

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
CORK.

WE are pleased to learn that everything progresses in the most satisfactory manner towards the accomplishment of the objects proposed by the managers—we had almost written "directors"—of the forthcoming show on the banks of the Lee. The committee meet weekly, and, judging from the reports supplied by the local journals, its business is transacted in an orderly and systematic manner. The following few short extracts will keep our readers generally posted up as to proceedings.

Sir George Colthurst, who had just returned from London, stated that through the kindness of Mr. Marcus Ward, of Belfast, he had been introduced to the chairman of the City Guilds, who had taken up very warmly the question of technical education, and through the courtesy of this gentleman he had been able to inspect the new Technical College, recently erected at a cost of £22,000. He (Sir George) suggested that a small subcommittee be appointed, under the presidency of Dr. W. K. Sullivan, to draw up a definite scheme of technical education suitable for the South of Ireland, and that when this had been done a memorial be addressed to the City Guilds asking for their assistance in furtherance of the project. The first contributor has been Sir John Pope Hennessy, Governor of the Mauritius, who has always evinced a lively interest in the prosperity of his native city. He has sent a case of articles, comprising porcelain and interesting objects from China and Japan, and which are likely to form a most attractive feature in the Exhibition. The collection comprises twenty-seven pieces of Japanese pottery, five stands in wood work, six pieces of blue and white china, one curious teapot, several pieces of celadon—a peculiar kind of green coloured porcelain. Three books of the fifteenth century, a large Chinese seal, three hawthorn china jars, two pictures of old Cork, a large Japanese umbrella, with stand; a copy of Spencer's "Faerie Queene," which originally belonged to Sir Walter Raleigh, one Japanese box with panels inlaid with silver and gold, which is a very beautiful piece of workmanship.

On Monday last a deputation consisting of Sir George Colthurst and Mr. Francis MacCarthy attended at Queenstown, where they had an interview with the Commissioners, by whom they met with a favourable reception. Sir George Colthurst said he came down there to do what he was sure would not give him or them much trouble—to ask them for their sympathy and support towards the Cork Exhibition. He felt sure that they were all too well acquainted with the necessity which there was in this country to encourage and start an industrial and factory enterprise, not to see that the object of the proposed Exhibition in Cork was to tend in that direction. He had the pleasure of visiting towns in most parts of Ireland in no way connected with the prosperity or trade of Cork, and many of them not connected with the prosperity or trade of Munster generally. In all these places the people had come forward with liberality, and generously helped them to carry this Exhibition to a successful issue; because they recognised in the mere fact of the people of Cork being able to hold an Exhibition, and to unite all parties in the project, which was free from any of the burning questions that divided them—they saw in that movement what would, perhaps, be the opening of a new era of peace and prosperity to Ireland. He was of opinion that the interest of Queenstown would, to a great extent, be benefited by the proposed Exhibition, and he, therefore attended to ask them to give it their support. One of the reasons that made it necessary for them to get more money than they originally anticipated they

would require was that they desired to establish a technical school. Among the great centres in England it was found that, in spite of the advantages which they had of having coals, they were unable to compete satisfactorily with their foreign rivals, simply because the Germans, and the Belgians, and the Bavarians had been successful in introducing a system of State aided technical education. If it is most important that the people in the manufacturing centres in England should be taught how to apply the resources of science to the development of industries, surely it was more important for the Irish people who were about to start manufactures. Unless the committee were sure of getting this sum it would be impossible to start the school. Queenstown, as a port, was more interested in the starting of manufactures in this country than Cork was. By the decision of the Committee of the House of Lords they would be able to load and unload at Queenstown on reasonable terms, vessels from America. The trade between Ireland and America last year was a million and a-half. It would be their interests—not speaking as patriots loving their country, but as business men interested in the prosperity of Queenstown—to promote the development of manufactures in every possible way. The goods imported and deposited at the port of Queenstown would bring trade and business to the country. He would not take up any more of their time, feeling certain that however in other respects they might disagree with him, they all were agreed on this. He asked them to use their influence to get the people of Queenstown to aid in starting this undertaking, and give them the support which they had received from the people in other towns in Ireland.

Sir George Colthurst is also canvassing the principal towns in the south, and has been most successful.

A deputation from the Cork Typographical Society waited on the Executive Committee, and stated that they had been informed that it as proposed to give the printing of the catalogue to a Dublin firm. The men in the employment of Mr. F. Guy had agreed to work lower than the usual rate of wages to enable him to amend his tender, and they asked the committee to give the work to a local firm. The Amalgamated Committee had recommended that the tender of Messrs. Leckie and Co., of Dublin, as being the lowest, should be accepted. There were four other tenders—three from Dublin and only one from Cork.

We (*Herald*) understand that what was meant to be conveyed by the Typographical deputation was, that the morning paper printers were willing to render assistance to Mr. Guy (in the event of his being pressed for time) at the rate usually paid for day. Work—practically the abatement referred to by the secretary.

The Finance Committee recommended a scale of charges for the Exhibition. The price of the season ticket was fixed at £1 5s., including admission, to the opening ceremony.

THE BUILDING—ITS ARCHITECTURE AND ITS
CONTRACTOR.

It is gratifying (says the local Constitution) to draw especial attention to a circumstance in connection with the coming Cork Exhibition, which was made the subject of a resolution at yesterday's meeting of the Executive Committee. The contract for the building has been in the hands of our fellow-citizen, Mr. John Delany, and anyone who has had all opportunity of seeing the how completed structure can testify to the admirable manner in which he has executed the work. Mr. Delany was appointed contractor after a severe competition, and at a figure nearly one thousand pounds less than that of his next lowest opponent. A stipulation was made that the work should be completed by May 25th, under a penalty of £20 per diem for every day that it was delayed after that date, while Mr. Delany was to receive £20 for every day before that time that he managed to save by putting the building earlier out of hands. The result is that Mr. Delany has even now proposed to have all but completed his splendid work, and with night labour could have probably finished much sooner, and is consequently entitled to some 20 to 25

days' extra payment at £20 per day. Most contractors, under these circumstances, would have placed the £400 or £500 extra, thus fairly earned, in their pockets, but Mr. Delany, in the most generous and high-spirited manner, has signified his intention of making no such claim—a line of procedure which, in effect, amounts to a voluntary contribution upon his part of £400 or £500 towards the Exhibition. The Exhibition Building as it stands reflects infinite credit upon the architect, Mr. Robert Walker, and the contractor, Mr. Delany, as nothing can be more satisfactory than the complete manner in which these gentlemen, in a marvellously short space of time, have accomplished their allotted duties. We earnestly hope that the success in the erection of the buildings may forecast a corresponding good future for the Exhibition itself, and that the project, as it fully promises at present, will prove a lasting benefit to the city and community in the midst of which it was so happily conceived, and so admirably carried into effect.

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