

pleting our copy of the memoirs of the old French Academy, from 1666 to 1790, by the purchase of two odd volumes of the memoirs, and ten vols. of the indexes.

By order of the Committee.

WM. P. TATHAM, *Chairman.*

Mr. J. B. Knight, representative of the Institute in the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, presented the following report:

In my Report of June 20th last,¹ the hope was expressed that the schools contemplated in the charter would be put in operation before the end of the year, and I now have the satisfaction of reporting that this has been accomplished.

During the summer a special effort was made to raise funds for the maintenance of the schools, which proving satisfactory, the building No. 312 North Broad Street was secured, and fitted up in a manner admirably suited to the wants of both pupils and teachers.

The course of study decided upon consists of instruction in drawing with instruments, covering the ground of plane and descriptive geometry, projective and perspective, and also free-hand drawing, including manipulation with pencil, charcoal and brush, from study of natural objects, casts, architectural details, and objects from the Museum collection. This will be followed by a study of color, and its application and disposition in design, together with the preparation of original designs suitable for practical application.

The class instruction will be supplemented and reinforced by lectures on kindred subjects.

While the course of instruction adopted presents no novelty, it is intended to make the training thorough, so that those availing themselves of its advantages may be well grounded in the principles underlying what is known as design.

The persons selected as instructors are: Mr. Charles M. Burns, in the artistic division of the course, and Mr. Philip Pistor, in the scientific branches; and, as lecturers, Dr. J. T. Rothrock, on Botany as applied to decorative art, and Mr. Geo. Herzog, on Historic Ornament.

¹ See Vol. civ, page 6, July, 1877.

It having been decided that the instruction shall be free to citizens of the commonwealth, of either sex, it became necessary to adopt a standard of examination that requires a knowledge of the rudiments of drawing on the part of the applicant, and to adopt rules which should demand earnest work of the students, and prevent the classes being filled with incompetent or careless students. This was done with the advice and aid of the instructors, and, out of about 200 applicants, 100 were selected as proficient; and the schools were opened on December 17th, with this number of students, it being the maximum that could be accommodated.

Special classes in art needlework, embroidery and lace-work, have been formed, and Miss Mary Jones Atkinson, from the Royal School of Art Needlework, London, appointed instructor. Tuition in these classes is free to those who are unable to pay, but, to meet the demand for this kind of instruction among persons who were able and willing to pay, a few classes of pay pupils have been formed, and so arranged as not to interfere with the free classes, yet aiding considerably in supporting the schools. The Committee on Instruction has been aided in the organization and management of these classes, by twelve ladies, who have kindly consented to act as an Advisory Committee.

The work of organizing and managing the schools was placed in the hands of the Secretary, Mr. H. Dumont Wagner, under the direction of the Committee on Instruction; and the Trustees speak highly of the manner in which he has performed this as well as his other duties.

It is to be understood that the schools, as now arranged, are but a beginning, to be amplified and extended as circumstances will permit, and if this effort on the part of the trustees meets that support which its importance demands, it must prove of immense value to the industries of the state.

Several valuable and interesting objects have recently been added to the collections, and among those worthy of special mention are the models, in cork, of Windsor Castle and the Tower of London, by Lloyd Hoppin. These were presented by a committee of members.

The number of visitors to the Museum collection in Memorial Hall since the opening, May 10th, 1877, to Jan. 1st, 1878, was 147,113. The Trustees, wishing to give the widest effect to the educational influences of the collections, decided to open them to the public on Sun-

days, and this was done, commencing July 24th, since which time 20,280 persons have visited the Museum.

In the early part of the year the By-Laws were amended in such a manner as to place the active work of the corporation in the hands of an Executive Committee, consisting of thirteen members of the Board, together with the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary.

An election was held on the 14th inst., with the following result :

President, Coleman Sellers.

Vice-Presidents, Ed. T. Stevens, Wm. Platt Pepper.

Treasurer, Clarence H. Clark.

Secretary, H. D. Wagner.

Executive Committee.—W. H. Merrick, Chapman Biddle, Samuel Wagner, Jr., F. O. Horstmann, W. W. Justice, Thomas Cochran, J. Vaughan Merrick, J. B. Knight, Adam Everly, Wayne McVeagh, T. R. Shelton, J. C. Brown, J. R. Baker.

The Report of the Board of Trustees, giving a history of the corporation, from its organization to Dec. 31st, 1877, will shortly be printed, and then may be had on application at the office, No. 312 North Broad Street.

J. B. KNIGHT.

Mr. Edward R. Andrews, of Boston, Mass., read a paper on creasoting timber, including a description of the Hayford process and apparatus for preserving wood.¹

The Secretary presented his report, embracing Murphy's Pneumatic Fire Extinguisher, Evarts' Health Lift apparatus, and the Eureka Self-Lighting Gas Burner.

The tellers presented their report of the annual election held this day, which was accepted, and, in accordance therewith, the chair declared the following members elected :

President, R. E. Rogers, M. D.

Vice-President, Chas. S. Close.

Secretary, J. B. Knight.

Treasurer, Frederick Fraley.

¹ See page 109.