

**CATALOGUE OF THE
PAINTINGS
IN THE CORCORAN
GALLERY OF ART**

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Catalogue of the Paintings in the Corcoran Gallery of Art by Various

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VARIOUS

**CATALOGUE OF THE
PAINTINGS
IN THE CORCORAN
GALLERY OF ART**

The Corcoran Gallery of Art



J. M. Smith, & Co. N.Y.

W. W. Conover



CATALOGUE
OF THE
PAINTINGS
IN
THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON, D. C.
1908

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MAIN ENTRANCE ON SEVENTEENTH STREET

History of The Corcoran Gallery of Art

THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART, originally located at the corner of Seventeenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, including ground, building, its contents, and endowment fund, was the gift of the late Mr. William Wilson Corcoran to the public by deed, dated May 10, 1869, "to be used solely for the purposes of encouraging American genius in the production and preservation of works pertaining to the Fine Arts, and kindred objects," with the condition that it should be open to visitors without any pecuniary charge whatever at least two days in each week, with authority to charge for admission at other times such moderate and reasonable fee as might be pre-

scribed, the proceeds arising therefrom to be applied to the current expenses of the Institution.

The Institution was chartered by Act of Congress May 24, 1870. By that act the building and its contents were declared exempt from all taxation.

The building was designed by Mr. James Renwick, architect, and begun in 1859, but before completion, early in 1861, it was occupied by the United States Quartermaster-General's Department until 1869.

On the tenth of May, 1869, its owner placed it in the hands of a Board of nine Trustees for the purposes already named. After the Institution was incorporated by Congress, in 1870, the general work of reconstruction and adaptation of the building to its original purpose was begun, and finished in 1871.

In 1873 a Trustee went to Europe empowered to purchase works of art for the Gallery, and Mr. Corcoran's private collection of pictures and statuary was then placed in it. On November 6, 1873, the Board of Trustees completed the organization of the Institution.

On the nineteenth of January, 1874, the Picture Galleries, Octagon Room, and the Hall of Bronzes were thrown open for private exhibition by day and night, Mr. Corcoran receiving the congratulations of his friends upon the fulfilment thus far of his munificent plans.

On April 29, 1874, the Halls of Sculpture and of Bronzes were opened to the public, and in December, 1874, the two side galleries of sculpture adjoining the Main Hall; so that all the rooms of the Institution for exhibition purposes were then opened to the public.