....	400	00
Office Rent.....	60	00
Printing and Stationery.....	46	15
Postage.....	25	33
General Expenses.....	10	50
Cash in Dominion Bank December 31, 1899...	\$2,914	57
Cash on hand.....	10	00—
	2,924	57
		<u>\$4,910 15</u>

J. SMITH, *Secretary.*

TORONTO, *January 10, 1900.*

Examined and found correct :

D. B. DICK,
HENRY LANGLEY, } *Auditors.*



Murray Printing Co.
Toronto.

