

The Great London Exhibition.

There is much speculation about as to how we shall be able to lodge, board, and entertain the numbers of strangers who are expected to visit London next year. The first point, indeed, would be to establish something like an approximation to the number of our future guests. We have not only to consider the aggregate which may arrive from France, Germany, Holland, Russia, and in a word, from Europe generally, but to carry our calculations to other regions of the globe. The citizens of the United States of America will, no doubt, come by thousands to visit the exhibition, and from the whole surface of the globe, all leaving their kingdoms for the moment out of the account—a million of persons will be attracted to London in the course of the ensuing spring to visit the great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations? We leave this problem to the question of the decision of our more speculative readers. The only datum which we can offer to assist their inquiry is the statement that has reached us that the railway companies have made arrangements to convey 10,000,000 visitors from Vienna alone. It is thus seen, "the expectation" of the number of continental foreigners who may visit us next spring may be stated in the form of a very obvious proportion.

There can be little doubt that, of the 28,000,000 persons who compose the population of the British Isles—London excepted—will, at least, be the 1,000,000 of visitors to the great exhibition of next spring. Were all these birds of passage to settle down in a single swarm, the population of London would be doubled. We should have to provide Smithfields, two Leadenhalls, two Billingsgate, two Covent-gardens. Our milkmen would require a double supply of chairs, and our bakers of loaves. Twice as many omnibuses would traverse our streets; twice as many hackney cabs would be carrying from every side of the town towards Kensington. Where are all these persons to feed, to sleep? What are the landlords about? We dare not follow the subject into its infinite ramifications. No doubt keen eyes are already directed towards the possibilities of the future. Many a speculator looks to the extension of the Exhibition as a golden time, and has already planned his measures for taking title of the strangers. Where personal interest is so actively concerned, there is not such occasion for urging the necessity of timely preparation. We confess we look at the question in another point of view; we are anxious to see some little matters of arrangement modified before the arrival of our guests for the sake of the national credit. Like Celeb Balderston in Walter Scott's tale, we are concerned for the honor of the family, and would gladly see the dirt scoured off the walls when the arrival of our guests. To others we leave the eating and sleeping, and washing arrangements; but there are some points connected with the rights of our guests for the most desirous of us as a nation, and sadly calculated to lower us in the opinion of our foreign visitors.

In London we have not at least many signs of preparation to be called. There is no capital city in Europe, which in point of external activity can be compared with London. Never in the world's history was such a swarm of human beings thronged together in London, during the present moment. If we could induce our 3,000,000 visitors to hitch themselves to the backs of 100,000 omnibuses, and permit themselves to be driven to an admission point, from the Tower to Blackwall, from Highgate to Chelsea, to others we leave the eating and sleeping, and washing arrangements; but there are some points connected with the rights of our guests for the most desirous of us as a nation, and sadly calculated to lower us in the opinion of our foreign visitors.

How do they punish the murderer? "His head is cut off direct," (were the words of the interpreter.) For marriage, a man is allowed but one wife; if he does not please his second he can see a divorce. The health of the city is completely restored, the clear and bracing weather of the last week having driven out cholera with its train of diseases, though not until it had straggled away several prominent and valued citizens. San Francisco is steadily progressing in every branch of improvement, the most important and attractive of which is the grading, planing, and sewerage of the streets. Our city now presents a greater extent of plank streets, probably than any other city in the Union. If not in the world—since these improvements commenced, over 40,000 feet, or above seven and a half miles of street have been graded; 19,800 feet have been planed; and over 30,000 feet of grading, and 100,000 feet of plank are now under contract, and will shortly be completed.

At no period since the first lump of gold was picked up in the race of Sutter's saw mill, at Colusa, have the mines been worked with so much energy and industry as at present. The cholera has released Sacramento City from its baneful presence, and business there is reviving. The prospect of the rating of the river Sacramento has opened the usual winter trade between that city and the towns and settlements above. The southern mines we have favorable prospects, which lead to the belief that the aggregate yield of the mines is nearly, if not quite equal at the present time to anything in their past history. The first whale ship out of the port of San Francisco cleared yesterday morning—the bark Phoenix. She is owned and fitted out by Mr. J. C. Richmond, formerly of New Bedford. Notwithstanding the existing high rates here, the outfit of the vessel cost the owners but \$5500, or a little more. It is said that it would cost to fit her out from New Bedford and bring her to the whaling grounds of the Pacific. We cannot but regard this as the

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