

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

### INTRODUCTORY.

It is now a little over two months ago since Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny, the promoters of the International Exhibition which was then being held in Adelaide, were urged by the representatives of various British, foreign, and colonial manufacturers, who were exhibiting at the South Australian show, to give them the opportunity of testing the West Australian market by holding an exhibition at Perth, on the same basis as that held at Adelaide. That basis was this: inasmuch as the greater part of the more substantial benefits of an international exposition accrue to the exhibitors who join in the friendly contest themselves, rather than to the State, that the Government of the country in which the exhibition is held should not be called upon to do more than to give them reasonable facilities for carrying out their enterprise, and that such facilities should not entail any direct charge upon the State revenue. The idea of holding an Exhibition in Perth was no sooner mooted than it was approved, and Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny lost no time in communicating with our local Government on the subject. All that they wished to ascertain, before completing their arrangements for carrying out the object desired to be attained, was whether our Government would grant them the use of a piece of vacant land, centrally-situated and fenced in, on which to erect the Exhibition building, and to allow the structure to be declared a bonded warehouse in the same way as the South Australian Government had done at Adelaide. Also, whether the Western Australian public and the Press were likely to give the scheme that support which was necessary to the success of the enterprise.

On the 7th September, the Legislative Council being then in session, the Governor in a message sent down to the House, forwarded for the information of members, a copy of the following telegram which had been addressed to the Colonial Secretary by Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny: "Adelaide, 6th September, 1881. 'British, Foreign, and Colonial Exhibitors have requested us to hold International Exhibition, Perth, opening middle November, 'on same basis as has proved successful here. 'We are ready to undertake it if you will allow 'Exhibition building to be bonded store on 'same conditions as have been granted here, 'and to give us your moral support and countenance. We ask no pecuniary aid. We 'feel sure even greater advantages will accrue 'to Western Australian commerce than those 'acknowledged here by Governor in speech on 'opening day, the Treasurer in Budget Speech.

"opening day, the Treasurer in Budget Speech. 'We are anxious for early reply, as exhibitors 'wish cable Europe for fresh exhibits.—Joubert & Twopeny, Managers International Exhibition." To this telegram, His Excellency informed the House that the following reply had been sent to Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny by the Colonial Secretary: "Perth, 7th September, 1881. This Government will give 'you the same general support as you received 'in South Australia, and will allow your 'building to be a bonded store on the same 'condition as in Adelaide. We are happy to 'hear of your intention.—GIFFORD." This announcement was received by members with hearty cheers, and the action of the Government in the matter was cordially endorsed by the Legislature. A telegram to the same effect was also forwarded by the promoters of the scheme to the Mayor and corporation of the city, making them acquainted with what had been done in Adelaide and what was proposed to be done here, and requesting that in their corporate capacity they would give the project their countenance. To this telegram, the Mayor sent an equally encouraging answer as had been forwarded by the Government. The proposal was also taken up warmly by the local Press, whose good offices the promoters had enlisted, by pointing out the advantages likely to accrue by assembling in Perth examples of the products of other countries, and of the genius and industry of different people, and indicating the probability of expansion, through the instrumentality of the Exhibition, of our existing commercial relations, with the prospect also of unfolding our own resources, of the opening up of fresh channels for the exchange of commodities, and of the mutual advantages likely to arise to the communities taking part in the undertaking.

We think it may safely be assumed that, after the lapse of thirty years from their establishment, these Exhibitions, great and small, have in these later days, assumed their proper position. We have all heard of the state of general peace and international amity which was hoped to be the result of the Great London Exhibition of 1851. We all know that a series of terrific wars broke out in Europe immediately afterwards, and have continued, with more or less intermission, ever since. It was expected that a huge collection of the industrial products of different nations would alter the nature of mankind and extinguish the animosities of people. But it turned out to that the Austrian was not to be reconciled to the Italian, nor the Russian to the Turk, because they happened to show their various wares and drink their national liquors under one immense roof. A

different view now prevails. These displays are regarded in a rational point of view, as a means of spreading intelligence, of improving industrial products by a comparison of specimens, and of affording rational recreation to the public. Viewed in this latter light, there is nothing incongruous, after all,—it is not at all out of harmony with the eternal fitness of things—that a portion of our only public recreation ground should have been appropriated to the purpose of such an Exhibition as that opened with such *clat* yesterday. On receipt of Lord Gifford's telegram, the promoters, encouraged by the gratifying assurance of support given to them by the authorities here, immediately entered into the necessary arrangements for carrying out their project, and, soon afterwards, Mr. Twopeny arrived in the colony to arrange as to the site for holding the Exhibition. Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining what was admitted on all hands to be the most suitable spot for holding the show, namely the reserve known as the New Recreation Ground, in course of formation on the river shore, between the jetties. This piece of ground having been recently vested in the City Council, for the use of the citizens, as a place of public recreation, the civic authorities at first felt some hesitancy in granting the use of it for the purposes of an Exhibition. Better counsel, however, prevailed, and the council,—with, we believe, the hearty concurrence and assent of the citizens—eventually granted Messrs. Joubert & Twopeny the use of the ground in question for the object in view.

All anxiety as to the place for holding the Exhibition having been thus removed, the promoters set themselves vigorously to work to carry out their project. All other difficulties vanished before their presence with magical effect. The same prompt generalship which had secured for them the most eligible site in the town for the purposes of their enterprise, appeared to run through all their arrangements. And though they had to combat the almost scornful incredulity with which the success of their project was regarded in some quarters, and that *vis inertiae* which is generally manifested when undertakings of this kind are first started, they have to-day the satisfaction of knowing that not only is their enterprise likely to be crowned with success, but that they have contributed to the pleasure and instruction of a large number of Western Australians, and afforded them an opportunity of gratifying a legitimate curiosity, and in many respects of learning a valuable lesson. It is to be hoped the lesson will be a profitable one.—profitable

learning a valuable lesson. It is to be hoped the lesson will be a profitable one,—profitable alike to the enterprising gentlemen to whom we are indebted for it, and also to those amongst us who will thus be afforded an opportunity of acquiring such a practical knowledge of the outcome of modern civilization, as applied to the manufacture of many things which unite in supplying our every day wants, as they would otherwise be unable to gain save by travel.

#### THE OPENING CEREMONY.

Yesterday, the day fixed for the inaugural ceremony, was one that may be characterised as a red letter day in the history of the colony. The occasion was one which is not likely soon to be forgotten. Our colonial history, as a rule, runs along in a pretty even stream—many might style it uneventful and monotonous; but, when the opportunity does arise for public spirit and enthusiasm to display itself, we are by no means behind hand. And, considering the resources at command, we can hold our own as well as most other communities. The weather—an all-important element on such occasions—was all that could be desired. At day-break, it seemed just as likely that the day would be dismal and rainy, as that it would be cheery and bright. The reflection that external nature does not sympathise with human hopes, joys, and sorrows, is well known to the moralists. It is, indeed, as old as it is sad, as trite as it is true. But, somehow, if the day fixed for yesterday's ceremony had fulfilled the portents of the early morning, the idea of cruel hardship would have occurred, in spite of reason, to the most philosophic inhabitant. As it was, the rays of the sun were agreeably tempered by fleecy clouds, and there was just enough breeze to make the bunting float on the many poles to which it was attached. It was a day such as ladies who sport gay toilettes and irrepressible parasols admire. And the fair sex, we need hardly say, are a part and parcel of such ceremonies—an assertion which yesterday's spectacle amply justifies.

The gates of the Exhibition were open to ticket holders and the invited guests at half-past 10 o'clock in the morning, and large numbers of people availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of inspecting the display in the various courts before the time when the inaugural ceremony was to be held—a time when the business of examination had necessarily to give way to the more important proceedings of the hour. The Exhibition building, approached from the main entrance to the ground, presented a not unimposing appearance. Gaily decorated with flags—its dome, capped with a golden ball, shining brightly in the sun,—the structure, if not positively grand, was, at any rate, very

if not positively grand, was, at any rate, very novel and attractive, and, with the surrounding decorated booths, machinery annexes, photographic studios, etc., the gay array of red-coated Volunteers, the crowds of well-dressed sightseers upon the green slopes of the ground, and the blue waters of the river as a background beyond, formed, as a whole, a spectacle such as has never been witnessed in the colony before. His Excellency the Governor, Lady Robinson, and the vice-regal suite, reached the ground shortly before noon. On their arrival, at the eastern entrance to the Exhibition, they were saluted by a guard of honour, and the Austrian Band played the National Anthem. His Excellency and party were received at the entrance by Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny, and were escorted along the main avenue to a dais erected on the western end of the building. The interior of the building presented a brilliant spectacle. On the dais, and in other parts of the room, were those who had been officially invited to attend the ceremony, all the available seats being occupied by season ticket-holders, and others who had paid five shillings for the privilege of this preliminary inspection.

The following is a list of the invited guests :

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Robinson ; the Colonial Secretary and Lady Gifford ; His Honor the Chief Justice and Miss Wrenfordsley ; His Lordship the Anglican Bishop and Mrs. Parry ; His Lordship the Roman Catholic Bishop (Dr. Salvado) ; the Attorney General and Mrs. Onslow ; the Crown Solicitor and Mrs. Stone ; the Surveyor General and Mrs. Fraser ; the Colonial Treasurer and Mrs. Lefroy ; the Director of Public Works and Mrs. Thomas ; the Colonial Surgeon and Mrs. Waylen ; the Postmaster General and Mrs. Helmich ; Sir L. S. Leake (Speaker of the Legislative Council) and Lady Leake ; Sir Thomas Campbell (Chairman of Committees) and Lady Campbell ; Mr. G. Shenton (Mayor) and Mrs. Shenton ; Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Lee-Steere ; Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Parker ; Mr. Crowther, M.L.C. ; Mr. Carey, M.L.C., and Mrs. Carey ; Mr. Venn, M.L.C., and Mrs. Venn ; Mr. Brown, M.L.C., and Mrs. Brown ; Mr. Grant, M.L.C. ; Mr. Sept. Burt, M.L.C., and Mrs. Burt ; Mr. L. C. Burges, M.L.C. ; Mr. Randell, M.L.C., and Mrs. Randell ; Mr. S. S. Parker, M.L.C. ; Mr. Marmion, M.L.C., and Mrs. Marmion ; Mr. Higham, M.L.C., and Mrs. Higham ; Mr. Howard, Private Secretary ; Mr. Julian Harper ; Mr. G. W. Leake, Q.C., Police Magistrate, and Mrs. Leake ; Mr. J. G. Slade, R.M., and Mrs. Slade ; Mr. Sheriff Roe and Mrs. Roe ; Captain Smith (Superintendent of Police) and Mrs. Smith ; the Commissioner of Titles (Mr. J. C. H. James) ; the Registrar of Titles, and Mrs. Moseley ; the Registrar General and Mrs. Eliot ; the Auditor General



of Titles, and Mrs. Moseley; the Registrar General and Mrs. Eliot; the Auditor General and Mrs. Courthope; Dr. and Mrs. Barnett; the Collector of Customs and Mrs. Clifton; the Deputy Surveyor General and Mrs. Forrest; Captain Archdeacon, R.N.; Lieut. Tooker, R.N., and Mrs. Tooker; Lieut. Dixon, R.N.; Mr. Eliot, R.M.; Mr. Loftie, R.M., and Mrs. Loftie; Mr. Fairbairn, R.M., and Mrs. Fairbairn; Mr. Clifton, R.M.; Mr. Cowan, R.M.; Mr. Laurence, R.M.; the Very Rev. Archdeacon Brown; the Very Rev. M. Gibney, V.G.; Dean Gegg; Rev. Mr. Nicolay; Rev. G. R. Howard; Rev. Mr. Mouland; Rev. D. Shearer; Rev. J. Johnston; Ven. A. Lecaille; Rev. W. S. Worth; Rev. W. Lowe; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Clifton; Mr. W. J. Gillam, United States consul; Mr. Burt, consul for Denmark; Mr. E. Solomon, the Italian consul; Mr. W. C. Clifton, consul for the Netherlands; Mr. and Mrs.

J. F. Stone; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fleming; Mr. and Mrs. W. Dale; Mr. and Mrs. Jewell; the Harbor Master and Mrs. Forsyth; Mr. R. A. Sholl; Capt. Phillips, W. A. Horse Artillery; Captain Hillman, M.B.V., and Mrs. Hillman; Captain Sutherland, F.R.V., and Mrs. Sutherland; Mr. and Mrs. James Cowan; Captain Jackson, Rottneest, and Mrs. Jackson; Mr. Pether (Government Printer) and Mrs. Pether; Cr. and Mrs. Summers; Cr. B. Smith; Cr. and Mrs. Vincent; Cr. Waldoek; Cr. and Mrs. Farmer; Cr. and Mrs. Christie; Cr. M. Smith; Cr. Scott; Cr. and Mrs. Osborne; Mr. Victor; Mr. and Mrs. Halliday &c., &c.

Mons. JOUBERT commenced the formal proceeding by, reading the following address from the promoters to His Excellency the Governor.

To His Excellency Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Territory of Western Australia and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The objects of this Exhibition are, briefly, to bring the merchants of Western Australia into direct communication with the manufacturers of other countries; to call the attention of foreign capitalists and traders to the products, resources, and capabilities of this colony; and to give its settlers an opportunity of observing the progress of civilisation, as shown in improved manufactures and new inventions.

It is needless for us to refer to the numerous minor and indirect advantages which may reasonably be expected to arise from the Exhibition; but it may be well to mention that our attention was first drawn to the capabilities of Western Aus-

It may be well to mention that our attention was first drawn to the capabilities of Western Australia, by its exhibits at the Paris Exhibition of 1875. It was mainly owing to what we saw there that we conceived the idea of endeavouring to bring here a number of intelligent traders, who we feel convinced will, by their reports, induce others to follow and to assist in developing the resources and increasing the commerce of this country.

The short time allowed for preparations and the unfavorable reports emanating from your own settlers, as well as the undeservedly low estimation in which the resources of Western Australia are held across the border, deterred many of those who would have accompanied us from being represented here; but, nevertheless, the representation from England, France, Austria, Switzerland, Japan, and of the neighbouring colonies is sufficiently comprehensive to be a source of benefit to all parties; and the gathering together of all articles now in this building will, we trust, exercise an important influence in educating the taste of the younger colonists, increasing the trade, and advancing the progress of Western Australia.

To your Excellency and the Government our warmest thanks are due for kindly assistance; to the Legislature, the Mayor and City Council of Perth, and indeed to all those with whom we have come in contact, we also owe thanks for cordial support and encouragement; and it is specially pleasing to us to note that in spite of false reports of our having flinched in our determination to come here, propagated till the very moment of our arrival, the exhibits from Western Australia occupy one-fourth portion of the building.

It has been the custom at all previous Exhibitions to forward to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen a medal commemorative of the event; and it is our earnest wish that Your Excellency be kind enough to accept this gold medal, struck to-day within this building, in order that it may be sent to Her Majesty as a token of the heartfelt loyalty of this colony, and of the love we bear to our Most Gracious Sovereign.

JULES JOUBERT,  
R. E. N. TWOPENY.

HIS EXCELLENCY replied as follows:

GENTLEMEN,

The objects which you have had in view in deciding to hold in Perth the Exhibition which is now about to be inaugurated, are such as must commend themselves to all persons interested in the progress and best interests of Western Australia; and I have the pleasure to express to you, on behalf of the colony, my acknowledgments for the business-like ability and determination which you have displayed in bringing to a successful issue a project which cannot fail to be attended with many direct advantages to the community.

It is also my agreeable duty to welcome the exhibitors from abroad, and to wish them every success in connection with this important undertaking.

I thoroughly agree with you that the gathering together of the articles exhibited in this building

together of the articles exhibited in this building will exercise an important influence in educating the taste of the younger colonists, and that your enterprise will assist in developing the resources and increasing the commerce of the country.

I am disposed to share your opinion that the estimation in which our resources are held across the border is undeservedly low. I may go further and say that, in my judgment, a considerable proportion of our own people are in danger of undervaluing the country, which undoubtedly possesses, amongst other elements of prosperity, large areas of unalienated land which in South Australia or Victoria would quickly be taken up as agricultural selections. As visitors, I am sure you will not fail to be specially struck with the magnificent jarrah forests in the Southern parts of the colony. The mineral wealth of the North is also very great. On the whole it cannot be doubted that in pastoral, agricultural, and mineral pursuits there is a vast field for enterprising people with faith in our undoubted resources; community of feeling and trade relations with our prosperous neighbours to the Eastward; and, by and by, let us hope, a closer political connection with the whole of the Australian colonies.

That these objects will be materially subserved by this Exhibition is, I think, beyond a doubt, and I allow myself to hope that your enterprise will hereafter be regarded as an important landmark in the history of Western Australia.

I shall have much pleasure in taking charge of the gold medal which, in accordance with the usual practice, you desire to present to Her Majesty in commemoration of this event. The deep interest which Her Majesty has always taken in similar undertakings elsewhere will assuredly be extended to the effort which is now being made in this distant and loyal dependency to follow the example first set to us in 1851 by that illustrious Prince whose every thought was devoted to the higher education and advancement of the country of his adoption.

I now declare this Exhibition to be open to the public.

**Mr. JOUBERT**—No great undertaking on British soil has succeeded without our showing our loyalty to Her Majesty. I therefore call on this assembly of West Australians to give three cheers for the Queen.

The invitation was heartily responded to.

#### THE INTERIOR OF THE BUILDING.

The holders of season tickets and other privileged persons were admitted into the building an hour before the opening ceremony, and a considerable number availed themselves of this opportunity of inspecting the various courts before the crush of visitors took place; and when His Excellency was performing the official ceremony of declaring the Perth International Exhibition open, there must have been hundreds of persons congregated within its walls. Those who had visited the place a few days previously, when everything in the main building and in the annexes was yet in a chaotic state, could hardly believe that out of such

the main building and in the annexes was yet in a chaotic state, could hardly believe that out of such apparent disorder and confusion, such an exposition as that which was presented to their gaze yesterday morning could have been evolved in the limited period that was left for the completion of the work. But in this, as in all other mundane matters, indefatigable energy, untiring patience, and no small amount of practical skill, accomplished wonders. When we left the building on Saturday night, ugly and cumbersome-looking cases were strewn about the different courts, in a higgledy-piggledy kind of confusion that promised anything but well for the opening day. But upon entering the building yesterday morning the scene which burst upon the view might without exaggeration be called brilliant. It was really astonishing that so much should have been done within so short a time. The bareness of the wood and iron of which the building is composed was artistically concealed, and, looking from the entrance towards the flag-draped dais at the western end, the eye was charmed with the brilliant display of bright-coloured bunting festooning the sides of the aisles, while it was difficult to recognize the naked wooden uprights of two days before in their graceful clothing of *exotis* branches. Filigree baskets of shining wire work, in endless profusion, filled with gay flowering plants, hung against these pillars. The dome had been artistically ornamented by the ready brush of Mr. H. C. Prinsep. On each of the four faces of the interior basement are two panels, painted in imitation of stone embrasures, within which are figures representing the genii of the various industries of the colony. Suitable emblems fill in the background, while on the cornices above each picture are shields bearing the names of those local towns in which the industries figured below have their principal habitation. Perth surmounts machinery; Fremantle and Albany, navigation; Guildford and Pinjarrah, wine; Bunbury and the Vase, timber; Roebourne and Mandurah, fisheries; York and

Dongarra, agriculture; Geraldton and Newcastle, pasture; and Northampton, mining. Hung six or seven feet above the ground, on each side of the aisle, running from the main entrance to the dais, broken only by the dome space,—under which a miniature representation of Gibson's tinted Venus stands amid the pot-shrubs and cool fountain jets, are rows of pictures, some brought by the promoters of the Exhibition, others lent from private houses in Perth and Fremantle. These, of which we will give a detailed account further on, greatly added to the charm of the view, which the confusion of decorated courts, displaying every imaginable kind of ware and fabric in most attractive *et alage*, rendered singularly striking and unique.

At the end of the North branch of the cross—to the right of the aisle reserved for the Governor, the Judge, heads of Churches, members of the Executive, Legislative, and City Councils, and invited guests—were raised platforms, on which



invited guests—were raised platforms, on which were grouped, before the ceremony commenced, Mr. Needham's choir, numbering over sixty voices—the largest concourse of singers which has ever been heard in the colony—and the Austrian Band. This was the most convenient site for the musicians which it was found possible to choose, but, acoustically, it was scarcely the best, and Gosnell's great glass case of perfumery was in rather closer and more conspicuous proximity to the performers than was sightly. At the opposite, (Southern), end of the transept bisecting the aisle first entered,—which, equally with the latter, was profusely and gracefully decorated with flags,—stood a buffet for refreshments. And we may here remark that capital arrangements have been made for providing all the material comforts for the 'inner man' required by visitors at the show. In the Southern transept, in addition to the buffet—beyond which, by the way, is a spacious covered lounging place to be used for smoking—a door opening out of one of the courts leads into a *marquée* which is intended for a ladies' tea room. At the end of the Western transept, also, behind where yesterday the dais stood, is a convenient bar, and beyond it a good-sized luncheon room. In fact, everything has been done by the promoters of the show to gratify the senses both of sight, by the charming and varied display of exhibits; of hearing, by the delightful music of their Band, and of taste, by the good food and drink provided. With so many pleasant adjuncts, it would be strange indeed if the Exhibition did not prove a pronounced success.

#### THE CANTATA.

The Governor having declared the Exhibition open, the performance of the cantata commenced. In a building crowded with counters, cases, and articles of every conceivable description, and packed with a dense mass of human beings, it was, of course, impossible that music should be heard to advantage, and the cantata, consequently, lost much of its beauty. This was to be regretted, for the music of it is really grand, and the colony may well be proud that such verses and melodies should have been locally produced. The opening chorus is bright and soul-stirring, and was very well sung by the choir, the ring of the oft-repeated staccato shout 'Awake thee! Awake the!' being particularly striking and effective. Mr. Onslow's solo followed. The air of this solo is at the same time particularly charming and majestic in its breadth, and, we need scarcely say, was done full justice to by the accomplished singer, whom it is the delight of all to hear. The chorus following this song is very animated, and was given by the choir with much spirit. That of the pearl divers, for men, which comes next, has the most original and striking music in the whole piece, while, in certain parts, the band accompaniment to the voices is simply delicious. The rendering of this chorus, which is

licious. The rendering of this chorus, which is preceded by a solo in which Mr. A. G. Rosser's fine voice was heard to advantage, would have gained a good deal from further rehearsals, and the voices were scarcely so masculine and sonorous as could have been wished, but still it was possible to realize what, under more favorable conditions, the music would have been. Mrs. Leonard Clifton next gave the charming "Song of the Pearl," which, it is scarcely an exaggeration to say, might make the fortune of any composer. The verses, too, are particularly graceful, and upon this song, we can heartily congratulate both Mr. Needam, Mr. Hart, and Mrs. Clifton, the latter of whom struggled bravely against acoustic difficulties in an endeavour to render the performance of the music worthy of its composition. The chorus of nations which followed, contains some of the most taking bits of melody in the whole cantata, and was sung by the choir with that enjoyment which communicates itself to the listeners. The succeeding processional march for the band was very fine, though somewhat marred by a little excess of drum. The solid and grand music of this march prepared the audience for the solemn strains of the chorale which followed and which was very fairly rendered, being in striking contrast to the jubilant bright notes of the final chorus. This delightful cantata, notwithstanding the difficulties under which it was performed, so charmed all who heard it, that we have no doubt, when it is repeated, as it will be shortly, at the Town Hall, every lover of music will be present, to hear, under more favorable circumstances, a really good work of art. The words of the cantata are appended:—

*I—Opening Chorus.*

Land of the Swan! exultant rise  
To hail this happy morn,  
And greet the glorious emprise,  
Of future fame the dawn!  
To Art and Industry bestow  
Their fitting meed of praise,  
With ardent emulation glow,  
And songs of gladness raise!  
Awake thee from thy slumbers deep,  
And fame and fortune strive to reap!

Full many a mile thy forests wave,  
Thy Northern pastures teem,  
And pearls lie hid in ocean cave,  
With soft and lambent gleam.  
Thine ores concealed, may yet be found,  
To bring thee boundless wealth;  
Then let thy praises loud resound,  
Thou land of peace and health!  
Awake thee from thy slumbers deep  
And fame and fortune strive to reap.

*II—Solo and Chorus of Shepherds.*

Ye shepherds watch on grassy plain,  
Ye herdsmen tend your kine,

Ye shepherds watch on grassy plain,  
Ye herdsmen tend your kine,  
Ye husbandmen sow wide your grain,  
And plant the tender vine.  
Obtain from Nature the increase,  
To labour ne'er denied,—  
The waving corn, the silken fleece,  
And board with wine supplied.

CHORUS.

Wandering for many a mile,  
Camping by each pool and stream,  
Basking 'neath the sun's bright smile—  
Every day is like a dream!  
Free from care, and far from sorrow,  
Ne'er we long to see the morrow.  
Though our lot may cheerless seem,  
Every day is like a dream.

Tending on our flocks of sheep,  
Watching lest abroad they roam,  
Falling into peaceful sleep,  
Dreaming of our friends and home.  
Free from care and far from sorrow,  
Ne'er we long to see the morrow,  
Though our lot may cheerless seem,  
Every day is like a dream.

III—Chorus of Pearl Divers.

Deep down, under the wave,  
Risking the fate of a watery grave  
Divers are we,  
Braving the sea,  
Searching each cranny and rock and cave.  
For costly pearls and shells we dive,  
And with the restless currents strive;  
Bringing to light full many a gem,  
Fit for a monarch's diadem.  
Deep down under the wave,  
Risking the fate of a watery grave;  
Divers are we,  
Braving the sea,  
Searching each cranny and rock and cave.

IV—Song of the Pearl.

Concealed within my narrow cell,  
I pine for liberty.  
O diver seek my lustrous shell,  
And quickly set me free.  
No ray of light my lustre bright,  
Has ever yet revealed,  
Swelling within these narrow bounds,  
Too long I've lain concealed.  
Diver seek me, set me free,  
From my prison 'neath the sea.

Thy labour shall not prove in vain,  
If thou dost set me free,  
My cheek is void of spot or stain,  
My form is fair to see.  
I long to deck a monarch's crown,  
Or maiden's breast adorn,

O quickly to my cell come down,  
Nor leave me here to mourn.

O quickly to my cell come down,  
Nor leave me here to mourn.  
Diver seek me, set me free,  
From my prison 'neath the sea.

V.—*Chorus of Nations.*

Fair daughter of the sunny West,  
We gladly come to meet thee,  
To show thee of our countries' best  
And as a sister greet thee.  
Join with us in triumphant song,  
And tread our path of glory,  
With earnest heart and courage strong  
And live in deathless story!

VI.—*Processional March.*

VII.—*Prayer.*

United by the bonds of peace,  
Great God we humbly pray,  
This land may flourish and increase,  
And from Thy paths ne'er stray.  
Grant us the grace to use aright  
The blessings we possess,  
With understanding's constant light,  
Our future deign to bless!

VIII.—*Final.*

No longer slighted and despised,  
We rise from dreamy slumber,  
To take our place with other lands,  
And in their ranks to number,  
To join in their triumphant song,  
To tread their path of glory,  
With earnest heart and courage strong,  
And live in deathless story!

With the short space of time at our disposal since the opening ceremony, it would be a hopeless task to attempt to give a comprehensive idea of the Exhibition and its contents in the space we can allot to it in one of our issues, even in the expanded form in which the *West Australian* appears to-day. We propose therefore to deal with some of the courts in a brief way now, and to give further particulars, together with notices of the courts now omitted, in subsequent issues.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COURT.

Naturally enough, our next door neighbours come prominently to the front in this Exhibition. With the exception of our own court, South Australia holds a larger amount of space, and—our own court not excepted—makes a more extensive display than any other colony or country represented; and, whatever the comparative merits of her exhibits may be, the court, as a whole, illustrates very well the acknowledged energy of our neighbours, and affords undeniable proof of the rise and progress of South Australian native industries. The court occupies the whole length of the western side of the northern section of the build-



western side of the northern section of the building, in the vicinity of the stand allotted to the Austrian Band.

The various exhibits in this court are entrusted to the care of Mr. Scott, and were most expeditiously arranged, under his own personal supervision. For some days prior to the opening, he and his staff worked energetically to produce the attractive and effective display of the products and manufactures of the colony which they represented, and it must be admitted that, looking at the result of their labours yesterday, the desired object was most effectually attained. Messrs. G. and E. Wills's beautiful colonial pine pavilion contrasts well with the ebonised case containing Gosnell & Co.'s perfumery (for which Mr. Scott also acts as agent), whilst the dark green and black of Robey's Lincoln engine stands out well relieved with the seamless tinware and galvanised-iron goods of Simpson and Son, of Gawler Place, Adelaide, which, in close proximity, are erected in pyramidal form. A neatly arranged pile of Murray's biscuits in tins, attracted considerable attention. Samples of these biscuits had been presented to His Excellency the Governor a few days before the opening, and His Excellency, in a letter to Mr. Scott, stated that the biscuits were equal to any he had ever tasted, either in the colonies or at home. In another part of the Exhibition is shown an artistically arranged trophy of the same manufacturer's biscuits and jams,—the biscuits, of which there are half a ton weight, forming the base of the trophy, surmounted by a pyramidal pile of neatly labelled tins of assorted jams. Mr. Murray's biscuits gained first order of merit at the Adelaide Exhibition, in competition with the well known Melbourne firm, Swallow and Ariell. In the South Australian court, Messrs. Ridley & Co., of Newcastle on Tyne, show drawings of their continuous girder tramway system, which is now in operation in the principal cities of Europe, and which consists of a base plate, to which rails of a peculiar form are attached, with cotters, every few yards, tie bars firmly holding the lines in gauge. In these plans the rails are packed with blocks of patent stone, made from the refuse of the blast furnaces in the North of England; but, were the tramway system introduced here, our hard indigenous timber would answer that purpose equally as well. We are informed by Mr. Scott that tram lines laid upon this principle cost less to keep in repair than any other lines at present laid in these colonies. No doubt the heavy expense of maintenance has considerably operated against the extension of tramways for purposes of locomotion, but Messrs. Ridley & Co. appear to have effectually removed that drawback. In conjunction with these tram lines are shown photographs and drawings of a steam motor for tramways made by the celebrated engineering firm of R. & W. Hawthorn, of Newcastle on Tyne. These motors fulfil all the conditions required in a tramway locomotive: they produce no visible smoke, or steam, or fire, and—what by nervous people would be regarded of still greater importance—when in action, they

what by nervous people would be regarded as still greater importance—when in action, they produce no noise, either of blast or machinery. They are easily worked by one man, who acts in the dual capacity of conductor and driver. We understand that the plans and drawings were submitted by Mr. Scott for the inspection of our Commissioner of Railways, and that Mr. Thomas expressed his approval of the principle upon which the motors are constructed,—a fact which, in view of the possible introduction of tramways in this colony, must be regarded as of paramount importance.

*Licensees a nos montons.* South Australian manufactures are here well represented by the varied exhibits from the establishment of Messrs. Simpson & Son, who produce tinware, safes, and bedsteads. This firm employ at present over 200 men and boys, and last year consumed 5361 boxes of tinplates. One of their principal specialties, however, is the manufacture of fire proof safes, and the specimens here exhibited, are specially manufactured to meet the requirements of the Australian market. Among them is a double-doored safe, embracing every conceivable precaution against the attacks of the most expert of burglars. Messrs. Simpson & Son also show some colonial ovens, manufactured of the best charcoal plates, which will neither bend nor 'buckle' under the action of extreme heat. Nor are they liable to fracture in the event of cold water being accidentally dropped upon them. These ovens are sold at prices within the reach of all. The same firm also exhibit a trophy of their galvanised ironware, of a similar description to that which obtained first prize at the Melbourne Exhibition, in competition with all the principal English makers. Adjacent to this exhibit is another trophy consisting of a collection of the firm's stamped seamless tinware—one of their specialties. These ware are produced by means of improved machinery, in a single blow, thus saving about sixty per cent. in labour. Messrs. Simpson also exhibit some very handsome bedsteads, and are said to be the largest manufacturers in that line in the Australian colonies. They also show a quantity of japanned ware, beautifully hand-painted. Mr. Hutchieson, brass founder, Adelaide, exhibits several patterns of castings in brass and in bronze, which are worthy of inspection. As we have no brass foundry in this colony, it may be of interest to know that by forwarding to Mr. Hutchieson a drawing of any particular design required, castings of the pattern can be obtained, at very reasonable rates. An exhibit of considerable interest to the owners of steam. Engines is shown in this court, being a liquid preparation for the preservation of boilers by disencrustation. Its actions are two fold—sometimes it causes the crust which gathers on the boiler plates to loosen, and proves effectual in a few days; at other times, it completely wears away the surface by disintegrating the particles, when the fall to the bottom of the boiler. Messrs. W. C. Stow & Co., of Adelaide are the promoters. The preparation was awarded first prize at the South Australian Exhibition. Messrs. Har-

The preparation was awarded first prize at the South Australian Exhibition. Messrs. Harrold Bros., machinery merchants, Adelaide, exhibit one of Robey & Co.'s 8-h.p. portable steam engines, similar to the one which obtained the first prize at the Adelaide Exhibition. These engines have secured no less than 180 prizes from various agricultural societies throughout the world. We understand that one of our local settlers is already in treaty for the exhibit shown here. Messrs. Harrold Bros. are the sole agents for these engines in the Australian colonies, and their representative informs us that the demand for them is daily increasing,—which, of itself, affords evidence of their superiority over other portable engines. They are easily managed by

any ordinarily intelligent laborer, and the working parts are so simply arranged that they seldom get out of order. Should any accident, however, happen, to any of the parts, the defect may be remedied without the necessity of sending the engine to a fitter, as all the parts are kept in duplicate and numbered, and, by sending the number of any required part to the agents, it can be supplied and replaced without further trouble. In this court is also shown one of McComa's water-lifters,—a very useful and comparatively cheap contrivance. We are informed that by means of one of these lifters, one man can water a thousand sheep in less than half an hour, and that recently, in the course of a public trial with other water-lifters at Melbourne, over 18,000 gallons was lifted by one man, within an hour.

Bradbury and Co., the celebrated English makers, whose Australian depôt is at Adelaide, exhibit, through their sole agent, Mr. Hellawell, a number of sewing machines. This firm's machines, we understand, obtained the only gold medal at the Paris Exhibition in 1879, and secured five first prizes at Melbourne, while, after a most exhaustive trial, extending over three days, at the Adelaide Exhibition, the jurors awarded Messrs. Bradbury & Co. the only gold medal for the best collection of machines. The quilting machine is specially recommended to the attention of dressmakers; and, while our lady friends are being initiated into the mysteries of quilting, it will not be inopportune if we turn our attention to Messrs. Wills & Co.'s handsome show case close by, the exhibits in which are well worthy of inspection. The collection includes boots and shoes, ready made clothing, shirts, etc., made by the firm at their warehouse in Adelaide, and apparently of capital workmanship. The two finely embroidered cricketer's shirts in this case are to be presented to the best batter and the best bowler in the first cricket match played on the Exhibition ground. As a display of the plain costumes of the sterner sex, however well made, necessarily lacks the beauty of the toilets of the ladies, who know so well how to increase their charms by the art and taste of the milliner, these exhibits do not call for much description or comment, beyond the fact that they

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description or comment, beyond the fact that they reflect no little credit upon the establishment from which they were turned out. Messrs. Wills & Co. also exhibit some very fine specimens of dressed leather, which attracted much admiration. The exhibits are admirably arranged to show off their merits—the dressed leathers, manufactured respectively of kip, calf, kangaroo, and wallaby skins, being really a splendid lot. A novelty among the articles of clothing exhibited by this firm—said to be the most extensive manufacturers in that line in the whole of these colonies—is a reversible, seamless suit, and other specialities which cannot fail to bring them under the notice of buyers in these parts. In the South Australian court is also shown an attractive pile of Messrs. Chadwick and Co.'s celebrated machine and sewing cottons. Feldheim, Jacobs, & Co. of Adelaide exhibit a fine collection of mer. schaum and briar pipes; and, in the event of atoo free indulgence in the use of these producing any distressing effects, the antidote is at hand in a show case of Cross's "Indigestion Drops,"—said to be a specific cure for dyspepsia. Feldheim, Jacobs, & Co. also show a collection of Kembell's "Vanity Fair" cigarettes, nearly the whole of which, we understand, have already been disposed. Samples of these cigars, which are pronounced by connoisseurs to be excellent, were presented by Mr. Scott to His Excellency the Governor when he visited the South Australian court. Frearson Bros. exhibit a collection of rubber stamps, specially prepared, under steam pressure, for resisting the heat of an Australian climate. And, writing of heat, reminds us that the temperature of our Australian summer is provocative of thirst, and this fact has been eagerly utilised by quick-witted people who never hear of a demand without seeking at once to supply it. Among those who have set themselves to this task, by the production of non-alcoholic beverages pleasant to the taste and refreshing in their action, are Messrs. Crowder & Co. of Adelaide, whose aerated waters are represented by a lofty pyramid of bottles, attractively arranged, and which, though it could not be said to have "leapt like a fountain from the grass," yet conveys the idea of an inexhaustible spring. Among their special preparations, in the production of which they have acquired a well-established reputation, is an aerated beverage to which they have given the name of "Roborine"—a non-alcoholic substitute for champagne. The same firm's hop tonic bitters was pronounced by the judges at the Adelaide Exhibition to be the "best bitters exhibited." Conspicuous among the numerous trophies in this court are two piles representing colonial industries in the shape of pickled cabbage, mustard powders, blacking, and blue, exhibited by Messrs. Barton & Co.; the other trophy consisting of Mr. Washington H. Soul's celebrated Australian relish and other condiments. Before the visitor leaves the South Australian court, which as we have already said, is one of the most comprehensive and well-arranged in the Exhibition, his attention will probably be arrested by a pen and pencil drawing, which has the novelty of em-

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and pencil drawing, which has the novelty of embracing in one picture geographical and artistic illustrations of the colony. The reaping machine on the right hand represents the staple industry of wheat growing, in which South Australia excels, whilst on the left, is a representation of the Nairn Railway tunnel, with one of the large American 37-ton bogie locomotives, specially made to work this line, which runs through the hills over a ruling gradient of 1 in 45, and under no less than seven tunnels. The lower part of the picture is taken up with a map of Australia, showing the various colonies and their capitals. Among the attractions of this court we had expected to see the exhibits of wines, dried fruits, and other experimental industries with which the name of Mr. Thomas Hardy, of Bankside, has become prominently associated, in connection with South Australia; but Mr. Hardy's trophy was conspicuous by its absence from the court of that colony, occupying a position in one of the bays on the opposite side of the avenue.

#### WEST AUSTRALIAN COURT.

Smith & Co. of London House, take up one fourth of the whole space allotted to this colony, their furniture pavilion occupying two bays on the left hand of the main entrance to the Exhibition building. Their exhibits are all purely colonial work, and, in point of intrinsic merit, will rank with anything in the same category within the building. Among the articles of furniture shown is a magnificent drawing-room suite in the early English style, covered with crimson and gold tapestry. The wood consists of picked Italian walnut, with carved lines in the simple but elegant style of tracing characteristic of the early English period. Its general effect is excellent, and it appeared to meet with the admiration of all who inspected it. The same firm also exhibit a bedroom suite, made of weeping willow, which was grown on the banks of the Swan. The suite is exceedingly beautiful both in appearance and workmanship, its simple but symmetrical design producing a thoroughly pretty and tasteful effect. There is also in the same pavilion a very handsome ebonised show case, a fender stool, and a hall suite in Cape lilac, the wood of which was grown by the late Chief Justice (Sir Archibald Paull Burt.) Another particularly handsome article among Messrs. Smith & Co.'s exhibits is a chest of drawers, made of Sydney cedar, with rich carved trusses. There is also a drawing room Davenport in mahogany and Cape lilac, and a very neat whatnot of polished mahogany and ebonised woods. Among the other articles worthy of mention are some interesting oil paintings, chromo lithographs, and water-colors, greatly improving the *tout ensemble* of the room. We understand that several articles of furniture, including a Duchess dressing table, which is yet in an unfinished state, will shortly be added to this firm's collection. Messrs. Smith & Co. deserve great credit for making such an excellent display, and especially so from the fact that every article they exhibit has been manufactured on their own premises in Howick Street, and prin-

on their own premises in Howick Street, and principally out of colonial wood. A little further down the avenue may be seen an exhibit of furniture by Mr. Hegerson, of Hay Street. This is not so pretentious as the display already described, but so far as it goes it is excellent, and the articles exhibited reflect infinite credit upon the manufacturer. Next to the bays occupied by Messrs. Smith & Co. is an imposing display of jewelry, contributed by Mr. Mason, of Fremantle. The show here made will probably be among the greatest attraction to country visitors in the West Australian court, the exhibits, on the whole, forming a highly meritorious display. It is a pity that our court does not give a better representation of our staple products. It is upon these that the colony mainly relies for its commercial position in the world, and visitors to our Exhibition should be able to see them represented in a manner which would be a sufficient recognition of their importance. Viewed in this light, the show of our own products is unsatisfactory. With the exception of wool—the exhibits of which were confined to the owners of sheep who were represented at the late Guildford show—the varied natural resources of the colony were very inadequately represented. There was not much that was interesting, and still less anything like a collection of samples that might be, and ought to have been, shown. Of course a sufficient explanation may be found. The difficulty of inducing residents in distant parts of the colony to send exhibits is very great,

and it required strenuous efforts on the part of the promoters of the Exhibition to collect what we have got together. The list however might be indefinitely extended. Among the most meritorious exhibits in the West Australian court are the carvings in ivory, the handiwork of Capt. Wilkinson, which are enclosed in a glass case close to the main entrance. Some of these carvings were shown at the Melbourne Exhibition, and are exquisitely wrought. Mr. McGlew exhibits a croquet set made of sandalwood and raspberry jam; some castings; and a sample of pure bone dust—a cheap fertiliser, containing those elements necessary to restore exhausted land. Mr. M. C. Davies shows several specimens of karri, adding another chapter to a controversy that promises to last as long as the siege of Troy. Mr. Forbes of Mandurah, makes an attractive display of his preserved fruit and fish. Experience of some of the imported preparations in this line has unfortunately somewhat prejudiced the public mind against tinned preserves, but an acquaintance with the preparations to which Mr. Forbes devotes his attention at Mandurah, should remove all objections

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at Mandurah, should remove all objections begotten of previous trials. The mode and method of preparing these preserves, as explained to our representative, seem to possess all the elements of success, and it affords small matter for surprise that the firm is rapidly gaining ground in public esteem. Mr. Nugent, of Fremantle, shows a fine exhibit of various kinds of leather, the dressing evincing great care in their preparation. There is also, in this connection, a good display of boots and shoes from Mr. Christie's establishment, and a monster exhibit of soap contributed by Mr. Glaskin. Mr. Farmer shows his eye water, in conjunction with some specimens of indigenous wood, polished. There is also a sample of bone dust from Mr. Oakley's mill at Fremantle, and of superfine flour. We are sorry that our review of our West Australian court is necessarily so brief and meagre.

#### THE FRENCH COURT.

France is represented by M. Hautrive, who has arranged one of the prettiest and most attractive courts in the building. M. Hautrive represents no less than fifteen French manufacturing firms, whose exhibits, both for variety and excellence, are well worthy of inspection. They consist chiefly of articles of ladies' use, which are displayed with admirable taste. Silks, satins, ribbons, elegant fans—some hand-painted, and others composed of beautiful ostrich feathers; gloves and embroidery, trimmings and gauzes; opera glasses, satchets, and basket ware of pretty design; embroidered tulle fichus, collars, and a variety of other portions of ladies' attire and ornaments, combining to make a very pretty collection, and one that is sure to draw increased attraction as the season advances. Although the exhibits, for the most part, are *articles de luxe*, the useful sometimes predominates, and the collection includes some charming specimens of artistic work. The fans exhibited are from the manufactory of M. Guérin Brecheux, of Paris, and many of them are hand-painted, and most attractively finished. The bronzes, exhibited by M. Rauvier, are in great variety, and are mostly of rare workmanship. They comprise candlestick brackets, statuettes of Rubens, Rembrandt, and other artists and departed heroes, clocks and ink-stands, and (as the auctioneers say) many other things too numerous to particularize,—but forming a collection well worthy of inspection. The vases and glassware exhibited and manufactured by Baccarot, of which there is a fine display, are of attractive design. In fancy goods, which take a very prominent part in this court, will be noticed a varied assortment of Parisian novelties, including plush and leather bags, ladies' workboxes, and a variety of articles well suited for presents. With the approach of Christmas and the New Year, we have no doubt that M. Hautrive will find many visitors to the Exhibition desirous of securing, among this tasteful assortment of articles de Paris, some trifle as a souvenir of his court. In addition to the more pretentious exhibits, we have here such

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Although Stoke-on-Trent is the head quarters of this and about two hundred other firms engaged in the pottery trade, the clay, which is one of the principal materials employed, is obtained from Cornwall, Devonshire, and other Southern counties; while bones, which enter largely into the composition of china, are collected from all parts of the world. The bones, it may be remarked, are first boiled or 'digested,' to get rid of the fat, and then calcined—a process which reduces them to a white dust. The transparent appearance of English china is due to this admixture of bone dust with 'kaolin' (or clay), which are used in about equal proportions. The ceramic exhibits shown in this court are duplicates of those exhibited by the same firms at Philadelphia, Paris, Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide exhibitions, and for which the exhibitors were awarded the grand prix at Paris and gold medals at the other expositions. The collection comprises an exquisite landscape dinner service, blue, Danish, and turquoise breakfast sets, dessert sets, and some beautiful toilet ware in raised flower work. Some of these are of soft glazed china, which approaches the old porcelain tendre more nearly than any other modern china. We are told that it is easily worked, and that the body at the same time is sufficiently vitreous to receive the necessary colours. The difficulty in the process of manufacture is to avoid breakage, for the piece has to be fired and fired again as the separate decorations are applied. A great heat is at times required; for instance, to burn in mazarine blue (a favorite color), the temperature of the ware has to be raised to whiteness in the furnace. The exhibits in this section also include some very handsome flower baskets in Wedgewood and jasper ware, jugs and teapots in jasper, and a variety of Dresden and Coburg ware. Mr. Andrew is also representing the firm of Thomas Webb & Sons, the eminent glass manufacturers of Stourbridge, whose exhibits are among the most handsome and valuable in the Exhibition. The collection comprises some magnificent crystal, glass, and cut services, also engraved sets, flower stands, and amber flower bowls of exquisite design. A special feature in the court is the beautifully engraved glass claret jug, on which is depicted, with wondrous skill, a classical design representing Venus rising from the sea, with naiads in attendance. This artistic exhibit is valued at £150—a sum which to many people may appear enormous for a glass jug. Any surprise, however, on this point is removed, when it is borne in mind that the particular cup here alluded to, occupied the time and labour of the engraver, for, three years.

Looking at the excellence of some of the exhibits in this section, we entertain the hope that some of the more choice and rare specimens of art may be retained in the colony. A visit to the British court suggests the idea that, to our colonial born sons and daughters of the soil, whose viatorial experiences do not extend beyond the boundaries of their native land, an inspection of many of the

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experiences do not extend beyond the boundaries of their native land, an inspection of many of the exhibits collected together in this and some of the other courts, will be particularly interesting. There is among us, a considerable native-born population to whom these foreign exhibits will, for the first time, afford a glimpse of the Old World. A glance, for instance, at the artistic tracery upon the ceramic and glass ware collection in the British court, or the delicate jewelry and mosaic work shown in other parts of the building, will do more than volumes of mere description to explain to them what is meant by artistic workmanship. In a colony like this, absorbed in the rough work of subduing Nature, it is hard for us to realise the conditions under which people live in the Old World. We have a quick appreciation of what is useful, but we are apt to forget that beauty is also something that ought to be sought for. Exhibits such as these to which we refer, teach the lesson in the most direct and forcible manner. Probably, it will never be the good fortune of the majority of native-born West Australians to see the great Art collections, the accumulation of centuries, open to the poorest artisan living in a European capital. They may read or hear a description given of them. But a picture, a statuette, or an example of art workmanship, will give life to the description. Small as the collection of art exhibits on view at the present Exhibition is, it cannot fail to serve to enable those of our colonial born visitors who examine them to realise what they hear and read,—in the same way that a handful of bones will enable an anatomist to build up the whole structure of the animal from which they are taken. Before leaving the British court, we may mention that Mr. Andrews, who is in charge of it, will be happy to furnish all required information with reference to the exhibits of the various firms which he represents.

#### THE SWISS COURT.

Although not so extensive in area, nor exhibiting goods possessing the intrinsic value of those contained in some of the other the Swiss section, which is represented by Mr. Ernest Engster, is one of the most attractive courts in the building, and is certainly the most purely national of any, the exhibits being all of Swiss manufacture and characteristic of the country. Mr. Engster represents six firms, whose respective specialties are wood carvings, music boxes, condensed milk and 'koumiss' (milk food), silk embroideries—and lace curtains, machine embroideries, and, 'last but not least' important,—ladies' fancy dress goods. The wood carvings of Mr. Flueck, of Brien, possess merits which demand more than a hasty glance, and a spare half hour may be reasonably and profitably utilised in their inspection. These little relics are hand-carved by the people of the Bernese Oberland, whose taste in designing them is almost proverbial. The woods used in most instances are linden, yew, walnut, pine, pear, cherry, and maple. The white yew allows of exquisite little pieces of foliage being carved in relief, in such a way that the dark hue of the heart forms a pretty background. The anatomy in some of the animals re-

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ground. The anatomy in some of the animals represented, such as the chamois and the hare, is admirable in many of the specimens. Blumer and Wild, of St. Gall, exhibit a variety of fancy goods, which are displayed in a large case, and Baenziger, Buerke, & Co., hailing from the same place, exhibit silk embroideries of all shades and styles calculated to gratify a refined taste. In looking over this department, visitors will find much to admire. Heller, of Berne, shows a variety of musical boxes of large dimensions, set to play several tunes, with the accompaniment of miniature drums, pipes, castanets, and other instruments, all represented in the mechanism. The workmanship is superior, and the finish good. Departing from the musical, we come to the essentially practical, and are shown a trophy composed of that prosaic production known to patients as Nestle's milk food. Condensed milk, is also shown. Berchenbach & Co., of St. Gall exhibit a quantity of machine embroidery, seemingly quite equal to anything done by hand. Naturally one looks for carvings in a show of genuine Swiss handiwork, and there is no lack of specimens, from Mr. Flueck's establishment, to show how the herdsmen and villagers employ their leisure hours, and eke out a livelihood. The carvings are, for the most part similar to what we have been accustomed to see as having come from the historic land of Wilhelm Tell. And, writing of Wilhelm Tell reminds, us that the Swiss patriot, the hero of Rossini's masterpiece, whose prowess and heroic deeds are recorded in the dramatic verse of Schiller, was, after all, a fiction—if we are to believe a Swiss antiquarian society, who devoted considerable attention to the subject. This society, after careful investigation, have acknowledged they were reluctantly forced to the conclusion that the homage said to have been enforced to Gessler's hat was pure fabrication; that the thrilling scene of Tell shooting the apple from the head of his son never took place, for the best of reasons—that no such person as Wilhelm Tell ever existed. So much for history. But this is a digression. We have in the Swiss court in addition to what we have already mentioned, alpine cottages in abundance; tastefully designed and richly carved specimens of cabinet work and lace curtains of exquisite workmanship. In short, the court though small in dimensions, compared with some of its rivals, affords ample evidence that the trade of Switzerland with far off countries is of considerable importance, especially in connection with delicate fabrics; and the obliging gentleman who presides over the court is too patriotic to fail in presenting the lights and shadows of his native land in their best aspects.

#### THE JAPANESE COURT.

The Japanese court is situated next to the British section. The earliest history of Japan is wrapped in mystery. The tradition is that after the erection of heaven and earth, an island of soft earth swam upon the water like a fish. At the same time between heaven and earth, a thing was born similar to the plant *Ashi*. This was changed into a god, and he was the first of seven celestial spirits. He reigned ten millions of years, as did

spirits. He reigned ten millions of years, as did also his two successors. The first three spirits were self-born, and were males. The fourth, fifth, and sixth spirits had female companions, and reproduced by mutual contemplation. After a fabulous number of years arose a male spirit Izanagi-ne-Mikoto, and a female spirit Izanami-no-Mikoto. To them were born two daughters, the Sun Goddess, and the Moon Goddess, and two sons. After living on earth for many years Izanagi and Izanami returned to heaven, and it is asserted that the present Emperor of Japan is descended without a single break from the "Sun Goddess." This is the legendary account of the foundation of Japan, — a country which we here find represented by an interesting and attractive display of the skill and industry of its inhabitants. One of the principal native industries is cabinet-making, and it is wonderful how skilful myriads of separate pieces of wood are blended in colour and design into one harmonious whole. Wood, inlaid with brass making a sort of original ormolu work, shows most artistic taste and design. There are also some exquisite enamelled wares, which cannot fail to attract attention. We understand that these enamelled articles are made in the following manner: A foundation of copper is formed of the shape required, and upon this a network of brass wire is laid according to the design, of the ornamentation. The interstices of the wire are then filled up with the different enamels until the surface is quite smooth. The articles are then submitted to a great heat, and, after they are cool, more enamel is put on, and they are again put into the furnace. This is again repeated four or five times. When this operation is finished, they are rubbed with rough stones and then with finer ones, and so on until the articles are smoothed and polished. As artisans of potteryware and china, of which there are some very handsome specimens in the court, the Japanese workmen have made themselves a name. Nothing comes amiss to their skilful fingers — whether a vase of coarse ware six feet high, or the delicately-coloured and chastely-designed ornaments that have become the fashion in modern boudoirs and in the china collections of cognoscenti. In the grotesque, too, the Japanese excel, while as manufacturers of nick-nack — such as fans, cigar cases, glove boxes, etc. they display great art in skilfully manipulating the most fragile materials. An inspection of this court will well repay the visit.

#### MECHANICAL.

The Exhibition, within its boundaries, contains exhibits as varied in use as in outward form. The visitor's eye wanders from drapery to drugs, from emblems of feminine vanity to examples of human forethought, from the refinements of art to the no less instructive branch of the mechanical; and perhaps among the first things calculated to attract the attention of most visitors will be one of the two massive die-sinking presses which are at work within the building, one near the entrance to the Exhibition at its southern section, and the other in close proximity to the central fountain. These

ly in close proximity to the central fountain. These machines are not so much calculated to attract attention from the elegance of their proportions—for they are more massive than graceful—as from the activity of their movements. They are both very busy machines, striking medals of all sorts, shapes, and sizes, with a rapidity going far to prove that they are well-regulated servants. One is exhibited by Mr. Hamilton, the designer, and it is this which stamped the gold medals presented by the pro-

moters of the Exhibition to His Excellency the Governor to be forwarded for the acceptance of Her Majesty the Queen, as a memento of the opening ceremony. The same machine will also strike off the Exhibition prize medals. The novelty of seeing a coin moulded, manufactured, and stamped proved irresistible to a great many visitors, and no sooner had one purchaser secured his souvenir of the Perth International Exhibition than another filled his place, the routine being kept up without intermission, until a late hour last night. The press is one of the largest of its kind in the Australian colonies, and is arranged so that medals can be struck of various dimensions, from the size of sixpence up to six inches in diameter. The impression is sharp, clear, and even. The machine, which was hard at work yesterday, can take in a die eighteen inches in diameter, and is also available for heavy plate purposes. Mr. Hamilton also turns his attention to electro plating, gilding, and other industrial pursuits of a like kind. The other press is exhibited by Messrs. Stokes and Martin, of Melbourne, who were the winners of the £200 prize for the best pair of dies for the Melbourne Exhibition prize medals. The firm show samples of their work, and amongst them medals not larger than a sovereign, and containing the whole of the Lord's Prayer stamped distinctly upon them. This machine has a somewhat interesting history. It was at the first International Exhibition in London, thirty years ago, and it has been to the Sydney and Melbourne Exhibitions, as well as at Brisbane and Adelaide. The diameter of the flywheel is 5ft., and its weight half a ton, but the plunger strikes with the force of 50 tons. It can strike 600 medals an hour when helped by the self-feeder. In conjunction with this affair is exhibited some electro-plated ware. Another mechanical exhibit which attracted much attention, outside the building, was one of Flood's improved water-lifts, which was working steadily and well, pouring out a continuous flow of water in the presence of an admiring throng. This pump has an endless chain, with a series of iron plugs, and is of first class utility for short lifts. Mr. Flood, the maker and patentee, is represented here by his daughter Miss Flood who also was in charge of the same exhibit at the Melbourne and Adelaide Exhibitions. Miss Flood also shows an improved washing machine.

#### WINES, BEER, AND AERATED WATERS.

Among the sections submitted to public criticism that devoted to colonial wines and beer is worthy



that devoted to colonial wines and beer is worthy of special consideration. As people will drink, it is just as well that they should be supplied with something that is demonstrably non-poisonous. "Rum," said Josh Billings, "is very well in its proper place, and its proper place is—" well, a locality with an exceedingly hot climate. The same condemnation would apply to some other forms of spirits retailed in these days. An immense amount of stuff is sold that is lamentable in its character, so that were a less depraved taste cultivated, and an article at once innocuous and pleasant substituted for the present stimulant, there would result a distinct gain to the community. It surely will not take a long time to make the most confirmed of toppers see that decent wine or wholesome colonial beer is preferable to abominable spirits. A sawyer at one of our timber stations on a recent occasion described the "brandy" he was in the habit of drinking, by saying that it was like swallowing a circular saw and pulling it up again. It must take a long education to acquire a solid taste for such a powerful stimulant as that, and in the interests of society it may be well to urge that our native produce will be found preferable for a steady drink. Viewing the matter in this light, the goodly show made at the exhibition in the section now under review is worthy of consideration.

Although we have been making beer in Perth for the last thirty or forty years, it is only within the last seven or eight years that our local brewers have turned their attention to the production of an article really suitable for consumption in such a climate as that of Australia. We believe it will fully be recognised that for this improvement our beer-drinkers are indebted to Mr. Mumme, the genial partner of Mr. Ferguson in the Swan Brewery, who, on his arrival in the colony a few years ago, from South Australia, first drew the attention of our brewers to the necessity for improving upon the old style of article. The increasing demand for locally manufactured beer which followed the improvements introduced by Mr. Mumme, led to a keen but friendly competition between our two brewing establishments, and to the production of an article which, so far as the public consumption enables us to judge, must have struck a heavy blow at the import trade in English beer. Several of our local brewing firms exhibit samples of their beer in bottle and in bulk, while the exhibits of colonial wine are numerous.

#### THE ART GALLERY.

Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny's invitation to owners of pictures and works of art has met with a ready response. A large number of contributions have been sent in, and the art gallery will prove a very attractive feature of the exhibition. It must be confessed that some local owners of articles passing as pictures have shown themselves quite unable to draw a line between the tolerably good and the execrably bad, and Messrs. Joubert and Twopeny, apparently not liking, in the kindness of their hearts, to hurt anybody's feelings, have refused nothing

to hurt anybody's feelings, have refused nothing that was sent them. Consequently there are some few 'art exhibits' in which art is conspicuous by its absence. But these are in a very small minority, and the collection as a whole is interesting and worthy of careful attention. Immediately within the main entrance is a case filled with art objects lent by His Excellency the Governor—reminiscences, chiefly, of Sir William Robinson's official visit to the King of Siam. A beautiful model of a native barge filled with rowers, which is curiously ornamented with inlaid gold work is the most curious of these exhibits, while a silver walking stick and golden sword hilt are interesting from the beauty of their workmanship. Below are handsome laces by Miss Wrenfordale, which were shewn at Melbourne and obtained an award, and silk fabrics made of Western Australian material. Immediately in front of this case, on a pedestal, is a plaster of paris cast of a capital for column. This model is really very good and reflects credit upon the colony. Beyond are some charming paintings of native flowers exhibited by Lady Gifford, placed in a glass stand. From the entrance, on each side of the centre aisle, are hung the drawings, paintings, and lithographs which have been sent for exhibition. A detailed account of these exhibits we must reserve for another occasion—the hanging having been completed only on Sunday evening, we have not had time as yet, to give them that close attention which they deserve. But a hasty inspection even, discloses much that is interesting and some art work of a high character. The water colours brought by the promoters of the exhibition are charming, those representing architectural subjects, by Wratishaw, being of particular excellence. Over some of these one could long linger, admiring the beauties of old church interiors, represented with most poetic feeling—interiors in which touches of bright colour lighten the pervading gloom with most telling and skilful effect. Some paintings on china by a French lady, Madame Turc, will rank next in value to lovers of good art. These, shaded with one colour, blue or pink, are admirably done, and, happily, are hung low enough to enable their beauties to be properly appreciated. A portrait, said to be by Gainsborough, is, of course, of interest, though it is a pity the exhibitor cannot give an absolute guaranty that we are looking at the work of the great portrait painter. The beautifully finished landscape back-ground, however, makes those who are acquainted with Gainsborough's style pretty certain that this is the product of his brush. Father Gibney contributes a number of very high class chromo-lithographs, representing sacred subjects. Many of these are well worth seeing, as also are other representations of religious subjects and other artists' work.

other representations of religious subjects—engravings of Doré's and other artists' work—of which there is a considerable number. Some delicious water-colours, from an artist hand, lent by the Chief Justice—views chiefly of scenes in the Mauritius—are a treat to the eye, and other scenes from nature, by Miss Allen, are charming reminiscences of the land of lake and mountain in which they were drawn. Local talent is not unrepresented. Mr. Prinsep sends his well-known picture of Mrs. Boldt, and in the Western transept may be seen a few really exquisite flower paintings by Mrs. J. Forrest. Some sea pieces, apparently by a local amateur, are scarcely up to the mark, and certain exhibits of landscape in wool work are curious, but chiefly as examples of misapplied industry. Mention should be made of the portrait paintings in oil, drawn by Mr. Greenfeld,—that representing Mr. Jonbert, one of the promoters of the Exhibition, being a very faithful and life-like picture. Mr. Greenfeld also exhibits a number of photographs of children and adults, which are excellently executed. A fuller description of the art gallery we shall reserve for a future occasion, when we may be able to do better justice to the merits of what, on the whole, is a collection of some value.