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*Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero : de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.*

VOL. III.

HALIFAX, N. S., MAY, 1879.

No. 26.

**NEWFOUNDLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

THE Annual Meeting of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society was held on the 15th of February, when the Report of the Committee for the past year was adopted, and the Treasurer's accounts were audited and passed.

A ballot for Officers and Committee for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

*President*, Hon. Stephen Rendell; *V. Presidents*, Hon. W. V. Whiteway, J. T. Nevill, Esq., David Baird, Esq., William Boyd, Esq.

*Committee*:—Hon. J. H. Warren, Hon. J. J. Rogerson, Hon. Robert Kent, R. J. Kent, Esq., Mr. Robert Cowan, Mr. John Jocelyn, Mr. John Dwyer, William Pitts, Esq., Rev. J. F. Phelps, M. Fenelon, Esq., James Baird, Esq., Thomas McConnan, Esq., F. McDougall, Esq., Mr. W. Martin, Mr. W. Simnot, Mr. G. Byrne, Mr. C. Rielly.

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1878.**

On the Anniversary Meeting of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society, it becomes the duty of the Committee for past year, to submit to the Society a Report of their proceedings during that period.

It is gratifying to the Committee to have it in their power to report favourably of the year's Agricultural operations in the Colony.

The hay crop, on the success of which the prosperity of our farmers so much depends, has proved very much in excess of

the crop of last year, and may be called above an average one.

Barley and oats filled and ripened well, wherever good seed was sown, and the land in a proper condition to receive it; the former crop requiring especial attention as the land for barley is generally sown with grass seeds.

The turnip crop was somewhat retarded by injury to the young plants from the turnip fly, yet the produce upon most of the farms was up to an average, and the size and quality of the roots were fine, as exemplified at the Society's Show held in the fall.

Cabbage is yearly becoming of more importance as an auxiliary to the field crops, and it was most satisfactory to see the splendid exhibit of this vegetable on the 10th of October last.

The growers of vegetables around St. John's labour under considerable disadvantage from the large quantities of cabbage thrown upon the market from Halifax and some of the American ports, and sold at prices that defy competition from the Newfoundland gardener.

Wheat has not been raised in the Colony any extent the past season. To the westward and at the heads of one or two of the Northern bays, small patches have been grown, and with tolerable success; and, where they have the means of converting the grain into flour, a considerable benefit accrues to the farmers.

With a view of inducing the settlers in Fortune and St. George's Bays to cultivate this grain, your Committee placed a hand-mill in the care of Very Rev. T.

Sears, who has during his residence there taken a deep interest in promoting agriculture in those bays, and inducing his people to settle upon the lands.

On an application from several farmers, your Committee ordered, from Canada, spring seed wheat sufficient to meet the demands for seed for the ensuing spring.

The breadth of land sown down with potatoes the past season exceeded that of the previous year, and during the earlier stage of the crop, the prospects were most encouraging.

The appearance of the potato-fields afforded good evidence of the great care bestowed upon their cultivation, and that our farmers have again taken courage in expending labour and money on this crop. The result, although favourable, fell short of what was expected, but the produce has realized remunerative prices.

Early in the spring, your Committee ordered from Scotland twenty barrels of the most approved seed potatoes, all of the early sorts. Your Committee regret they cannot report favourably of the results from this imported seed, the crops from it, although tolerably free from disease, yielded poorly in most instances.

A barrel of this imported seed was sent to St. George's Bay to Capt. Howarth, R. N., who had the seed sown with the greatest care, and caused the produce to be saved for seed the ensuing spring. In this instance the produce was below an average yield, but free from disease; and it is anticipated that the produce of the following season will prove more satisfactory.