

THE WORLD'S FAIRS

the necessary preparations, but also takes up more of his personal time and attention, than he can well afford. It is therefore not surprising, that leading manufacturers, who have an assured custom, often refuse to participate in exhibitions. It would be easy for any person acquainted with the manufacturing interest in different countries, to cite examples from the late exhibitions which show, that many leading branches of trade were represented exclusively by beginners, who have yet their reputation to establish, but not by houses of note.

Such was chiefly the cause of the unsatisfactory appearance of the German department at Philadelphia, but if a severe criticism of it was therefore justified, yet, the hasty deduction, that all German manufactures were inferior, was wholly unfounded.

We are of the opinion that the fault lies in such cases much less on the side of the manufacturers, than in the nature of the administrations connected with the exhibition. The problem here is, how to unite commercial simplicity and expedition with bureaucratic conscientiousness? It cannot be solved by abandoning the direction to merchants, who are in active business, and who have con-