

but by the employment of skilled labor, a ton of iron converted into steel, and then manufactured into watch springs, becomes of enormously increased value; so it will be wherever art is introduced, and a greatly increased value will be given to the material employed. It should comprise a selection of specimens of ancient art, of all ages and from every country, which may serve as types to be studied by our artisans and workers in metal, ivory, wood, stone, or other material. It must be a Fine-Art Exhibition, because in England fine art is an extensive industry peculiar in its characteristics, and was excluded from our former Exhibition. The Exhibition of Industry and Art in Paris, and more recently of Art at Manchester, has proved that the public of this country will appreciate and support such collections if brought together for their instruction, and it is needless to attempt to show that if a high class of music is introduced as a feature, it will be listened to and sought after at a time when it forms, more than ever it did in this country, part of the education of almost every child. The Exhibition throughout must aim at teaching some lesson in each of its departments, so that we may look back upon it hereafter as the point and period in industrial progress from which we may date the increased commercial prosperity and improved social condition of the people of England. That such will be the result of the Exhibition of 1861, if carried out in its integrity, and upon the basis put forward by the Society of Arts, we cannot doubt; and looking forward to its realization, we commend it to the hearty support of our readers and the public both at home and abroad.

WHERE IT SHOULD BE.

The Society of Arts, in proposing to hold another Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations in 1861, has not yet put forth any statement in reference to the site upon which it proposes to place such a collection. Does it by its silence on this point imply that the Crystal Palace, or the buildings recently erected at Brompton, in an extended form, are to receive the collection? The former, we presume, is not probable, as it cannot be thought that the Crystal Palace Company would give them the use of its building, unless at a heavy rental, to which would have to be added the cost of all but emptying it of much of its present contents, which when effected would not render it capable of affording facilities for the same brilliant display and bold effective arrangement of goods as did the building in Hyde Park. Neither do the Crystal Palace and other Railways connected with it, afford the necessary facilities for conveying to an Exhibition, held at Sydenham, such large numbers of visitors as frequented the Exhibition in Hyde Park in 1851. Inconvenience is at present experienced, when not more than thirty-five or forty thousand persons visit the Crystal Palace on gala days; and it is known that more than one hundred thousand entered the Hyde Park Exhibition and left it, without inconvenience, in a single day; and it is necessary to provide for a maximum number. With reference to the buildings at Brompton, they are already filled with specimens of all kinds, and are constantly used in connection with the schools of the Educational Department of the Government and the Department of Science and Art, and cannot, we imagine, be cleared out for the purpose of temporary exhibition; nor are the buildings there erected of sufficient extent or of a character suited for a great international display and world's fair of industry, science, and the polite arts. Where, then, is the Exhibition to be held? Is a new building to be put up?