

PROVINCE BUILDING,

March 25, 1881.

Present—David Matheson, President; C. E. Brown, Vice-President; I. Longworth, Truro; John Ross, New Glasgow; Col. Starratt, Paradise; Prof. Lawson, Secretary.

Colonel Blair, Chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, attended, and explained the views of the Committee, in reference to various matters brought before them.

A letter from Mr. McRobert, Truro, having been read at a previous meeting, wherein it was suggested that a bonus might be offered for the importation into the Province of a trotting stallion, for which a favorable opportunity offered, the Board, not having funds at disposal for this purpose, referred it to the Agricultural Committee. Mr. Blair reported that the Committee had considered the matter, but were doubtful whether they could recommend the necessary appropriation.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, and passed:

Whereas, It is important that some uniform compulsory regulations should be in force in Nova Scotia against animals of a vicious nature going at large;

And whereas, It is important first to ascertain, before applying to the Legislature to adopt such a measure, what are the existing regulations in the several municipalities of the Province in the premises; also, what necessity exists for such regulations.

Resolved, First: That the Secretary of the Board be directed to apply to the Clerk of each municipality of the Province for a copy of the regulations in force therein, so far as affects vicious animals going at large;

Resolved, Second: That the Secretary of each Agricultural Society in the Province be also applied to to furnish the Board, through their Secretary, with the particulars of all serious and fatal accidents that have been occasioned within the bounds of their respective societies during the last two years by such animals being allowed to go at large.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Brown, and passed:

That the committee be requested to exclude all advertisements from the exhibition prize list except at the end.

It was also suggested that care should be taken to have the prize list neatly printed on a superior quality of paper.

The question as to offering a prize for improved fishway, being considered, it was thought to belong to the class of extras, and was accordingly entered as an extra under the head of fisheries.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Longworth, and

Resolved, That the Board suggest to the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly the propriety of recommending an importation of young Polled Angus cattle, say from four to eight months old to consist of five males and fifteen females, of not too high price, for sale during Exhibition week.

The Secretary was directed meantime to make the necessary enquiries as to when, from whom, and at what prices suitable animals could be obtained.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Longworth and passed:

That a fee of fifty cents be charged for registry of cattle, and of twenty-five cents for recording transfers, proceeds to be credited to the Board funds (the actual cost in postage, blanks and stationery often amounting to an equivalent to these charges).

Moved by Colonel Starratt, seconded by Mr. Ross:

That the printing of the Board, including that of the *Journal of Agriculture*, be done by tender and contract through the Queen's Printer, the *Journal*, as heretofore, to be edited by the Secretary of the Board. Passed.

On motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Brown, the following resolution was passed:

The members of the Board having subscribed a special prize fund for the purpose, desire to offer at the Exhibition of 1881 a prize of \$25 for the best historical account of the rise and progress of agriculture in Nova Scotia; a second prize of \$15, and a third of \$10. The successful essays to become the property of the Board on payment of the respective prizes, and to be printed in the *Journal of Agriculture*. All essays to be submitted not later than 1st September. Intending competitors are requested to send their essays to Professor Lawson, Secretary of the Board; each essay to bear a motto, and to be accompanied by a sealed envelope bearing outside the same motto, and containing within the name and address of the author.

The Board then adjourned.

S p. m.

Business resumed. Same members present.

Resolved, That the President, Vice-President and Secretary be a committee to examine essays and decide prizes.

Resolved, That Mr. Matheson, President, and Messrs. Longworth and Starratt be elected as Executive Committee of the Board for the present year.

The regulations of the forthcoming Exhibition, which are not yet completed, were referred for consideration to the Executive Committee, with full power to approve of them, and also to deal with any matters that may arise in connection with Exhibition arrangements.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Col. Starratt, and passed:

That the annual returns of Agricultural Societies, with reports and attested subscription lists, be forwarded by the Societies in each district to the member of the Board for that district, for examination, audit, and transmission to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture; all such documents to be delivered annually, not later than the third Tuesday of December, to the member of the Board for the district, who will forward them to the Secretary of the Central Board.

This proposed change was recommended to the Agricultural Committee with a view to being sanctioned by any necessary legislation.

The following additional prizes for butter were submitted and sanctioned:

Five firkins butter, of not less weight, each firkin, than 40 lbs. net, dairy manufacture, prepared by any farmer or trader for market or shipment—1st prize, \$20; 2nd, \$15; 3rd, \$10; 4th, \$5.

The time recommended by the Prize List Committee, and approved by the Board of Agriculture, for the combined Dominion and Provincial Exhibition, is the last week of September, commencing on Monday, 26th September, the public opening on Tuesday, 27th, and the closing on Friday, 30th September.

COMMERCIAL POULTRY
FARMING.

The following is from the *Morning Chronicle*—

"It is only quite recently that attention has been directed to the above most important branch of industry. Our farmers, large and small, with but few exceptions, have hitherto looked upon the poultry yard as quite a secondary matter in farming operations, as an item that "never pays." I very much question even now, whether any person will find it otherwise until all old notions are laid aside and our people are willing to admit that we have not only not arrived at perfection in the matter, but have a great deal to learn. The most difficult part is to unlearn all we have learnt and begin in a new school. The old plan of poultry raising will not do to-day if we are desirous of having a share in the large export trade in poultry that is opening up in Canada.

A letter from Colonel Laurie to the Secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture, received lately, provides food for serious thought. While he states much to encourage, we must admit that if what he states is essential to success, there must be at once a complete change in the *breeding, raising and preparing* of poultry for that particular market.

Colonel Laurie says: "Now as to poultry we must learn to have it properly drawn and trussed: *head* and feet should *be left on*, feathers being left around the head and part of the way down the neck, a piece of charcoal, however small, put inside, will help to preserve them. * * * Our chickens are very much admired, being pronounced to be turkeys. With care this trade can be developed to any extent."

In March, 1880, Surrey and Sussex fowls were sold as high as 7s., pullets 8s., turkeys 9s. 9d., geese 6s. 5d., ducks