

Report on the Picture Gallery

The Committee on the Picture Gallery would submit the following Report:

During the year past, there have been added to the Gallery twelve portraits of the early pioneers of the State, and two historical landscapes. The following, painted by Samuel M. Brookes and Thomas H. Stevenson, the artists whose efforts in behalf of our Society, and whose liberality as well as eminent success in their profession, have placed the Society under lasting obligations to them: Hon. John P. Arndt, Gen. Chas. Bracken, Gen. John H. Rountree, Hon. Levi Sterling, Hon. M. M. Cothren, Hon. M. C. Darling, E. D. Clinton, J. H. Lockwood, and Daniel Bread, Chief of the Wisconsin Oneidas. These portraits are an invaluable addition to the Collections of our Society; and when the mists of years shall have thrown a halo of glory over the early settlement of our State, the actors of the Black Hawk war, the heroic participants in the decisive field of the Pecatonica, the Wisconsin Heights, and the Bad Ax, will be our heroes, and their portraits, which now hang so peacefully beside the Indian Chief they so gallantly fought and conquered, will be one of the chief attractions of our Society; and if the Historical Society had done nothing beside, it would have nobly done a good work in obtaining reliable portraits of that gallant band who laid the foundations of our growing State, and rescued from oblivion mementoes of the persons of those so soon to pass off the stage of action.