

Bulletin of The Detroit Museum of Art

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A NEW LIFE MEMBER

By virtue of his gift of One Thousand (\$1000) Dollars, Mr. Elliott T. Slocum has been added to the Roll of Life-Members of the Detroit Museum of Art.

Mr. Slocum has long been interested in the Museum and its activities, having loaned articles of much historic interest. He was not aware until recently of the provision in the law under which the Museum was incorporated that persons contributing one thousand dollars in money or works of art were made members of the Corporation for life, and he expressed the regret that he had not learned of it sooner. This makes the number of Incorporators sixty-five.

GOTHIC CHAIR GIVEN

Mr. Clarence Whybrow of New York has presented a replica of a fine old Gothic Chair as a nucleus of a permanent furniture collection.

Mr. Whybrow assisted in the recent

Exhibition of Rugs and Period Furniture at the Museum, both in the arrangement of the collection and the loan of important examples, and his pleasure in the wide interest in that exhibition led him to make this gift.

The Chair in polychrome is a copy of Italian Gothic, fine in design and excellent in its workmanship. It is of that period of Italian Gothic which shows the beginning of the reaction against the symbols of the church. The trefoil and quatre foil, the one denoting The Trinity, the other symbolic of the Four Evangelists, is modified by leaf and flower designs suggestive of the coming Renaissance period. The fantastic animals and figures expressive of the vices and virtues, characteristic of all Gothic, are also somewhat suggestive of the approaching change. It probably dates from the last half of the Fifteenth century.



Gothic Chair with down cushion, presented by Mr. Clarence Whybrow as a nucleus of a collection of furniture.

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PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE
DETROIT MUSEUM OF ART

Incorporated February 16th, 1885

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UNDER THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912.

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Vice-President, MILTON A. McRAE
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Director, CHARLES MOORE

Secretary and Acting Director,
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For the term expiring 1916
HENRY G. STEVENS GUSTAVUS D. POPE
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For the term expiring 1918
FREDERICK H. HOLT RALPH H. BOOTH
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ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Incorporators of the Detroit Museum of Art was held on Friday, June 11th. As pointed out in the reports of the President and Secretary, there are many reasons for felicitation. Two portions of the President's Report are well worth emphasis.

"It may be a trifle unbecoming to indulge in self-praise, but I cannot refrain from repeating what appears to be a general feeling and what I hope has been spoken sincerely, i. e., that the Museum is furnishing art lovers of Detroit a better meeting ground for exchange of ideas and inspirations than it has in the past. We have aimed for a more general co-operative feeling among

the organizations and lovers of all the varied art endeavors in the city. That some have felt this and expressed it to us gives the Trustees enthusiasm for further endeavors. It has been a year of harmonious work on the Board and we hope the public response and appreciation is actual and sincere. I must mention likewise in passing that we think that our work is being co-ordinated better with interests outside of Detroit as well. Even with our unsightly and inadequate building we feel we are commanding greater recognition about the country than formerly. It is a pleasure to mention that the number of calls and courtesies from out of town artists and the Directors and Trustees of other Museums has been unusually large this year. Their expressions of satisfaction have been pleasantly encouraging. We are receiving increasing co-operation and notice from the art organizations, journals and critics."

"Your Trustees have postponed until next year one project which they had hoped to work out, i. e., an organization of the Friends of the Detroit Museum of Art along the lines of the Friends of the American Art in Chicago and the Friends of the Albright Gallery in Buffalo, which societies have done so much for the respective art galleries of those two cities. We have the nucleus of this in our Picture Fund Subscribers. I sincerely hope the incoming Board can organize such a body for our Museum."

The Report of the Secretary called attention to the many important accessions during the year, enumerated the exhibitions and lectures and reviewed other activities. The following recommendations for the coming year were contained in the report:

"With increased activity and a wider influence I believe the time will arrive when the citizens of Detroit will share to a greater degree in carrying the burdens of the Museum. It is highly desirable that a larger number engage in the active work and enjoy the pleasure to be had therefrom. We seek the ac-

tive co-operation of the citizens and want them to feel that they are a part of the institution. If one hundred citizens could be secured who would pool their interest in building up the Museum's permanent collection, forming themselves into an auxiliary organization for this purpose, one of the greatest needs would be cared for. Legacies are very desirable, but the active interest of men and women during their lifetime is more so."

"The Museum should be the center of all art activities of the city. It should furnish instruction to children, healthful recreation and research for grown-ups. It should be the storehouse for the student and the inspiration of the artist. Its influence should be felt in the home and in the civic life of the community. That it may serve all these ends to a fuller degree, I would like to see a Museum Instructor added to our staff whose duty it will be to act as a guide in the galleries, instructing school children and their teachers, study clubs, and groups of citizens who desire it. Our work with the public schools would grow I am sure just as soon as we are prepared to do our share in the matter of competent guide service."

ETCHINGS OF SALVATOR ROSA

Mrs. George D. Huntington has presented to the Print Department of the Detroit Museum of Art two etchings by Salvator Rosa, an Italian artist of the Seventeenth century. Rosa, who is celebrated as a painter, produced about ninety etchings in a spirited and masterly style. They are distinguished by intelligent management of the light and shade and uncommon vivacity and expression in the heads. The two given to the Museum are of a set of sixty-two prints of banditti soldiers and other figures.

The Detroit Museum of Art has received as a gift from Mr. Mortimer L. Schiff, of New York, a portfolio containing seventy-two reproductions of

drawings by the Old Masters now in his collection. The drawings were collected more than a century ago by Joseph Green Cogswell, Superintendent of the Astor Library. In the original collection there were four hundred drawings by Old Masters of various schools, predominating in the drawings of the Italian masters of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth centuries.

Mr. Schiff, following the suggestion of Mr. Fitzroy Carrington, Curator of Prints of the Boston Museum, and publisher of "The Print Collector's Quarterly," has had printed twenty-five portfolios for distribution to various institutions of art, deeming that in this form they may be particularly serviceable to students of drawing. While the Portfolio contains less than a fifth of the drawings of the Cogswell-Schiff collection, it indicates wide range and excellent quality.

In his excellent "notes" on the collection, Mr. George Hellman calls attention to the fact "that the attributions are those of the original owner, and that although the intelligence of his attributions is manifest, in a few instances their validity is open to question. The drawing ascribed to Durer is surely the work of a lesser artist; the study given to Raffaele, a very delightful drawing, may be by one of his pupils, or by Sogliani, whose Adoration of the Magi (in the Uffizi) it resembles; and the two sketches attributed to Velasquez are almost certainly by Rubens.

"Through these fac-similes we can realize both the aesthetic and the intellectual appeal of sketches by great masters. We move in the realm of ideas, where all non-essentials are brushed aside. Color, the most patently beautiful quality in the phenomenal world, is here not necessary to our gratification, and in slight studies, which are even more interesting than highly finished drawings, we dispense with all the details which tend to obfuscate the beauty of a germinal idea vitally interpreted."

ANNOUNCEMENT

Beginning with the October number, the BULLETIN will be published monthly for eight months in the year. In form it will be substantially the same as at present, though there may be a fewer number of pages. This change is thought desirable as it will give an opportunity at the beginning of each month to forecast the events and activities of that month, whereas as a quarterly, it has been largely a review of past activities.

ACQUISITIONS

Mr. Elliott T. Slocum gave one thousand (\$1,000) dollars cash.

Mrs. George D. Huntington presented two etchings by Salvator Rosa.

Mr. Clarence Whybrow presented a replica of an Italian gothic chair with down cushion.

Mr. Mortimer L. Schiff presented a Portfolio of Reproductions of Drawings by the Old Masters.

Mrs. Charles Hastings gave two pieces of old pewter.

Mr. D. M. Ferry, Jr., gave a volume "East Christian Paintings in the Freer

Collection" in the name of Prof. Francis W. Kelsey.

Miss Elizabeth Kirby gave the following books:

"Thorwaldsen and His Works" by J. M. Thiel, (4 volumes).

"The Entry of Alexander the Great into Babylon" by Thorwaldsen.

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by F. O. C. Darley.

"Passages from Modern English Poets," illustrated by the Junior Etching Club.

"Etchings, Views on the Thames."

ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE:

"The Story of American Painting," by Caffin.

"Drawings of Rembrandt," by Malcolm Bell.

"Drawings of Leonardo DaVinci," by C. Lewis Hind.

"The Master Etchers—Rembrandt," by A. H. Hind.

"German Masters of Art," by Helen A. Dickinson.

"Winslow Homer," by Kenyon Cox.

"What Pictures to see in America," by Lorindo Munson Bryant.

