

space assigned to New Zealand would not be all required; and, secondly, in order to enable the Colony of New South Wales to display their principal exhibit, a coal trophy, which otherwise could not have been done.

The space assigned to New Zealand was in four blocks, surrounded by passages from 6 to 10ft. wide, with a frontage of 18ft. to the main avenue; the length (exclusive of passages) being 113ft. 6in., and breadth, 18ft.,—total area, 2043ft. The space I first agreed to take for New Zealand was 64ft. by 27ft (area 1728ft., 315ft. less than original space,) which was made up by giving up the two back spaces (measuring 18ft. + 32ft. 6in. and 18ft. + 23ft.), extending the main front by 9ft., and obliterating the 6-foot passage between the two front sections. Unfortunately a pillar came about 2ft. 6in. out of the centre, so I resigned 2ft. frontage, or 128ft. area, thus reducing the present area of the New Zealand Court to 1600ft. as against the original 2043ft.

All the exhibits from New Zealand, from England, and those sent by the Smithsonian Institution, and others, will barely suffice to fill this space.

In conjunction with representatives of the Colonies of New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, and Jamaica, I agreed to the erection of a colonnade along the main front. The cost of this to New Zealand will be 150 dollars. The erection of the front has been delayed by the late arrival of some of the Colonial Commissioners, without whose concurrence we did not feel justified in acting.

I have also agreed with the same contractor to put up a similar structure at the back of the Court, and a doorway of similar design at the side, for the sum of 75 dollars.

The enclosure of the Court to be done by the same man for 72 dollars, and the papering for 47 dollars.

By the attached plans (A and B) you will see the general arrangement of the Court which I had proposed to make.

The three wall cases marked *x*, (11ft. 3in. × 4ft. 6in. × 1ft. 6in.) are to be set up by 1st May. They are being made by Spencer and Baird, of West Chester, for 100 dollars each, delivered on ground. They are to be made so as to be easily taken to pieces and repacked.

The two cases marked *y* (10ft. + 2ft. 2in. + 1ft.), with curved plate glass fronts, are being made in New York by Mr. Biele, of 112, West Broadway, at one hundred dols. each, and are due here to-morrow.

The three counter cases marked *xx* (11ft. 3in. + 2ft. 6in. + 10in. at back to 5in. in front), are also being made by Biele, for 6 dols. a foot. This may be slightly exceeded, as I told him to make them thoroughly good, and I would not mind paying another 50 cents a foot.

All Biele's cases will be delivered at the New York depôt; subsequent charges to be paid by the commission.

I am having four counters (marked *z* and *zz*), placed on the spaces not occupied by the cases mentioned above. On *zz* I proposed to exhibit the eleven samples of wood, under simple glass cases, sloping forward with a broad band of polished ebony between each sample; the wood being on a blue ground. These have yet to be made.

If necessary, the tables, at present 2 ft. 6 in. wide, can be widened, and a shelf placed at the back for other exhibits.

The plans (A & B) sufficiently explain how I intended to make use of the rest of the wall cases and counter cases along the wall.

In the centre space I propose to place, in front, the gold case which you sent from England; behind that, stands for photographs; then two moas (lent by the Smithsonian Institution); and against the pillar, an obelisk, gilded to show the total amount of gold produced in the Colony. I have procured the dimensions of this, and it will occupy a space about 5 ft. square, and will be 24 ft. high, in addition to a base of 7 ft. square by 1 ft. high, on which it will stand. Not having later statistics I had the obelisk calculated for the gold collected to the 31st December, 1874.

Some things, such as leather, may yet require glass cases. It remains for you to settle this at once.

The cases marked to hold grain, kauri gum, etc., with a raised table in the centre, I have not been able to order till I was aware of the exact quantity of the things sent from England by you.

Having a volume of Dr. Buller's birds of New Zealand, I cut out the plates, and thirty-three of them are being framed by Hooper, of 76 Nassau street, New York, in eight frames, at a cost of one hundred dols. The packing and delivery is not included in this sum. I proposed to put these over the case containing Liardet's muffs.

I have also about forty photographs of Maoris belonging to myself, which I proposed to get framed in two lots, and hang them over the Maori curiosities, and between them four photographs (from a lot of about forty, forwarded from New York, and executed by Mr. Deveril), which represent different phases of Maori life.

I had not fixed the exact way in which the remainder of Mr. Deveril's photographs should be shown, nor for sixty sent by Burton Bros. They are all, however, being mounted on tinted paper by Cremer, of 18, South-Eight street.

Two cases of ferns, exhibited by Mr. Laining Coates, of Christchurch, arrived at San Francisco, as I think I have already told you, in first-rate condition. Unfortunately, a glass of one was broken at Panama, and that, combined with the delay at New York, caused by certain regulations [Attached,] issued since I left New Zealand, not having been complied with; and also another week's delay (during which the ferns were in a railway van) caused by the refusal of the Custom House officers to pass any goods into the Exhibition, owing to Congress not voting supplies for the service, caused the death of a large number of them from frost. They are now in charge of the gardener at the Horticultural Building, and both he and Mr. Miller, chief of the department of horticulture, expressed their opinion that their death was caused by frost, and not by the second passage through the tropics.

The regulations regarding terminal charges mentioned above, have been found so obstructive to business, that it has been found necessary to greatly modify them.