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HALIFAX, 31st December, 1875.

The rapid progress of Improved Agriculture during the present century, both in European and American countries, has been intimately related to the development of our modern systems of Agricultural Exhibitions. In Germany, where the whole population who need the instruction are systematically taught scientific and practical Agriculture from their earliest years, we have necessarily the most perfect cultivation of the soil, independent of any influence that Exhibitions might exert; but everywhere else Improved Agriculture embraces the improvement of stock as well, and it would be a hard thing for the farmers of any country to try to improve their stock without the facilities which Exhibitions afford. It is true that, both in England and America, the smaller local Exhibitions have been often the mere blossoming out or fruitage of a better Agriculture in the district. But, to a very large extent, Exhibitions generally are to be regarded as the great incentive to Improvement, and actually its most active cause. The real object of the Improver in this as in other Industrial Arts—the making of more money—the attainment of a more profitable system—is best brought home to his fellows, the Farmers, and those classes of the community whose sons are likely to become farmers, by the actual results which an Exhibition displays. Agricultural Colleges, Agricultural Papers, Agricultural Clubs, are all important and efficient means of Improvement, but an Exhibition tells, not only upon those who go to hear lectures, or who read agricultural papers, or who speak or listen at a Club meeting, but upon every class of the community. It gives the Exhibitor

an honest pride in his farm, his animals, his productions; it begets in the public mind a respect for Agricultural pursuits, and it spreads an interest around them that before the world knew not of. If a farming people are backward in adopting novelties, whether in the way of machinery, or modes of culture, or methods of feeding, or of utilizing farm products, an Exhibition is the very best means that can be devised, not only of telling them in what way to improve, but of showing how the improvement is to be done, and what the results will be after they do it.

What has proved to be the case in, we believe, every other country, is showing itself to be true likewise in Nova Scotia. The Resolutions passed by the Board of Agriculture last winter, the Report of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, and the approval of their recommendations by the Legislature, were all, in effect, a declaration of belief that our Agricultural Industries could not be satisfactorily developed without a system of Annual Provincial Agricultural Exhibitions.

The Resolution of the Board was:—“That, in addition to the sum annually voted for agricultural purposes, a further sum of \$4000 be annually given as a prize fund for a Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, to be held under direction of the Government and Board of Agriculture, in any County, selected by the Board, in which an Agricultural Society, or other responsible body, shall be prepared to furnish suitable Exhibition grounds and buildings, and shall be willing to undertake the necessary expense attending the management of such Exhibition,—the Managers to collect a small

entrance fee from visitors, and from each Exhibitor, to go towards defraying the general expenses.”

The Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly reported as follows to the Legislature:—“Your Committee recommend that for the better encouragement of Agriculture, an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition be held annually on the plan suggested by the Board, for which purpose a sum of four thousand dollars will be required. First Exhibition to be held in the autumn of 1876.”

On the 14th of May, in the House of Assembly—

“Mr. Archibald moved that the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, presented on the 28th day of April last, be adopted by the House; which, being seconded and put, passed in the affirmative.

“Ordered, accordingly, that such Report be adopted.”

We have now placed the whole matter before those whom it may concern, viz: our readers, the Members of the various Agricultural Societies throughout the Province. Our quotations show that, severally, the Legislature and the Agricultural Board have each done their part, so far, towards the establishment, on a satisfactory basis, of a system of Annual Exhibitions. We may depend upon the Government carrying out their views. What is now required is activity on the part of Agricultural Societies or similar local bodies willing to take up the offer that has been made, and prepared to carry the scheme into actual operation. The first Annual Exhibition is fixed for the autumn of 1876. What preparation is being made for it? Intending Exhibitors are already looking for the Prize List be-