

The following resolution, moved by Mr. Longworth, and seconded by Mr. Ross, M. P. P., was spoken to in very feeling terms by the Hon. Mr. McHessey.

Resolved. In assembling to constitute the Board on this occasion, the members feel that their first duty is to express, with deep sorrow, their sense of the public loss sustained by the Province at large, and by the Board of Agriculture in particular, in the death of their late colleague, Joseph J. Northup, Esq. Mr. Northup had been a member of the Board from its formation in 1864 up to the time of his decease; and during the last two years he occupied the prominent position of President, and discharged the duties of that office with much acceptance. His zeal and unceasing activity in promoting Agricultural improvement were well known to the members of the Board, and they are aware that the gratifying success that attended their stock importations of late years was due, in no small measure, to his unwearied exertions. But whilst they deplore the loss of a valued fellow-member, they will also cherish the memory of a genial and warm-hearted friend, who was most highly appreciated by those who knew him best.

The Board desire to communicate to Mrs. Northup, and other sorrowing relatives, an expression of deep sympathy in their bereavement. The Secretary was directed to send a copy of the Resolution to the Hon. Senator Northup.

A report was read from J. J. O'Brien, Esq., who had been deputed to examine into the affairs of the Nine Mile River Agricultural Society. On motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Ross, the report was approved of and adopted. [At a later stage of the proceedings, Mr. James Graham appeared before the Board; but, as the Society had not qualified for grant during 1873, it was not thought necessary that the Board should open up the question again.]

On application of the Nine Mile River Society, it was resolved, on motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross, to allow subscriptions paid during 1873 for that year to be transferred to 1874, so that if the Society shall be re-organized, and conform to the Statute, the money already paid may be rated with the subscriptions of 1874, and per centage of grant allowed thereon.

Mr. Dakin made a statement on behalf of the St. Mary's Bay (Digby) Agricultural Society, and laid on the table a letter from Joseph S. McNeil, Esq., the Secretary, requesting a special grant. The Board adopted a resolution similar to that passed in reference to the Nine Mile River Society.

On a representation from the Halifax County Agricultural Society, the Board resolved to establish an Alderney or Jersey Stock Register, under the same rules as those in force respecting Registers of other thorough-bred stock, and the Secretary was instructed accordingly.

The Secretary laid before the meeting a correspondence with Mr. McMahon,

Secretary of the Aylesford Agricultural Society, which had been deprived of its annual grant for 1873, in consequence of an omission to attest the return, and the return, when sent back for attestation, having been lost in the Post Office. Mr. McMahon was called before the meeting, and gave full explanation. Mr. Dakin gave notice of a motion at next meeting of the Board, that, on affidavit of the facts, the proportion of grant to which the Aylesford Society would have been entitled had the accident not happened, shall be made a first charge upon the proportion of grant to King's County for 1874.

The Treasurer having laid before the Board his accounts for the year, it was moved by Mr. Dakin, seconded by Mr. Ross, and resolved, that Messrs. Longworth and Brown be a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

In reporting the statement of grants, the Secretary stated that the New Gairloch Society's grant had been retained, in consequence of a protest against its payment. The consideration of this matter was deferred until the member for Pictou county should be present.

Mr. Longworth reported on behalf of the Committee appointed to prepare the Prize List of the Provincial Exhibition, and gave a full explanation of their whole course of action.

Mr. Brown thought the Committee deserved credit for the pains shown to distribute the available funds so judiciously over the different classes, and moved that the Committee's Report be approved of, and the Prize List accepted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dakin and passed.

Mr. Longworth moved that application should be made to the Dominion Government to authorize the Railways to carry live stock to the Exhibition, to and fro, gratis, and other articles at one fare; also, that passenger tariff should be reduced to one fare for returns during the whole of the Exhibition week, and one or two days before and after. Even a more liberal arrangement than this had been granted during the Exhibition of 1868, and what it was now proposed to ask he hoped would be cheerfully given. In order to show the way in which Agricultural Exhibitions were appreciated by the Railway proprietors in other countries, he read the following statement from an English paper:

"For several years past all the railway companies have agreed to convey live stock free, and implements at half their usual charges, to and from the shows of the Royal Agricultural Society, the railway companies at the towns where they are held generally providing accommodation for the mechanical department. This at Chelmsford cost the Eastern Counties' Railway upwards of £300. Low railway fares could alone bring the

number of shillings-paying strangers who contribute to the enormous expense of these exhibitions. The population of the city of Salisbury, including men, women and children only amounts to 10,000, but the visitors to the show-yard in 1867 were over 35,000. This is of itself a striking proof of the wide and eager practical interest which is felt in agriculture, for there is little to gratify the eye of mere holiday gazers; and when in addition we consider the mountains of coal, iron, timber, artificial manure, lime and chalk conveyed in the one direction, and the quantity of live stock and corn in the other, we cannot help coming to the conclusion, that George Stephenson's locomotive has been the great cultivator of the farmer's mind and the farmer's land, the great agent for the extraordinary advance which British agriculture has achieved in the last quarter of a century. Very significant were the figures given by the Chairman of the Eastern Counties Railway at the Chelmsford dinner, when he told his farmer friends that, in the course of the preceding twelve months, the lines over which he presided had conveyed 24,000 tons of guano and other portable manures, 700,000 quarters of grain, 550 sacks of flour, 71,000 beasts, 380,000 sheep, 13,000 tons of meat and poultry, and 43,000,000 quarts of milk. Who can calculate the value of the money rewards held out to breeding, feeding, and corn-growing, in the shape of four thousand miles of railway? and how little are men who live in the midst of these changes conscious of their magnitude until the results are collected and put upon paper."

Mr. Longworth's motion was seconded by Mr. Dakin, and passed. The Secretary was directed to make similar applications to the Windsor and Annapolis Railway Co.; to Mr. Fishwick, proprietor of the "M. A. Starr;" to the Cape Breton Steamship Co., and to the proprietors of the P. E. I. steamboats.

The Board then adjourned, to meet again at 3 o'clock.

3 o'clock, p. m.

Same members present.

The Board proceeded to consideration of matters of detail in connection with Provincial Exhibition.

The Secretary read a note from Mr. Adams, Private Secretary at Government House, also a letter from C. B. Whitman, Esq., and from Dr. C. C. Hamilton, and a post card from H. Lovett, Esq., Kentville, offering \$20 to Prize Fund.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross:

"Whereas, It appears that several Agricultural societies have made no response to the circular of the late Board for a subscription to the exhibition; and whereas it appears the prize list was made on the supposition that every society in the Province would contribute to the funds of the exhibition; and whereas several societies have subscribed, and it is reasonable to believe that those not heard from intend to subscribe, but, through oversight, have not reported the amount of their subscription;

Resolved, That the Secretary forward to the non-subscribing societies the circular