

as to what they were about to produce. That jealousy had not existed in the northern district of the kingdom, where people were more enlightened, and where trade had extended, whilst that in Norwich had decreased. There was a time when Norwich was foremost in manufactures, and though he would be sorry to say anything to depreciate Norwich, for he loved the city, still, it would be folly to suppose that Norwich occupied her former position. They must all feel that she did not. He had there, a book of patterns, which, he thought, it might be interesting to show to the gentlemen of the deputation. It was the pattern-book of Messrs. Ives and Bpaxloy, from May 9th, till Sept. 28th, 1791, and it contained the patterns of the goods then sent away by that house. He did not produce it, because there was anything in it to copy; he thought there was not. He produced it to show the articles then manufactured in the city, and when a very flourishing business was carried on. He found in the list, camlets, camlottees, and callinancoes; toys, jammies, and durrys; sattinetts, tabbinets, and brilliaettes; moreens, florentines, bombazines, and dorettees; espolinadocs, paolis, and barbariscoes; prunelles, florinels, fearnoughts, and amens; and many others, the manufacture of which was very extensive. They would now be glad to have the same extent of business. That firm made 40,000 pieces yearly, which would give employment to 3,000 persons, probably to nearly 4,000; and maintenance to three or four times that number. He thought there was nothing more necessary for the manufacturers of this city, than to see what the rest of the world were about, and to see whether they could not gain something like the extent of business of former years. [Applause.] He was very glad to find, that not only powerful citizens, not only manufacturers and gentlemen connected with the fine arts, were taking an interest in this proceeding, but also that the East India and the Hudson's Bay Companies were lending their aid to it. There could be no doubt, that its tendency must be to improve manufactures, and he could not conceive that anybody would raise any objection to it, and they must all join in thanking his Royal Highness for originating it. [Applause.]

The Rev. Professor Sengwick rose with great pleasure to obey the command of their chairman, and to second the resolution. He did not pretend to address the meeting as a person well informed on the subject of the manufactures of Norwich, or of the world at large. He might consider himself as perfectly ignorant on these subjects. When he heard of the list of the manufactures of Norwich, which had been read to them, it appeared to him as if he were listening to a strange tongue, for he did not comprehend one syllable. But the motion which had been submitted to them, and which he rose to second, was one which approved itself to their common sense. They must all acquiesce in the principle which it involved—that it required a supreme authority to decide upon the prizes to be offered. When there were so many conflicting interests, nothing short of a royal commission could establish a body in the decisions of which the manufacturers would acquiesce. They must all agree in the resolution, provided they approved of the object contemplated by it, and which had been submitted to their consideration. He believed, in that respect there was very little difference of opinion. He did not speak as a manufacturer, or as one conversant with art, of the kind that was contemplated; but he might state, as the subject had been alluded to, that he was delighted with the exhibition he lately saw at Birmingham. It was considered by the judges—and every man might be a judge to a certain extent—very honourable to the persons who brought that exhibition together, and one calculated to gratify the feelings of Englishmen, and to excite their thoughts towards their countrymen, and to induce them to seek for better information on these subjects. It was an exhibition glorious and honourable to the industry and talent of England; and, if such were the case in a nook and corner of the land, what might they not expect, when the whole talent of England was brought to bear, and when Englishmen would be put in competition with civilized Christendom? In regard to the good to be obtained from such exhibitions as this, he would not detain them long by stating his own opinions, which would only be an echo of the opinions of others. He might speak of the principle involved in such a grand European union as this—a union of the arts of the whole world. On the continent there were associations of scientific men, and large bodies of that kind, several years before such societies existed in England. At last such an association was organized, and he had attended almost every meeting since the society began. It was a meeting like that he went to attend at Birmingham; and, in consequence, he had been enabled to survey the collection of British manufactures there, to which he had alluded. In reference to the principle involved in such associations, and such meetings of large bodies of men, the same principle applied here as to the meetings of men of science. Indeed, what did science contemplate, but a knowledge of the condition of the earth, and the laws by which it was governed? It involved the principles by which all art was carried to perfection. The same principles were involved in both. If men acted as empirical persons—as rule and thumb men—they could not expect to arrive at that perfection which they knew to be the consequence of the union of art with philosophic principle. In regard to the British Association, the consequences had been manifold and im-

portant. First of all, it brought together men of different views, and they derived benefit from the conflict of opinions. Again, it brought together men of the same views, and then they gained strength from their agreement. That association had been the means of promoting good will, and that intellectual vivacity which was so important to the progress of science and art. All these things had produced good social effects, and a spirit of competition and combination, by which men had performed what they could never have accomplished singly. The working out of points in science had caused an enormous expenditure of money in many cases; an expenditure that individuals would not have been able to encounter. But when men met as a scientific association, they were enabled, in their corporate capacity, to patronise certain objects, and to produce certain effects, that could not be produced by their individual labours. The British Association had been the means of encouraging scientific labours, and he looked forward to effects of that kind to be produced by this grand contemplated union. He thought a grand undertaking of this kind must have a beneficial effect on the comparative details of arts and manufactures. The fact, no doubt, was, that men arrived at a certain pitch of perfection, and carried out their knowledge in detail; and thus science advanced, and knowledge advanced, to a much higher aim and power, and was brought to bear upon the production of things that would be left in neglect without the onward progress; for it was with art and science, as with everything else. They could not remain in a stagnant position. They must go on. For it was the nature of humanity to progress in arts, in manufactures, industry, politics, and every thing; and therefore they should support every onward movement, provided it was reasonable and good in itself. On these grounds he now heartily concurred in the general principles advanced by the gentlemen who had addressed the meeting; and he most heartily seconded the resolution, not doubting that there would be great moral, and scientific, and good results, from such a widely-extensive combination of manufacturing skill, as would be brought to bear upon works of art, by this grand association and contemplated exhibition. He would not detain the meeting further, but conclude by seconding the resolution. [Applause.]

Sir J. P. BOLLEAU, Bart. said, a resolution had been put into his hands, but he would take leave, before proposing it, to express, as he ought to do, as a Vice President of the Society of Arts, his high gratification, on finding that this noble proposal had emanated from the illustrious Prince, who was the President of that Society. He rejoiced, that it had pleased his Royal Highness to make use of the society, and to send round its members, to obtain information; and for the purpose of ascertaining whether this exhibition would be supported by the country at large. And he was also gratified, that it was in contemplation, should the measure be ultimately adopted, that the Society of Arts, should be one of the principal instruments in carrying it out.—They had been told, and truly told, that they were greatly indebted to his Royal Highness, for bringing forward this grand idea; not only in Norwich and Norfolk, not only in England and Britain, not only in Europe; but he thought in the whole world, every one was indebted to him for the great conception, which he believed would do more than any thing else would do to teach mankind the great benefit which they must derive from the free and mutual interchange of those productions with which it had pleased Divine Providence to bless them, and those objects that arose from the industry and intelligence of their fellow-men. He believed that it would do more than anything else could do, to enlarge Commerce, and to increase the civilisation of mankind; and by so doing, he thought it must remove further than ever the probability of war. [Applause.] And he thought, in anticipating the results they might expect from it, they might almost say, that his Royal Highness had conquered universal peace for the world, and chained it to the car of English Commerce. [Applause.] He was aware, as they had heard on that day, that there must be some difficulties in carrying out this great design, one of which difficulties was, the immense amount of money required; but he had no doubt that funds would be raised. There were two other difficulties, to which he begged to allude. The one was, that it would be absolutely necessary to take the greatest care and caution in the selection of the gentlemen on the commission, who would have to award the prizes to be offered without prejudice, to any nation or an part of the world. The second difficulty would be, after the prizes to be offered were settled and fixed, to award them in such a manner as would give satisfaction to all parties; both these subjects were treated of in the public prints, which had been alluded to. He felt sure, that every attention would be paid to getting over these difficulties, which he considered to be as nothing. He would only further say, that there were two manifest advantages, for this kingdom especially, arising from the proposed exhibition. The one was—the friendly competition with the manufactures and productions of all other parts of the world, the excellence which he believed to exist in this country would be more clearly manifested; and the public mind would be much disabused of some of those impressions generally entertained, that, in certain branches of manufacture, we were inferior to foreigners, when he believed, that we