

would not appear well if a large vacant space should be left in the department assigned to any country. If, on the other hand, any country require more than the space proposed, this also should be stated, as it may be in the power of the Commissioners to give additional room, in the event of having received notifications from other countries that a portion of the space assigned to them will not be occupied.

The Commissioners have had under their serious consideration the question whether it would be desirable to mark off particular spaces, and assign them to particular countries, allowing each to arrange the whole of its productions within those limits; but they adhere to the conclusion which they have already announced, that this course will not be desirable, and that it will be necessary that the productions of all nations should be exhibited together, according to the classification of objects which the Commissioners have made, with a subordinate classification as to nations in each section. They consider that the effect which the Exhibition is intended to produce—of showing, at one view, the points which human industry and ingenuity have reached in the arts of civilized life—would be materially diminished if the results of the industry of different nations in each department were scattered over a large space instead of being conveniently brought together. The Visitor would receive a very inadequate notion of the perfection to which particular manufactures can be carried from an inspection of those of one nation only; and in a building of such extent it would be out of his power to go from a particular section in one Exhibition to the corresponding sections in all the other national Exhibitions, and to compare them all. Again, unless the productions of all nations are exhibited together, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to award the palm of superiority. Different parts of the Exhibition will be visited on different days, and the impressions made on one day by the manufactures of one country, will be effaced the next day by the corresponding manufactures of another. In the adjudication of Prizes also such arrangements would cause much difficulty. Another objection may also be mentioned, namely the danger there would be of imputed unfairness and favouritism in the places assigned to different nations. The several articles which will be exhibited will require great diversity of accommodation, as respects space, light, and other particulars; and were the space set apart for one nation inferior in any of these respects to the space set apart for another nation, there would be ground for complaint; whereas if all articles of the same nature are exhibited together, all will share these advantages alike, and each article will be placed in that part of the building which is best adapted for the reception of goods of that description. The Commissioners must therefore reserve to themselves the unfettered right of arranging all goods that may be sent in such manner as they may think proper. They will endeavour, in the case of articles the nature of which admits of their so doing, to arrange each section with some reference to the nationality of the productions exhibited in it, and will not intermix the productions of one country with those of another, in cases where the objects of the Exhibition can be attained without their doing so. Whatever may be their arrangements, however, they undertake to find places for all articles sent by each country which could, if placed together, be exhibited in the aggregate space allotted to that country, provided only that they be informed in sufficient time what proportion of that space will be required for Raw Materials, what proportion for Machinery, what proportion for Manufactured Articles, and what proportion for objects of Fine Art. This information should be sent on or before the days which will be communicated to each country.

The Commissioners annex a Memorandum by the Commissioners of Customs, on the subject of Custom House arrangements.

A Statement will shortly be published on the subject of the Adjudication and Distribution of Prizes. It may, however, be desirable at once to state that, in all cases in which the competition is between Exhibitors of different nations, the Prizes will be adjudged by mixed Juries of English and Foreigners.

And a statement will also be published of the arrangements to be made for the protection of articles which may be exhibited, from piracy.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL,
STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE, } *Secretaries.*