

work done in the past, and what was contemplated in the future.

Mr. Kinney made several enquiries on points connected with the management of the Board's affairs, and expressed his interest in its operations. He referred to the advances made in agriculture in his own County, and the consequent increase in agricultural wealth, of late years, advances which he said were simply marvellous for a County not specially adapted to agriculture.

Mr. Ford stated the difficulties of dealing with Agriculture, as with other departments, in view of the present financial condition of the country. Captain Shafner, Chairman, stated that the Agricultural Committee would carefully consider the Report of the Board, and be prepared to recommend what they thought advisable in the interest of the Province. Remarks were likewise made by Mr. Longworth and Mr. Ross, the latter referring to the desirability of granting a special vote for an Exhibition in Cape Breton, which was farther spoken of by Mr. Morrison. Colonel Blair said that he had long looked forward to the time when the Agricultural interest would be put upon a proper basis. A small grant had been given, hitherto, which was well so far as it went, but it seems as if, in present financial circumstances, no immediate development were possible. He referred to the immense advantages derived by the Province from the operations of the Board, the Agricultural Societies, and the Provincial Exhibitions, and hoped to see the time when scientific Agriculture would be taught in every part of the country.

After the Agricultural Committee retired, the Board adjourned, to meet again at 2 o'clock for further consideration of the Prize List.

19th March, 2 o'clock, P. M.

Business resumed. Members all present.

A letter from Mr. D. W. McDonald, Lorne, Pictou County, proposing the establishment of an Agricultural Society at Lorne, was remitted to Mr. Matheson, the member of the District.

A letter was read from W. H. O. Halliburton, Esq., Wolfville, containing valuable suggestions in reference to the forthcoming Exhibition, and the Prize List therefor:—

Wolfville, 15th March, 1879.

PROFESSOR LAWSON:

DEAR SIR,—As the Board of Agriculture is about to meet for business, allow me to offer a few suggestions which that honourable body may, possibly, feel disposed to consider.

Persons competent to act in the different classes as umpires are not always to be had, and those whose information qualify them are not always selected to act in their peculiar sphere.

Would it not be advisable, in the dairy department, to invite a few ladies to assist the gentlemen in their decisions—ladies who are accustomed to the use in their families—of the higher grades of "gilt-edge butter;" also in the fruit and flower departments. Women are closer observers than men, and have a certain intuitive knowledge by which they arrive at correct conclusions.

In judging dairy stock, the accompanying record should be the leading point of the best cow, and that should be plain and distinct on attending circumstances. In the root department, beets in varieties, especially the white sugar, should make a prominent feature, and all monstrosities should be passed over or excluded, but seed of the best varieties, grown in the Province, should come under consideration. I think it very important that we should grow, as far as practicable, such seeds as will mature in this climate. This country is beginning to feel the want of pasturage, and all forage plants should be called for. The several varieties of *Millet*, *Caucasian Consery*, and the clovers in the dried and green state. The mode of cultivation, soil and situation, with the loss of weight in drying, in fact the whole history, should accompany the plant. In apples, those fit for the European markets should lead the list, especially high coloured ones (red is a favourite colour). A uniform size is desirable. A few of the best-keeping varieties, labelled for the foreign market, should be on exhibition properly marked with the growers name and variety. A half dozen apple barrels of full size should claim a first prize, no second class barrels are wanted. Indeed, I think in some things second and third class prizes could be dispensed with. What is wanted now is the best. This contemplated Exhibition is being looked forward to with a great deal of interest, and I am confident that it is about to open a new era in the industry of our Province. Home-made fertilizers should not be passed over the quantities of fish refuse annually thrown into the sea, if properly composted and condensed, would be a mine of wealth under proper regulations. Farmers want it, especially in the valleys. We want now, right away, an experimental station or farm school; it has been delayed too long. You know the value of it to a country like Nova Scotia.

Yours, etc.,

W. H. O. HALLIBURTON.

The consideration of the Prize List resumed. In class 3, Sheep, the improvement introduced by the Council Committee of separating Southdowns from Shropshire Downs was extended by a suggestion of the Board, that Leicesters should likewise be separated from other Long Wool Sheep.

At six o'clock the Board adjourned till the following morning.

20th March, 1879, 10 A. M.

The Board resumed business. Present, all the members.

Mr. Eaton placed on the table a letter, which was read by the Secretary, from R. W. Starr, Esq., Cornwallis, containing suggestions in reference to the prizes offered for grain, &c., many of which

were thought very valuable. The letter was ordered to be transmitted to the Exhibition Committee with a request that if not too late, they should give it due consideration.

Mr. Brown presented the Report of the Committee on Registration of Thoroughbred Stock, which was read. Consideration deferred.

His Worship the Mayor, Alderman DeWolf and Alderman Murry appeared before the Board on behalf of the City Exhibition Committee to confer on the subject of the Prize List.

The President of the Board expressed the satisfaction of the Board with the general arrangements, so far as made, for the approaching Exhibition, and with the liberal character of the Prize List, but called attention to the deficiencies in several of the classes and suggested amendments. These were considered in detail, and finally agreed to. The Exhibition will commence on 29th September, and close on 3rd October.

A communication was read from Mr. W. D. Dimock, Secretary of the Provincial Exhibition held at Truro last year, referring to the Board a dispute that had arisen in regard to the pedigree of a Brood Mare to which a prize had been awarded. The Board did not consider that the matter should have come before them, as Sections 6 and 24 of the General Regulations would appear to be so framed as to prevent such a question arising.

A letter was read from Mr. Stathern Bailey, Secretary of the Annapolis Royal Agricultural Society, sending Prize List of the Society's last Exhibition, and explaining Society's accounts, after considering which, the Board directed the Secretary to allow the Annapolis Society to draw its grant for 1878.

The Secretary was directed to readjust the terms of Affidavit required from officers of Societies, so as to make it clear that no money is to be regarded or attested to in future as subscriptions from members, except cash actually paid by members individually and specially as their annual subscriptions for membership.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross, and resolved, that arrangements be made for continuing the publication of the *Journal of Agriculture* as formerly.

A letter was read from Mr. McGillivray, Baddeck, explaining the accounts of the Baddeck Society, some of the entries of which were obscure. The explanation was satisfactory, and the Board authorized the Society's grant to be paid.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Ross, and resolved that the following gentlemen form the Executive Committee of the Board, viz: Colonel Lau-