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The case against the appropriation of Hyde Park as the site of the buildings for the intended Exhibition becomes stronger as the plans of the projectors are developed. We are not to have a "booth," nor a mere timber shed, but a solid, substantial edifice of brick, and iron, and stone, calculated to endure the wear and tear of the next hundred years. In fact, a building is about to be erected in Hyde Park to the full as substantial as Buckingham Palace; and, while employing the illustration we have serious doubt that we are not doing much injustice to the proposed building at Knightsbridge. Not only is a vast pile of masonry to be heaped up in the Park, but one feature of the plan is, that there shall be a dome of 200 feet in diameter—considerably larger than the dome of St. Paul's. From this fact alone, were more positive evidence wanting, the scale upon which the building is planned may be imagined. This huge edifice is to be fire-proof, and first and last the cost of it will certainly swallow up the 100,000% about which there has been so much talk. We reserve for last mention the crowning nuisance of this gigantic scheme. A furnace-house will be erected, with boilers, a tall chimney, and all the usual appliances for generating the supply of steam requisite for driving the machines of the various exhibitors; and this is to stand opposite the Park entrance of Kensington-gardens! By the stroke of a pen our pleasant Park—nearly the only spot where Londoners can get a breath of fresh air—is to be turned into something between Wolverhampton and Greenwich Fair. The project looks so like insanity that, even with the evidence we have before us, we can scarcely bring ourselves to believe that the advisers of the PRINCE have dared to connect his name with such an outrage to the feelings and wishes of the inhabitants of the metropolis. See what happened when an effort was made to enclose Hampstead-heath. Now the attempt is to enclose Hyde Park, for the proposition amounts to nothing short of a measure which might endanger the quiet of the metropolis, if called by its right name.

Can any one be weak enough to suppose that a building erected on such a scale will ever be removed? Under one pretence or another it will always remain a fixture. Any proposal for its removal will be scouted on the score of expense. The obvious utility of a building in which such exhibitions could, if necessary, be repeated, would be an argument alone sufficient, after such an expenditure upon it, against any proposal for its removal. The first and the main reason, therefore, why we protest against the erection of this huge structure on such a site is, that it is equivalent to the permanent mutilation of Hyde Park. But, passing from this, let us consider for a moment the process of erecting the proposed edifice. In what way is the vast amount of heavy materials necessary for this work to be transported to the place where the foundations are to be dug? By axle, clearly. Water conveyance is out of the question. Now, all persons who have the misfortune to be even superficially acquainted with the estimates of builders are aware that the cost of transporting heavy materials to any great distance by land—otherwise than by rail or tramway—doubles, trebles, or quadruples the expense. With regard, again, to the approaches to the Park, one of the main thoroughfares which penetrates from the suburbs to the centre of London will be choked up for an indefinite time by the transport of these materials; the obstruction must continue for another period equally indefinite, while the articles to be exhibited are conveyed by van or waggon to Knightsbridge; and for another much longer period in consequence of the throng of visitors, who no doubt will arrive from every part of Europe to witness the Exhibition. We almost wish we could add a fourth period during which Kensington and Piccadilly would remain clogged in consequence of the

removal of the materials; but, as this is a period which in our time will certainly never arrive, we pass that over. Were other considerations wanting, the cost of pulling down the edifice and removing the materials would more than equal their value. That is another reason against erecting the building on such a site. No contractor would accept the materials as a gift, if he were bound to remove them from a position in which he would have neither river nor rail to assist him.

The intention plainly is to mutilate Hyde Park permanently, and to what useful purpose? There is no single advantage connected with Hyde Park, except that it is a "fashionable" situation, which could not be pointed out as existing in an equal or a greater degree in half-a-dozen other situations in and about London. The spot chosen for the Exhibition should be accessible by water. Whether for the transport of materials or their removal, for the carriage of the bulky articles to be exhibited, or for the convenience of visitors, the Exhibition should take place on ground which is accessible by the river. A moment's consideration will prove the vital importance of this condition. Battersea-fields would be such a place as would afford every facility for water conveyance, and be at the same time easily accessible to the inhabitants of London and to the visitors. Thus the noise and bustle of the Exhibition would be removed from a central district of the town, at the same time that the greatest facilities of approach would be secured.

Once more we entreat of the PRINCE and his advisers to pause, ere it be too late. No idea, we are certain, but one of advancing the best interests of England, and giving satisfaction to the public, has ever entered his mind. But the determination with regard to Hyde Park has been hastily arrived at. To carry out his project in the way proposed would give deep and permanent offence to the inhabitants of London. The name of his Royal Highness would become associated in the minds of the people not with a benefit, but an injury; not with an extension of our industry, but with a curtailment of the recreation and an injury to the health of the metropolis.