

CAP. II.

An Act for the encouragement of Agriculture and Rural Economy in this Province.

(Passed the 29th day of March, A. D. 1841.)

BE it enacted, by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor or Commander in Chief for the time, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Executive Council, to appoint and commission a Central Board of Agriculture at Halifax, consisting of eleven fit and proper persons, of whom, seven shall be resident in Halifax, or its vicinity, and one selected from the Eastern, Western, and Middle Divisions of Nova Scotia, and one from Cape-Breton, four of whom shall be a quorum, and from time to time, as vacancies occur in the Commissioners composing such Board, by revocation, death, resignation, or continued absence from the Province, to supply such vacancies by new appointments.

Central Board

II. *And be it enacted*, That there shall be granted and paid to the said Commissioners, out of the Public Funds of this Province, the sum of Five Hundred Pounds annually, for four years, from and after the passing of this Act—whereof the said Board shall be at liberty to expend a sum not exceeding One Hundred Pounds annually, for the Salary of a Clerk or Secretary, to be appointed by them, and removed at pleasure, and a further sum for their incidental expenses; and shall lay out and expend the balance, during the aforesaid period of four years, in the importation from abroad of the most improved Implements of Husbandry—and also, of Seeds and Live Stock, of various kinds—in the encouraging and circulating of Agricultural Publications, and the diffusion of knowledge on the different branches of Husbandry, and in such other objects, for the Agricultural improvement of the Province, as the said Board may, from time to time, approve; and that the said Board shall be at liberty to expend the balance on any one or more of such objects, in every year, as their experience and judgment may, from time to time, suggest; and shall exhibit an account of such expenditure to the Legislature in each year, verified by the oath of one of the Members of the said Board, and by proper vouchers in that behalf.

Annual grant of 500l. for four years

How to be expended
Salary of Clerk

Importation of Implements, Seeds, Live Stock, &c.

III. *And be it enacted*, That the said Board shall be at liberty to dispose of all Implements, Seeds or Live Stock, imported by them from time to time, in such way as may appear to them most conducive to the general improvement of the Province, either by offering such importations, or any of them, for sale, in such Counties, and on such terms, as they may direct; or by distributing the same, or any of them, gratuitously, or placing the same under the charge of any Societies or Individuals whom they may select, and on such conditions as they shall, from time to time prescribe; and in case such importations, or any of them, shall be offered for sale, all Instruments or Bonds that may be directed by the said Board to be taken in respect thereof, shall be in the names of the Commissioners for the time being, and shall be valid and binding on the parties executing the same, for the purposes to be therein declared; and the net proceeds of such sale shall be applied and accounted for by the said Board in manner aforesaid; and until such sales shall be had, all Implements, Seeds, Live Stock, or other articles, imported by the said Board, shall be accounted the property of the Commissioners for the time being, and be held by them for the purposes of this Act.

Importations how to be disposed of

IV. *And be it enacted*, That the said Board shall open and carry on a correspondence with the several Agricultural Societies already formed, or which may be hereafter formed, in this Province, and shall aid and direct them, as far as may be required, in prosecuting their several objects; and shall import for the said Societies, out of funds to be provided by them, such Implements, Seeds or Live Stock, as they may respectively want from abroad; and shall likewise inspect and audit the Accounts, to be rendered by the several Societies, of the application and expenditure of their funds, as hereafter mentioned; and from the reports to be furnished by the said Societies, and from such other sources of information as may be accessible to the said Board, shall furnish to the Legislature, at every Session, a general Report of the progress of Agriculture throughout the Province, and of the expenditure of all Monies granted therefor.

To correspond with Agricultural Societies, &c.

To Report to the Legislature

V. *And be it enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor or Commander