

ESSAYS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC.

PARTING IMPRESSIONS OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

FIRST ARTICLE.

THE Exhibition closed upon Saturday last ; and one of the most marvellous and instructive sights which the world ever saw now survives only as a great recollection,—as a lesson unique in the history of the species, which has been fairly given, but which, upon the same scale at least, we need scarce hope to see repeated. I spent the greater part of last week amid its long withdrawing aisles and galleries ; and, without specially concentrating myself on any one set of objects, artistic or mechanical, set my thoughts loose among the whole, to see whether they could not glean up for future use a few general impressions, better suited to remain with me than any mere recollections of the particular and the minute. The memory lays fast hold of the sum total in an important calculation, and retains it ; but of all the intermediate sums employed in the work of reduction or summation it takes no hold whatever ; and so, in most minds, on a somewhat similar principle, general results are remembered, while the multitu-