# The Detroit Museum of Art

Annual Report 1901

# The

# Detroit Museum of Art

# Annual Report

OF THE

Trustees for the Year Ending June 30, 1901, together with the Reports of the Director and Treasurer

#### Members of the Corporation

PERCY IVES RUSSELL A. ALGER JAMES MCMILLAN GEORGE W. BALCH GEORGE F. MOORE GEORGE N. BRADY WILLIAM H. BREARLEY WILLIAM A. MOORE SIMON J. MURPHY CLARENCE A. BLACK MRS. WILLIAM H. BREARLEY CYRENIUS A. NEWCOMB THOMAS W. PALMER THEODORE D. BUHL EDWARD W. PENDLETON GEORGE G. BOOTH WILLIAM E. QUINBY DON M. DICKINSON GEORGE S. DAVIS JAMES E. SCRIPPS ALLAN SHELDEN JOHN M. DONALDSON MRS. E. C. SKINNER MRS. GRACE WHITNEY EVANS FRED. E. FARNSWORTH MRS. H. H. H. CRAPO SMITH FREDERICK STEARNS DEXTER M. FERRY MRS. J. T. STERLING CHARLES L. FREER ARMOND H. GRIFFITH EDWARD W. VOIGT JOHN L. HARPER E. CHANDLER WALKER FRANK J. HECKER BRYANT WALKER MRS. E. G. HOLDEN MRS. R. STORRS WILLIS COLLINS B. HUBBARD H. KIRKE WHITE

Annual Meeting of Incorporators, first Monday in July.

#### Roll of Deceased Members

CHRISTOPHER R. MABLE	v						Died	June 30, 1885
WILLIS E. WALKER							"	May —, 1886
FRANCIS PALMS .							"	Nov. 24, 1886
		•	•	100	1		"	
GEORGE H. HAMMOND	•		•					Dec. 29, 1886
MRS. MORSE STEWART		•				* 17	"	May 27, 1888
MRS. ROBERT P. TOMS		•		•			44	June 17, 1888
JOSEPH BLACK .	• (0 1)							July 26, 1891
HENRY P. BALDWIN			,				"	Dec. 31, 1892
CHRISTIAN H. BUHL							"	Jan. 23, 1894
SAMUEL R. MUMFORD				L. N.			6.6	May 23, 1894
Lewis T. Ives					100		"	Dec. 13, 1894
JAMES L. EDSON .						•	"	Aug. 25, 1895
CHARLES ENDICOTT					. 111		• •	Jan. 17, 1896
BELA HUBBARD .							"	June 13, 1896
JOSEPH PERRIEN .	•						"	Mar. 3, 1896
JOHN L. WARREN .							"	Aug. 10. 1896
GEORGE V. N. LOTHROP				•	•		"	July 12, 1897
HIRAM WALKER .						. 1	66	Jan. 12, 1899
MARTIN S. SMITH .							**	Oct. 28, 1899
GEORGE H. SCRIPPS							"	April 13, 1900
SULLIVAN M. CUTCHEON								April 18, 1900
DAVID WHITNEY, JR.							**	Nov. 28, 1900

## Form of Bequest

T Do hereby Give, devise and bequeath to the DETROIT MUSEUM OF ART, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Michigan, with its home office in said State—

Bequests may be made in Money, Books, Paintings, Sculpture, and all Works of Art.

#### Trustees for 1901=1902

PERCY IVES						Term	Expires	1902
BRYANT WALKER .			•		•	"	"	1902
GEORGE N. BRADY .						"	"	1902
FRANK J. HECKER .						""	"	1903
THEO. D. BUHL .						"	"	1903
John McKibben	(City	Appo	intee)			"	"	1903
WILLIAM E. QUINBY		WE 50				"	""	1904
CLARENCE A. BLACK							"	1904
GEORGE H. BARBOUR	(City	Appo	intee)	•		"	"	1904
THOMAS PITTS	(City	Appo	intee)			"	""	1905
JOHN M. DONALDSON			•			"	"	1905
FRED E. FARNSWORTH	Ŧ .	•				"	"	1905

Trustee Meetings are held on the second Saturday of July, October,
January and April, at 4 P. M.

#### Officers for 1901=1902

President .						GEORGE N. BRADY
Vice-President					•	HENRY P. BALDWIN
Secretary and T	reas	urer		,		FRED E. FARNSWORTH
Director .						A. H. GRIFFITH

# Detroit Museum of Art



DECEMBER 11, 1900.

ON account of many of the incorporators being out of the city, the annual meeting was not held until December 11th, at which time an invitation was extended to the members of the common council and other city officials to be present.

This was accepted, and a number attended, at which time the following reports of the President, Trustees and Treasurer, together with that of the Director, were read and approved.

The officers for the past year have been: President, Mr. D. M. Ferry; Vice-President, Mr. George N. Brady; Treasurer, Mr. Collins B. Hubbard; Secretary, Mr. Fred E. Farnsworth.

# President's Report

To the Incorporators of the Detroit Museum of Art.

GENTLEMEN:

As you are quite well aware, we are all men occupied with business affairs which require the greater part of our time and energies, and in the management of such an institution as this, we must of necessity depend largely upon the ability and confidence reposed in those who are actively and directly connected with the work. It would not be possible for any one of us to be thoroughly conversant with the details, unless he was so situated that he might give almost his entire time to it. It is for this reason that we have an Executive Committee and through them, and the reports made by the directors at the various meetings, we are enabled to sum up the year's work.

The Executive Committee for the past year, composed of Mr. George N. Brady, Mr. John McKibben and Mr. Henry P. Baldwin, together with the secretary, Mr. Fred E. Farnsworth,

has been most efficient and has kept in direct touch with the work. The residences of Mr. McKibben and Mr. Brady being near by, and Mr. Baldwin's place of business almost as near, has given them opportunities to frequently visit the institution, and in a general way keep an over-sight that has been most valuable.

The continued and increased interest in the Museum by all classes of people, is abundantly shown by the number of visitors registered for the year (134,076); far the larger part has been on Sundays, but this in no way detracts from the fact that large numbers come during week days also.

Particularly is this true of the visits made by the pupils of private and public schools, to whom the collections are of the greatest possible value as a means of study. There have been numerous gifts during the year as will be seen by reference to the list, chief among which I may mention those of Mr. H. Kirke White and Mr. Frederick Stearns. These two gentlemen have made it possible for us to get together a good Egyptian collection which is now being put in shape for exhibition. Mr. Stearns, always a liberal donor, has made many valuable additions to the collections which he has already given to the institution. Mr. John E. King and Mr. Chas. L. Freer have made liberal cash donations. Hon. T. W. Palmer has fitted up and beautified the Mary W. Roby room at his own expense.

Chas. Waltensperger presented a full sized copy in oil of Rembrandt's ''Man With the Staff'' from the original in the Louvre.

Some years since, Ex-Governor Baldwin bequeathed his collection of marbles to the Museum, provided a room could be arranged for them. They consist of some twenty-five pieces, busts and groups, a part of which is known as the General Cass Collection, the other pieces being secured by Gov. Baldwin at different times when he was abroad. Mrs. Baldwin has signified her readiness to turn them over to the Museum. They will occupy the lower West corridor opening from the present court, and will no doubt prove of interest, and of value to our present collection of casts.

While Museums are undoubtedly, like all other enterprises influenced in their growth by environment and circumstances, I am with regret compelled to say, that though each year shows some advancement the Art side of our institution has not developed in the same degree as others, no less important perhaps, but of an entirely different character. This, as I have said, is no doubt due to surrounding circumstances. The growth of art in all ages has been of necessity a slow one, and we can only hope that as the City grows in wealth and culture, this side of our work may increase in activity and become what its friends most earnestly wish for.

The new addition to the Museum is something greatly needed and it is sincerely hoped a way may be found by which the work can begin early in the spring, so that it may be finished by next fall.

Respectfully,

D. M. FERRY, President.

# Trustees' Report

To the Incorporators of the Detroit Museum of Art.

GENTLEMEN:

THE Trustees of the Detroit Museum of Art beg to submit the following report for the fiscal year:

At the beginning of the year, certain plans were formulated for various improvements in different branches of the work pertaining to the Museum; and notwithsanding the fact that sickness and death prevented the carrying out of all the plans contemplated, the results attained so far are eminently satisfactory.

One of the improvements made was that suggested by Ex-President Barbour. The arrangement and finishing of a new Board Room in the west wing, which is also used by the Director as a private office, enabling him to carry on his work with less interruption; and with the amount of new material donated, offers better security than heretofore. This new Board Room also does away with the many disagreeable features with which the trustees contended when meeting in the front office.

Many opportunities have arisen during the past year, whereby valuable additions were purchased at exceptionally low figures, which add materially to different collections in the Museum, among which might be enumerated the following:

A number of good casts—reproductions of the original antiques, now in collection of classical art, and which were purchased at the close of the Pompeiian Festival, held in the Masonic Temple.

A collection of antique glass, sent from Syria, and which had been on exhibition, as a loan, for some time. Before purchasing this collection, the matter was submitted to Mr. Stearns,

he being thoroughly posted on the value of such material, and who stated that it was worth many times the price asked.

During an exhibition held by Mr. August Koopman, several pictures attracted attention, especially one entitled a "Katwyk Court Yard," which is now the property of the Museum.

In addition to the purchases mentioned, is a long list of donations, too numerous to mention.

The wide spread influence of the work of the Museum, and the interest created throughout the entire city, as well as state, are too well known to need any comment.

The public officials of the city of Detroit are entitled to the thanks of the community for the yearly appropriation toward the maintenance of the Museum, and the employees of the Museum, are also to be commended for their unflagging devotion and untiring labor in its interests.

Too much credit cannot be given our Director, Professor Griffith, and the late Assistant-Director, Mr. Bradish, for their efforts, resulting in a continuance of the liberal patronage accorded us by the City of Detroit and popularizing our Museum.

Each year finds one or more breaks in the list of Incorporators. In the last fifteen years, twenty-two have passed away, the last one being Mr. David Whitney, Jr., whose death occurred on November 28th, 1900, soon after the last meeting. He was one of the original forty who helped to found the institution.

The sad death on August 15th last of Assistant-Director W. K. Bradish, came as a great shock to all who knew him. He had been connected with the Museum for so long a time, that he seemed a part of the institution, and its work. In him we lost a faithful servant and courteous young gentleman.

In looking over the year's work, in which there are many reasons for congratulation, we are again reminded that its first great aim was the fostering of fine arts, and even with the limited resources at hand, every effort has been made in this direction. Aside from the general expense of maintenance and proper protection of property, no money has ever been expended except in the line of art. All the other departments have developed as the result of spontaneous gifts of our citizens, which would seem to indicate, in a large measure, the wants of the masses. Had we confined our work entirely to the original

idea, there is no doubt but what, in some degree, the art department would have gained, but, would it have been sufficient to have proved a success? The facts do not warrant such a belief; while, on the other hand, the success attending the Museum's present broad policy is unquestioned.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED E. FARNSWORTH, Secretary.

# Treasurer's Report

#### DISBURSEMENTS

July 1, 1900 to June 30, 1901.

Printing								•	\$ 277	20
Light .				•			. (110)		200	68
Fuel .		9. 17					1.00	,	227	89
Postage		i. Hon	6 000	1.14			a line		84	92
Salaries	· Wall	A politic		Y Win		0.24	,		4,898	72
Library	•	ay cyr							100	69
Property							•		1,551	20
Repairs		•					•	•	810	93
Exhibitions									478	06
General Expe	ense			•	•	•			593	58
Photographs			•				•		26	90
Interest			•		•			•	289	00
Building	•				•47A()	•	•	•	326	73
Paid outstand	ling	notes	(defi	cit of	form	er ye	ars)		2,146	10
									\$12,012	60

This is for vouchers paid by City Controller, numbers 1 to 101 inclusive.

> FRED E. FARNSWORTH, Secretary. Acting for the Treasurer.

# Director's Report

To the Incorporators of the Detroit Museum of Art.

GENTLEMEN:

In many ways this has been an unusual year in the Museum's history. Naturally in such an institution the work should increase, but it would hardly be expected to go by such leaps as has marked the period of the last twelve months; the immediate demands of each day often entirely check the work laid out for that particular time and thus it goes over to be added to that of another day.

It has become a place where all the people come for information, nor is this confined to our citizens alone. Almost every mail brings a letter of inquiry from other cities on some question; and this is right, the Museum should be a center of education as valuable as the Public Library.

On an average, two classes a week from the public and private schools, with their teachers, have come to study in some department of the collections. We are constantly called upon for the loan of photographs and other material to illustrate some phase of study in the schools and clubs. In this, as far as we are able, every effort is made to accommodate the applicants, and we often keep the Museum open after hours in order that teachers and others may visit it at a time which is most convenient to them; in fact, no reasonable request that we are able to grant is refused, though it often means a sacrifice on the part of the Museum employees and delays in our own work.

Over four thousand objects have been added during the past year. The mounting, recording, casing and labeling of these is an endless task, the greater part of which must be done after hours. I need not say that in the matter of labels alone there is unceasing research in every available channel of information. The matter of keeping the collections and Museum clean and presentable is no small task and requires constant care and attention.

I had hardly recovered from a serious illness in February, when Mr. Bradish was stricken with a fever which ended in his death August 15th. In Mr. Bradish I lost a faithful worker, loyal, earnest, honest and sincere. The Museum also lost a splendid young man at the very time when he had become the most valuable to it. He had grown up with it, knew the people, and by them was known and liked for his gentlemanly ways. Quick to make friends, he was able to retain them, and those who knew him best loved him most. Generous to a fault, he was always willing to go out of his way to do a service. Ambitious to succeed, he left no stone unturned that might be of value to him and the institution, and in his eleven years of service he had secured a liberal education that made him doubly valuable. Dozens of letters from rich and poor and from other institutions who knew him as a visitor only, attest his worth.

Several years ago we should have had another young man as an understudy, for no matter how intelligent or well educated the man, he cannot be of much real value in a place like this, except by long years of actual service and schooling in the work, but at that time we did not feel able to stand the expense.

After consulting with members of the Executive Committee, I have taken on two young men, Mr. Clyde Burroughs and Mr. Theodore Perry. They were selected from over a hundred applicants, have now been with me several weeks, and my judgment is that they will prove in time to be valuable and by that time there will be plenty of work for both.

There are several recommendations I should like to make: First—The purchase of a small printing press. Both of the young men are somewhat familiar with this sort of work and we could keep it in almost daily use printing labels and other small work which we are now sending out, causing loss of time and expense, as it is all of such a character that we must constantly be overlooking it. The expense need not be over \$75.00, and would pay for itself in a very short time.

Second—Our front porch is entirely open to the public and it is quite desirable for many reasons, chief of which is security,

that it should be railed in with ornamental iron or grille work, with gates opening in the center, to be locked at night. The expense can be anywhere from \$200.00 to \$400.00, depending of course on the design.

Third—In 1891 the first report of the Museum was issued. It was in the nature of an historical report, giving the transactions up to that time, and one has followed every year since. It would seem to me most fitting and opportune that this year, celebrating as it does a decade of its history, it should be more pretentious. I would like to make it of a descriptive character, giving a short, concise account of the collections, with some illustrations of the more important pictures and articles in the various departments. Other museums are doing this and it would make it a valuable book of reference.

More than two years ago it was thought desirable to have an addition to the present building, and Mr. George H. Barbour, at that time President, subscribed twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) toward the movement. This subscription he is willing shall stand.

At the last meeting of the Trustees the matter was fully discussed and I was authorized to see what further could be done in the matter. Owing to the death of Mr. Bradish shortly after, it was delayed until the beginning of the Sunday lectures. Since then I have used every means that seemed opportune and have secured some further subscriptions. I believe I could have secured the greater part of the amount by this time but for the unfortunate disasters that have lately befallen our city, which made it seem best to give the matter up temporarily. That we are in urgent need of this building, particularly for a lecture room, there is no doubt, otherwise we must of necessity abandon that part of the work, as under the present arrangement we completely block all our galleries and even then are not able to accommodate the audiences. I do not like to urge this matter too strongly, but it would seem to me that in a city like Detroit, where there is so much wealth, the matter of raising \$30,000.00 for such a purpose ought not to fail. The most beautiful memorial in the city of Chicago today is the Fullerton Memorial Hall, which is a part of the Chicago Art Institute and built by one man in memory of his father.

I cannot close without thanking the Incorporators, Trustees and Executive Committee for their encouragement and confidence in my work; the press of the city for their unfailing courtesy and willingness to give publicity to the work of the Museum; the city officials, who have unanimously approved of the expenditures necessary to make the Museum free; and the entire city for their splendid appreciation of my poor efforts in their behalf.

Respectfully,

A. H. GRIFFITH, Director.

## Resolutions of Thanks

RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Incorporators and officers of the Detroit Museum of Art be and are expressed to the Press of this city for their continued kindness to this institution. Their generous support is greatly appreciated.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Incorporators be extended to the President, Mr. D. M. Ferry, and to Trustee, Mr. C. A. Newcomb, whose terms expire by limitation.

In these two gentlemen the museum has found most earnest and willing officers, who, with timely advice and earnest interest, were ever ready to devote their valuable time to make its efforts successful.

# Obituary

Shortly after our last meeting Mr. David Whitney, Jr., was called from this life to the one beyond.

Mr. Whitney was one of the original Incorporators of this institution and while not active in its affairs was known as a patron of the arts.

RESOLVED, That in the death of Mr. Whitney the museum lost one of its early friends whose interest and generosity made a beginning possible.

RESOLVED, That the above be spread upon the records of the Detroit Museum of Art and a copy sent to his family.

The death of Mr. W. K. Bradish on August 15th, after a very brief illness, came as a shock to all who knew him. He had been in the service of the museum since 1890, and was, as a mark of the Trustees' confidence, made assistant director in 1897.

RESOLVED, That in the death of Mr. Bradish the museum lost a faithful and efficient employee, who was ever ready to sacrifice his own interests to that of the institution.

RESOLVED, That the above be placed on record and a copy sent to his sister.

20 Elections

# Elections

Mr. H. Kirke White was unanimously elected an Incorporator.

Mr. John M. Donaldson and Mr. Fred. E. Farnsworth were unanimously elected members of the Board of Trustees, to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Mr. D. M. Ferry and Mr. C. A. Newcomb, their term of office having expired.

Mr. Henry P. Baldwin was reappointed by the mayor to succeed himself as a member of the Trustee Board.

# Special Exhibitions

Detroit Mycological Club,		October 13 to 21, 1900
C. Harry Allis,	46	January 14, 1901
Augustus Koopman,	28	December, 1900
Albert Fleury,	43	November 4 to 30, 1900
A. E. Albright,	27	December, 1900
Western Artists,	103	February 4 to 23, 1901
Miss Janette Guyse,	21	February, 1901
Mr. J. H. Sharpe,	94	January, 1901
Miss Mary S. Dunlap,	45	Mar. 26 to Apr. 10, 1901
Miss Marie Greiderer,	32	Mar. 26 to Apr. 10, 1901
Chas. Scribner's Sons	124	March and April, 1901
Wm. B. Conely,	76	April 15 to 27, 1901
Mr. Rob't Hopkin,	85	May 15, 1901
Berlin Photographic Co. and	1	August, 1901
Braun Clement Co.	•	riugust, 1901
Chas. F. Ault,		

# Special Events

- December 11, 1900—"Art of To-day and Home Decoration," Augustus Koopman.
- January 10, 1901—"The Deserted Cities of Syria," by Mr. Howard Crosby Butler, for Archæological Society.
- January 26, 1901—"The Habits and Customs of the American Indian," Mrs. J. H. Sharpe.
- February 14, 1901—"The Recent Excavation of the Roman Forum," Prof. Sam'l B. Planter, for Archæological Society.
- March 26, 1901—" Delphi and The French Excavations," Rev. Martin Luther D'Ooge, LL. D., Archæological Society.

# Topics

The following is a list of topics used for Sunday talks by the Director:

October						((Thoughts for the American Antique
	9,	1900,		•		"Thoughts for the American Artisan
**	18,	"			180	"Unappreciated Pictures
"	25,	"				"The Great Masters
Novembe	r 2,	"				. "The Homes of Great Pictures
**	9,	"	BHUN.			. "The Idealization of a Thought
"	18,	"	-			"Men Who Left a Mark
"	25,	**				"Buried Art
December	r 8,	"				"Forgotten Monuments
"	16,	"				"Old Gods and Goddesses
**	23,	"				"Tradition and History
January	13,	1901,	"A	ncie	nt Eg	gyptian Burial," given by Mr. C. Leidic
February	10,	"				"American Art
"	17,	"				"Recent Excavations
"	25,	"				"Does the World Owe Us a Living
March	3,	"				"Durer and Nuremburg
"	9,	**				"About the Parthenon
***	17,	"				
April	7,					"Illustrators and Painters
	15,					"Thorwaldsen
**	23,	"				"Modern Illustrators
May	ı,	"				"Art Impulse

## **Bifts**

#### ART DEPARTMENT

WRIGHT, KAY & Co.

Five plaster reproductions of antique vases; three fac-similes of wine glasses found at Pompeii.

Mr. Chas. W. Waltensperger.

Copy of Rembrandt's portrait of the "Man with the Staff," painted from the original in the Louvre.

F. K. AND W. I. L. STEARNS.

Marble bust and pedestal of Mr. Frederick Stearns.

HON. T. W. PALMER.

\$273.00 to purchase plaster casts of the Parthenon.

Augustus Koopman.

One oil painting, "A Katwyk Court Yard."

#### ARCHÆOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

MR. M. D. GRAVES.

Three small stone Mexican gods.

MISS GRACE FLETCHER.

One Indian stone pipe.

EGYPTIAN EXPLORATION SOCIETY, from the excavations at Abydos.

One string fine blue beads; two strings fine cornelian beads; two strings fine cornelian and green beads; twenty-nine Ushabtiu figures.

#### COIN DEPARTMENT

MR. J. E. ALLI.

Collection of copper and silver coins of Hindustan, India.

#### ETHNOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

MISS CECILIA E. WATERHOUSE, Ypsilanti.

One model of Indian loom and partly woven blanket; one terra cotta model Tortillo board, bowl and roller.

#### HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT

MRS. M. C. WATSON.

One antique brass ladle; one Revolutionary bayonet.

CAPTAIN PARTRIDGE.

One cannon ball from the boat Helen sunk on the Thames in 1812.

MISS MARY J. MESSENGER.

Thirteen pieces Colonial table glassware; twenty-three pieces Colonial tableware; three pieces Colonial pewter; one Colonial clock.

Mrs. McFarland.

One pair Mexican spurs.

MRS. A. W. HINMAN.

One piece English bed hanging, dates from 1785.

#### LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

Mrs. J. N. Bagley.

Sixteen volumes (unbound) American Journal of Archæology.

MR. CHARLES L. FREER.

One copy illustrated catalogue Japanese pottery, by Prof. E. S. Morse.

- Mr. F. RATHBONE, London, Eng.
  One copy catalogue Sanderson's collection of old wedgewood.
- Mr. Frederick K. Stearns.

  Large photograph, framed, of his father, Mr. Frederick Stearns.
- REV. W. C. WINSLOW, Boston.

  One copy printed description of 118 pieces papyri, discovered by the
- MRS. M. C. WATSON.

  Three numbers London Art Journal.

Egyptian Exploration Society.

#### PRINT DEPARTMENT

P. M. Keating.

Forty-three engravings of architectural subjects.

#### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

- MRS. F. W. OLDS.
  One Indian basket.
- A. H. McDermot.

  One specimen copper.
- MRS. MAJOR HANDBURY.
  One mounted blue heron.
- LEOPOLD FREUD.

  One large piece meteorite.
- MRS. P. H. SAYER COBB. Eight mineral specimens.