individual which, in 1849, was taken at the Canary Islands.

Dr. Bolau had drawn some very interesting maps showing the habitat of the Greenland whale, the Antarctic whale, the blue, and the spermaceti whales, which were greatly admired.

One of the most valuable exhibits was, however, the cranium of a narwhale (*Monodon monoceros*, L.) with two tusks. It was brought to Hamburg from Greenland in 1684. There are, I believe, at present in Europe only a dozen such crania, among which the one exhibited here is certainly the oldest. The most remarkable feature about this cranium is, however, if the inscription attached can be relied on, that it is that of a female. The tusk is, as is generally known, never developed in the females. The description is accompanied by a drawing of the whale and a young one, stated to be the offspring of the former. It is, nevertheless, hardly possible to accept this statement, at variance with all experience.

In addition to tusks of narwhals, skeletons and stuffed specimens of other kinds of tooth-whales were exhibited, as, for instance, of *Orca gladiator*, *Delphinus delphis*, *Phocena communis*, *D. tursio*, and a cranium of bottle-nose *Hyperoodon latifrons*, Gray, which, according to the latest researches, is only the male of *H. diodon*.

Of the fetus exhibited I may mention those of *Balaenoptera rostrata*, Fabr., *Rhinodelphis leucopleurus*, Rasch., and one of *Megaptera boops*, Fabr., only 12 inches long, exhibited by the writer.

Besides the exhibits belonging to the order of Cetaceæ, there were some fine specimens of *Sirenia*, as *Manatus* and *Halicore*, skeletons as well as stuffed animals, exhibited by the University of Kiel. There were, further, a fine collection of seals, of which I shall, however, only mention *Otaria Godeffroy*, from the coast of Peru. As some of the greatest curiosities, should be added, a perfect stuffed specimen of the sea-elephant, 11 feet long, and two sea-leopards from South Georgia.

The exhibition was visited by a considerable number of zoologists, and may, in every respect, be said to have been a success.

G. A. GULDBERG

The Zootomical Museum, Christiania

CHESTER NEW MUSEUM

THE foundation-stone of this museum was laid on February 5 by the Duke of Westminster, K.G. We have previously referred to the work done by the Chester Natural Science Society, and the Archaeological Society, whose joint museum is now to be placed in a permanent building, uniting under one roof accommodation for it, an art gallery, and every provision for Science and Art Department classes. The remains of ancient Chester, which came to light from time, found their way to the British Museum up to the year 1849, when the Rev. W. H. Massie, the Rector of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, called a meeting to consider the formation of a museum, and a society was formed for "the illustration and preservation of the remains of antiquity and other objects of interest in the city and in the county." The Society's "collection" was first housed in a cupboard at the Commercial Buildings; thence it was removed, first, to the Episcopal Palace in Abbey Square, afterwards to a house in Lower Bridge Road, to join the Museum of the Natural Science Society, whose collections are of considerable extent and essentially local in character, thanks to the marked love of nature and zeal for scientific research infused into many of the Chester citizens by the founder of the Society, the late Canon Kingsley, and the admirable rules for directing local investigation by which the Society is governed. Under the presidency of Prof. McKenny Hughes, the Society remains as vigorous as ever, as is the Archaeological Society under that of Dean Howson, who, since the failing health of Mr. Thomas Hughes, F.S.A.,

to whom great credit is due, has taken an active interest in the Society, and in 1882 became the chairman of a joint committee to secure a building to answer all the requirements of science and art in Chester. This Committee selected a site in the Grosvenor Road, the greater part of which was at once placed at their disposal by the Duke of Westminster, who, moreover, headed the subscription list with the munificent sum of 4000*l.*, to which the Committee have since received promises of sums amounting to a further 3500*l.*

The architect is Mr. Thos. M. Lockwood, of Chester; the tender for the erection of the work accepted by the Committee is for 8150*l.* The elevation of the building, with its octagonal turret, with lantern surmounted by a quaint ogee roof, surmounting a steep-pitched roof, suggests the municipal architecture of Holland. The joint library and reading room is 21 feet by 19; the natural history museum is 36 feet by 25; the lecture theatre 44½ feet by 30; the art and archaeological gallery is 60 feet by 23; on the first floor are science class rooms; on the second those for art. Space is reserved for future extensions in all departments.

Prof. McKenny Hughes stated the object of the Museum to be three-fold, being "intended for teaching, for study, and for exhibition. We have long carried on teaching in this old city in connection with the societies which have for their object the study of natural science, but that is to be extended. We have already extended it by putting ourselves in connection with the teaching powers of South Kensington, and now we will bring this into shape and have class-rooms and teachers definitely appointed to carry on the work which has been so nobly taken up by your citizens. The Duke has mentioned already that he felt that a great deal of the work had been done by the enterprise of the citizens. Well, that is the work which we intend to carry on in the teaching departments of this institution; but it is also intended for study. The world is going on fast in the direction of knowledge. Every one is trying to acquire knowledge which shall be turned to money, or which shall be pursued for its own sake, or which will add to the comfort of the community. In all these directions we hope to assist. Men may come in here and study in the library, or in the laboratories, or in the museum."

At the subsequent dinner the chairman, the Dean of Chester, stated that Canon Kingsley gave impulse to the study of natural history in this place, which has by no means lost its momentum. What the Duke of Westminster has said concerning the deep interest taken today in scientific subjects is most strictly in harmony with the facts of the case. There is here, deeply-rooted in the minds of many, a determined love for science of this kind, which is the best possible augury for benefits to result from our museum.

Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen, K.C.M.G., C.B., responding for art, said, "this is a museum after my own heart, for I think it corresponds entirely with what was in the mind of the Prince Consort when he established the Science and Art Department and the South Kensington Museum. It was a part and parcel of his scheme that the teaching and the examples should be under one roof, and it has been found that the example of the Science and Art Department, combined as it is with one of the finest art museums in the world, and combined as it will be, I hope, in the near future with one of the finest science museums that may be created, has done more good, not only in this country, but throughout the world, than anything else which had been thought of before. When we think of the museums of the past, we know that they could not speak for themselves; they were examples, but however interesting and however ancient they might have been, they had no speaking powers, because they were not in combination with a teaching organisation."

CHAS. E. DE RANCE