

# Museum of Fine Arts Bulletin

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## The Administration of the Museum.

AT the quarterly meeting of the Trustees of the Museum held July 18 last, Samuel D. Warren, President of the Museum since January, 1901, informed the Trustees that he would not be a candidate for reelection at the expiration of his present term. At the annual meeting, January 17, Gardiner M. Lane was chosen to succeed Mr. Warren. The following resolutions were passed by the Trustees in view of Mr. Warren's retirement:

*Voted:* That we here record our grateful appreciation of the devoted service which Mr. Warren has given to the Museum since he became a member of this Board.

Whatever added efficiency the Boston Museum of Fine Arts may acquire by its transfer to enlarged quarters will be in great part due to his foresight and courageous initiative.

He has given his time and strength to the exhaustive consideration of the needs of our collections, and has spared no pains to make sure that the new buildings shall meet every reasonable requirement.

To this end he has initiated and carried out the most thorough study of the difficult problems of Museum arrangement and administration of which we have knowledge.

As a result of these efforts, we believe that an important advance has been made in the science of fine arts exhibition which will be of lasting benefit to ourselves and to other museums both in this country and elsewhere.

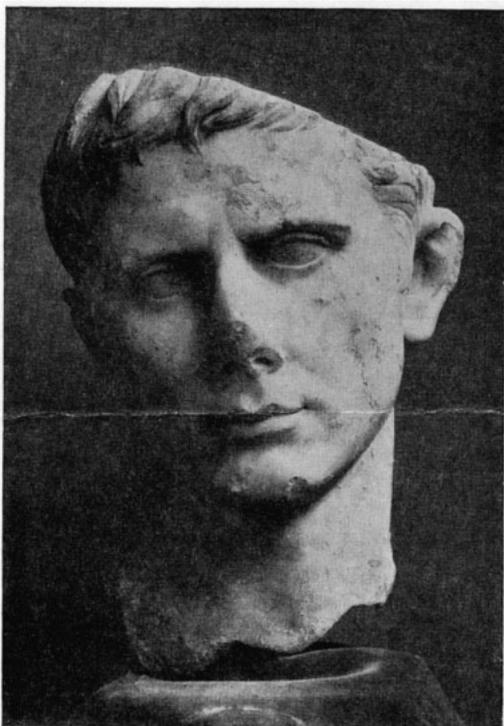
Mr. Lane was appointed a Trustee of the Museum January 18, 1906, and has since served as a member of the Building Committee.

J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., since the same date Temporary Director of the Museum, resigned that position at the annual meeting, having previously notified the Trustees that it would be impossible for him to perform the duties of Director beyond that time. Benjamin Ives Gilman, Secretary of the Museum, was appointed Temporary Director. In accepting Mr. Coolidge's resignation, the Trustees passed the following vote:

*Resolved,* That the Board wishes to place on record its high appreciation of the services of J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., as Director during the past year, a position which he has filled with marked ability, generosity, and fine civic spirit.

The Committee of the Trustees, to which had been referred the matter of the permanent Directorship, reported at the annual meeting that a number of persons had been under consideration for the position, but that the committee was not yet prepared to name a candidate.

## Two Marble Heads of the Emperor Augustus.



Head of Augustus

Gift of Edward W. Forbes

PROBABLY no man of ancient times was more generally honored by the dedication of portrait statues than the Emperor Augustus, whose diplomatic and military genius, enforced by an indomitable will, restored civil order after a generation of conflict, and imposed the *pax Romana* on the Mediterranean world. In the provinces the Emperor was openly deified, though it is said that he allowed divine honors to himself only in association with the worship of divine Rome. So on the Acropolis at Athens a temple of Roma and Augustus rose under the shadow of the Parthenon; many such were built, we may believe, in the Greek and Asiatic cities of the empire.

The demand for portraits of the Emperor, both at home and abroad, must have been incessant, and, considering the length of his reign and the

### Notes.

MR. A. SHUMAN was elected a Trustee of the Museum at the Annual Meeting of the Board, January 17.

MR. FRANK H. DAMON has been appointed Assistant Treasurer of the Museum.

A BRIEF SUPPLEMENT to the catalogue of Greek and Roman casts is in the press. It contains descriptions of casts added to the collections since the last edition was published, and a location index to all those now on exhibition. A copy of this supplement will be furnished with every copy of the catalogue sold.

THE RESULTS OF THE EXCAVATIONS carried on last year at Gizeh under the auspices of the Museum and Harvard University, and in charge of Dr. Reisner and Mr. Lythgoe, have proved most gratifying. The resignation of Mr. Lythgoe as curator of the department has caused some slight delay in the installation of the objects secured. Several important pieces also have yet to arrive. Of those already received, a brief account will be found in the annual report of the Egyptian Department.

THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT of the Museum is about to appear.

ADMISSIONS TO THE MUSEUM during the months of November and December were 37,155, as compared with 36,719 for the corresponding period of last year. The attendance on Sundays in November and December was 20,355, against 16,540 for the same months in 1905. The admissions during the past year were 261,144, including 196,262 for Saturdays, Sundays, and the five public holidays when the Museum was open free. The paid admissions were 21,906. The average number of visitors to the Museum on Sundays was 2,243. The figures for the year 1905 were as follows: total, 249,239; Sundays and Saturdays and holidays, 176,533; and 19,535 paid admissions. The average number of Sunday visitors was 2,175.

FREE TICKETS OF ADMISSION were granted during the year just past to 636 teachers in public schools, admitting them to the Museum with their pupils on all days in the year; 1851 annual tickets were issued to instructors and students in colleges and schools, 329 to artists, 733 to special students, 70 to classes of a large number of pupils; 576 transferable tickets were issued to teachers to be used by any member of a class.

THE CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR were \$76,981.56, as against \$77,156.35 for 1905. The total of annual subscriptions received during the year toward defraying this amount was \$17,966 from 1,037 subscribers, as compared with \$14,280 from 1,071 subscribers for 1905. The amount received last year was the largest received from annual subscribers since the Museum was

founded, the next largest being in 1891, when \$16,458 was received. The expenses for the past year were \$174.79 less than those for 1905, and the contributions of annual subscribers \$3,686 more.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CHINESE AND JAPANESE ART will shortly install in the New Japanese Cabinet an exhibition of Japanese sword guards (*tsuba*). The three hundred or so specimens exhibited have been selected by Mr. Kakuya Okabe, metal expert in the Department, from over one thousand examples. The large loan collections of Dr. Bigelow and Dr. Weld, together with that of Dr. Ross, which has recently been presented to the Museum, have been drawn upon, as well as those of other collectors in Boston and elsewhere. The artist, the designer, and the metal worker will discover in this exhibition a profitable field for study, rich in examples of the best work of the metal artists and *tsuba* makers of Japan.

A LANDSCAPE BY J. H. TWACHTMAN, entitled "February," has just been acquired by the Museum from the Charles H. Hayden fund for the purchase of pictures by American artists. It is a painting of great atmospheric truth, representing a typical New England brook between snow-covered hills. The general composition of the picture corresponds in attractiveness to its charm and truth of tone. The plane relations of the snow and sky are considered in a large manner, but are expressed in general terms rather than with an effort at exactitude. The picture has been hung in the fourth gallery.

### Committee on the Utilization of Museums of Art by Schools and Colleges.

THE three lecture courses under the auspices of Simmons College, given this winter in the Museum, are in progress. Mr. Sumner's course, on "Sculpture of the Italian Renaissance," is given on Tuesdays at 4 P. M.; Miss Keyes' course, on "Painting," Thursdays at 3.30 P. M.; and Mr. Deane's course, on "Greek Art," Fridays at 4 P. M. These lectures have the great advantage of illustration by means of objects selected from among the finest of the Museum's possessions, objects impossible to use in a lecture-room outside the Museum building.

Miss Cecilia Beaux will speak for the Committee, on subjects connected with painting, on Tuesday, April 30, and Tuesday, May 7, at 4.30 P. M., at Simmons College, the subject of portrait painting being considered in one of these addresses. Admission to Miss Beaux's lectures will be by ticket. A limited number of tickets will be issued free on application to the Secretary of Simmons College, The Fenway, Boston, or to the Secretary of the Committee at the same address.