

great strides since the last Exhibition in Paris. These provinces of the Empire, with a population of over two and a half millions, have an external commerce exceeding ninety millions a year, the greater part of which is with Great Britain and her dependencies. It is not, therefore, surprising that the enterprise of these Colonies should have brought them prominently forward at this international competition, and that each made a creditable display of its own products and industry.

New South Wales, the oldest Australian Colony, exhibited the magnitude of her natural resources in her splendid display of wool, for which she gained a grand prix; in her display of coal, with which she supplies the countries of the Pacific; for her scientific display of mineralogical and natural history collections by Professor Liversedge; and for the excellence of her varied branches of manufactures. The Hon. Edward Combes, M.P., C.M.G., late Minister for Public Works, the Executive Commissioner for New South Wales, remained in continuous care of the exhibits of this important Colony during the whole period of the Exhibition.

The energy and industry of the Colonists of Victoria is remarkably shown by the great number and varied character of her exhibits. Representations of the enormous wealth attained through her gold discoveries are only evidences of the future riches which will accrue to her from the encouragement of her industrial resources. Wools, woollen fabrics, silk, wines, carriages, preserved meats and provisions, and almost every branch of industry was here represented. The Hon. J. J. Casey, M.P., C.M.G., President of the Victoria Commission, superintended the arrangement of the collections sent from his Colony until his return to Victoria, after which his duties were performed by Mr. G. Collins Levey, C.M.G., the Secretary to the Commission.

The great natural resources of South Australia are shown by her exhibits of wheat, wool, gold, copper, wine, and oil. South Australia, as on some former occasions, received the highest award for her magnificent collections of wheat, and a gold medal for flour. The granary of Australia, she also furnishes to the mother country some of the finest description of grain. For her merino wool, amongst other prizes, a gold medal was awarded. The exhibits of gold and of native and manufactured copper attracted considerable attention and received suitable awards, whilst the wines and oil shown give promise of a rich reward to capitalists and labour. Mr. Josiah Boothby, C.M.G., Under Secretary to the Government of South Australia, ably represented the Colony throughout.

Queensland has shown the variety and magnitude of her resources in a display of wool, sugar, minerals, pearl shell, and other articles of indigenous produce, which secured a large number of awards.

Queensland was represented by Mr. A. Macalister, C.M.G., Chairman of the Commission, the Agent General in London, and by Mr. A. Hodgson, C.M.G.

Western Australia exhibited a small collection of general products, but was exceedingly important in its splendid exhibit of Jarrah-Jarrah and other forest timber not surpassed for its imperishable qualities and which is obtainable in great abundance. The exhibits of this Colony were placed under the charge of the Secretary of the Royal Commission.

New Zealand, represented by Mr. T. P. Russell, sent only a small collection.

The International Juries have placed on record the merits of the above-mentioned Colonial Exhibitions by the number and importance of the medals and honorary rewards voted, which far exceed those granted at any previous Exhibition.

The youngest of our British possessions, the Fiji Islands, was awarded several gold medals for the quality of its cotton.

Of the Eastern Colonies, Ceylon sent the finest collection of produce, native manufactures, and jewellery ever yet exhibited. These were arranged by Sir Charles P. Layard, K.C.M.G.

The Straits Settlements, for the first time since their establishment as a separate Colonial Government, made an interesting representative collection. Mauritius with its dependencies, the Seychelles Islands, represented by Mr. Gustave Adam, Mr. Alphonse Lucas, and Mr. Edward Elias, obtained relatively the highest awards in general, and especially for the article upon which the industry of their populations is concentrated, and the only grand prize awarded to cane sugars was won by Mauritius in addition to five gold medals for the same produce and a gold medal for vanilla.

The only West India Colonies which took part in the Exhibition were Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad. The principal products shown were sugar, rum, coffee, and specimens of woods. Each of these Colonies gained a considerable number of medals, indicating a fair average of excellence.

British Guiana was represented by Mr. William Walker, and Trinidad by Dr. J. Court. These exhibits from Western Australia, Jamaica, the Straits Settlements, and Seychelles, with British Guiana, Trinidad, and Lagos, were placed under the charge of Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen, as Secretary of the Royal Commission. He has been mainly assisted by Captain Harris, Royal Engineers, whose valuable and efficient services to the Colonies generally Sir Philip has never failed to bring specially under my notice, whilst for the technical arrangements and immediate superintendence of the collection from these above-mentioned Colonies, Mr. P. L. Simmonds was well qualified, by his official services at previous Exhibitions and his thorough knowledge of Colonial products, to bring these collections prominently before the International Juries.

Nearly all the Colonies published and circulated valuable descriptive Catalogues, which afforded most useful information to

visitors, and these were freely distributed with many other Colonial publications of scientific or popular character.

Considering that the number of exhibitors was more limited the Colonies have carried away a larger proportion of medals than the mother country.

Taking advantage of the presence in Paris of a number of gentlemen qualified by their personal experience to judge Colonial produce, I secured the services of the following Colonial Commissioners upon the International Juries:—

Mr. Thomas C. Keefer, C.E., C.M.G.	-	} The Dominion.
Dr. S. P. May	-	
Mr. Alfred Selwyn, F.R.S., F.G.S.	-	} New South Wales.
Mr. W. E. Archambault.	-	
The Hon. Edward Combes, C.M.G.	-	} Victoria.
Professor Liversedge	-	
Mr. G. Collins Levey, C.M.G.	-	} South Australia
Mr. Josiah Boothby, C.M.G.	-	
Mr. Gustave Adam	-	} Mauritius.
Mr. Alphonse Lucas	-	
Mr. Edward Elias	-	} Cape of Good Hope.
Mr. Spencer Todd, C.M.G.	-	

I am further glad to acknowledge the valuable services upon the Jury of Mr. Colville Barclay, C.M.G., a well known officer in the Colonial Office.

These gentlemen at the same time gave valuable assistance to the Juries of their respective classes, were watchful for the interests of the several Colonies that they represented, and no less careful for the interests of the exhibitors from the mother country.

In conclusion, I desire to bring under your notice the copy of an address from the Executive Commissioners of the Colonies, which I had the pleasure of receiving at the British Embassy during my last stay in Paris. In the copy of my reply you will observe that I have expressed my satisfaction at the proposed formation of a Colonial Museum, and my readiness to co-operate in any scheme which may have received the mature consideration of the respective Colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALBERT EDWARD, P.

The Right Hon.

Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P., &c. &c. &c.

Sir M. Hicks Beach to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

(COPY.)

Downing Street, December, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the letter dated the 9th instant, which your Royal Highness was pleased to address to me with reference to the part taken by the British Colonies in the Paris Exhibition.

2. The hearty response of the Colonial Governments to your Royal Highness's invitation to them to take part in the Exhibition, the able and zealous co-operation of their Representatives, and the distinguished success of the Colonial representation, have afforded me the greatest satisfaction.

3. I am very sensible of the great advantage to the Colonies of your Royal Highness's active and friendly attention to their interests at the Exhibition, and I have already received from gentlemen connected with the Colonies, officially and otherwise, warm expressions of gratitude for the trouble taken by your Royal Highness on their behalf. I am confident that the Colonial Governments feel deeply indebted to your Royal Highness for the valuable services which you have rendered to them.

4. I feel sure that the ready assistance and co-operation given at all times by Sir P. C. Owen and the Members of his staff, are also fully appreciated by the Exhibitors and official Representatives of the Colonies.

5. With reference to the proposed Colonial Museum in London referred to in the address from the Executive Commissioners of the Colonies to your Royal Highness, I have the honor to state that I shall be ready to co-operate on the part of the Crown Colonies, so far as their means will permit, on learning that the important Colonies enjoying responsible Government are prepared to deal with the suggestion made by the Gentlemen in Paris in a manner which would appear to me to promise success.

6. I shall have much pleasure in transmitting a copy of this correspondence to the Governors of all the Colonies, and in including it among the papers to be presented to Parliament in relation to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. E. HICKS BEACH.

His Royal Highness

The Prince of Wales, K.G., &c. &c. &c.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1875.

And Amending Acts.

In the matter of Solomon Lipman and Michael S. Lipman, individually and as members of the firm of "S. Lipman & Son," Insolvents.

I, the undersigned, Michael A. Finn, of the City of Saint John, in the City and County of Saint John, in the Province of New Brunswick, Merchant, have been appointed Assignee in this matter.—Creditors are requested to file their claims before me within one month.

Dated at Saint John, N. B., this 24th day of February, 1879.

M. A. FINN, Assignee.