

trouble and expense of fattening and exporting. But the high class grades, or the pure-bred animal will sell readily, at a profit. The same rule will also apply to sheep. Our farmers must learn to raise better bred animals. If thoroughbred heifers cannot be procured, pure blood bulls, at any rate, can be, and this in a very few years will so improve the farm stock that it will be fully as profitable for exporting purposes as the pure bred.

For the purpose of encouraging the further development of this,—one of our greatest resources,—Mr. Weld, proprietor of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, has generously given a prize of \$100 for the "best herd of fat cattle for shipping." This munificent prize is to be given annually.

The Press is the cheapest and most effective educator of the masses, and it is gratifying to know that we have journals devoted especially to agriculture, able edited and true to the interests of the farmer.

Farming is, like any other profession, capable of indefinite advancement and improvement, and the farmer who thinks he "knows all that can be learned about farming" has very much need of instruction, and does great injustice to the profession.

Merchants try to keep thoroughly well up in all the departments of their trade. They take special interest in all periodicals which are calculated to keep them well posted in commercial matters.

The doctor has his "Lancet," and the lawyer his "Journal," the merchant his "Monetary Times and Trade Review," and so on all through the different professions and trades. But how is it with the farmer? Many of them take a newspaper for the general news, which is perfectly right, and what every one should do; but too many stop at that, thinking that as they know all about farming, they don't need to take an Agricultural Paper!

Many farmers think that all the knowledge requisite in agricultural pursuits every farmer can learn for himself by experience, and make a living at the same time. And there are some who believe that the only way to get a correct knowledge of farming is to go up on a farm and learn by experience and observation. No doubt the latter is the most certain method of getting a good common education, provided there be a competent instructor to lead the pupil.

But one thing lost sight of is, the practical farmer is much assisted and profited by the experience of others, and such experiences are to be met with in agricultural publications.

Farmers are just beginning to recognize the fact that science is a great help in agriculture. Chemistry applied to practical agriculture is capable of conferring the greatest benefits.

Entomology is a science, and there is no farmer, when his attention is properly called to it, but will concede the importance of knowing exactly what insects are harmful, and what are not. To know this means profit. We hope the day is not far distant when every farmer will read his agricultural paper, and believe that there is something to be learned in it; and also in books on subjects connected with farming.

Let the truth, that mind and muscle are co-workers in the great field of agriculture, be generally recognized, and a long step upwards will have been taken towards the attainment of the rightful position of the farming community.

The election of auditors was then proceeded with, and resulted in the election of Messrs. N. Cavin, of Galt, and Hobson, of Guelph.

The next point of interest was the

SELECTION OF A SITE

for holding the exhibition of 1882. The only places proposed by the delegates were Toronto and Kingston. The latter place certainly has many just claims; a large delegation, headed by the Mayor of Kingston and Sheriff Ferguson, came to lay before the meeting those claims, with authority from the city of Kingston and county of Frontenac to guarantee that the Association should be provided suitable accommodation to make the fair a success.

The show has not been held in Kingston since 1871, when the weather was very unfavorable and on that account the exhibition was not a success. Ottawa has had the Provincial twice since then, although Kingston is a much more favorable situation to hold it at, and the Fair would undoubtedly be more successful than when held there. The western cities have each had it once or twice since it was last held in Kingston. This city and the farmers in the vicinity have therefore been slighted and deprived of their rights, for it is well known that the Association is supported by a yearly government grant, of which the city of Kingston and farmers in the vicinity pay an equal proportion with other sections of the country.

It is also well known that the vicinity in which the Fair is held is benefited above all others. Then why deprive Kingston and surrounding country of this benefit to which they have so just a claim, especially as many of the farmers of that vicinity are not as far advanced in stock breeding or general agriculture as their western brethren?

It is usually the practice for the Association to receive pledges from the cities where the exhibition is to be next held—pledges to the effect that said city and surrounding country will provide necessary accommodation. This Kingston did, but Toronto did not—the reverse, she did not ask to have the exhibition, did not want it. Letters and telegrams were read from the Mayor of Toronto and other prominent citizens, to that effect. But certain members of the Association held that

the farmers had a right to say where they would hold the Provincial Exhibition, and that there was no necessity of consulting city authorities. They deemed it proper to hold the next exhibition in Toronto, believing that it would be a better show and be more successful financially, thus putting the Association on a better footing.

For the latter reason some might be in favor of centralizing the Exhibition in Toronto, or at least to always keep it in the west, which would be a very unjust course. When the vote was taken Toronto was chosen by a majority of 38, but it was understood by the meeting that if Toronto would not furnish suitable accommodation the Board were to select some other city.

THE ASSOCIATION CRITICISED.

Mr. Thomas Cowan, of Galt, then addressed the meeting on the financial situation. He advocated a decided reform in the direction of economy. The receipts and expenditures for the last three years he quoted as follows:—The prizes in 1878 amounted to \$15,490.00, and the expenses in addition to this amount, were \$19,874.01. In 1879 the prizes were \$12,000; the expenses, \$13,681.33; 1880, prizes, \$13,476.50; expenses, \$16,794.90. He then gave some of the items in connection with this exhibit, and quoted the accounts of the London and Toronto local fairs as showing economy and good management. The delegates and country should awake to the importance of the fact that it cost them \$1.50 to pay out \$1 in prizes. He concluded with the following motion:—

Moved by Mr. Cowan, seconded by Dr. Beadle, that it is desirable in the interests of the Provincial Exhibition to secure a much more economical management of its affairs, in order that funds contributed to its support may go to increase the prize list, and for other useful purposes, as in our opinion there is too great a disproportion between the amount of prizes and the expense incurred in paying them.

Mr. Cowan's address and motion were received with cheers.

In reply to Mr. Cowan, members of the Board stated that charges of extravagance could not be justly laid against the Board. The actual expenses of the members in attending the meetings were often more than the allowance they received. The Board has more to do than formerly, and necessarily spends more money. The itinerant nature of the Association was an expensive feature. In every city they exhibit they have to spend a considerable amount of money in preparing the grounds, buildings, &c.; for instance, toward the Toronto buildings they gave \$4,000. The large increase in delegates entailed a large additional expense, over which they had no control. The Herd Book was a continual drain on the Association, and the expenses of publishing it were not nearly met by the receipts. Several economies had been put in force recently, reducing the salaries of the officers and otherwise curtailing the expenses, by which means they had been enabled to lessen the expenses this year some \$3,000 or \$4,000.

(Is not this last statement an admission that the Board has been spending \$3,000 or \$4,000 more each year than was necessary?)

Mr. Johnston, late President of the Ontario Agricultural College, was called to give a plain statement of facts. He had been requested to look through the Association's books, and did so, feeling when he began just like Mr. Cowan. After going through the books for the last ten years, he came to the conclusion that, considering what they had to do, where they were, and the way they had to do it, they had reduced every expense down to the lowest point possible with any degree of efficiency. He then pointed out the many things which the Board had the control of, and expressed the opinion that they were overloaded with work. They would find at the next session of the Local Parliament a large number of members in favor of doing away with this Board, and they would have no defence. The remedy he would advise would be a change in the Act of Parliament which now governs the Association. He strongly advised the farmers to form a Dominion Farmer's Alliance, with a voice which should be heard in both Houses of Parliament.

After the above address a motion was moved in amendment by D. M. Campbell, seconded by Robert Scarth, that this meeting desires to express their opinion that they have entire confidence in the Board, and congratulate them on having reduced the expenses of the Association some three or four thousand dollars during the present year, and trust that they will pursue the same course of economy in the future.

This motion caused a great deal of very warm discussion, but was finally carried.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

Professor Mills, President of the Ontario Agricultural College, then addressed the meeting.

At a former meeting of the Board they had discussed the advisability of holding examinations on agriculture, live stock and kindred subjects at convenient centres for farmer's sons and the granting of certificates on the result thereof, and on that occasion they requested Prof. Mills to draw up a course of study and lay the same before the delegates from the agricultural societies for their consideration at the annual meeting. Mr. Mills in presenting his course of study pointed out the necessity of it, and how it should be conducted. A resolution was passed advising the Association to hold said yearly examinations, and recommended the course of study prescribed by Mr. Mills.

SHORTHORN HERD BOOK.

On Wednesday, the 28th, a meeting of the breeders of all kinds of pure-bred stock was called, with a view of gaining their opinions and discussing the subject of Herd Books generally. The meeting was very largely attended. Discussions concerning the Canadian Shorthorn Herd Book occupied the entire meeting. The representatives of the shorthorn breeders present contended, as previously shown in the ADVOCATE, that the record as at present conducted and as it has been for some years past, is an injury to the breeders and the country at large, and that to be of any benefit all grade animals must be expunged from its pages, and that the standard of entry must be raised. A resolution to this effect was moved by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. J. C. Snell, that this meeting approves of raising the standard for entry into the Shorthorn Herd Book, so that no animal shall be entered unless the pedigree traces in all crosses direct to imported stock, registered in the English Shorthorn Herd Book.

The above motion was almost unanimously carried. We do not remember of but one man voting against it, and he is not a breeder. The breeders also contended that the management of the record should be handed over to the British American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, and that they be allowed to control the book in future. By this course they claimed the record would be successful, and be conducted in a way which would prove most beneficial to the farmers and country generally. The A. and A. Association opposed giving the control of the record over to the Breeders' Association, but thought it should continue under the control of the A. and A. Association, as at present. They stated that if the Association was worthy of confidence at all, it was worthy of being entrusted with the Herd Book. If the standard were raised, would the country be benefited? The question was, are the breeders of Shorthorns prepared to raise the standard, and if so, are they willing to hand the book over to the new society? Until the Provincial Association have been assured that the breeders are prepared for such a change, they would be untrue to their trust did they submit to it.

The members of the Board seemed very desirous of retaining the control of the record, and promised that the wishes of the breeders would be consulted hereafter, and that the future volumes would be issued more promptly—as one of the breeders said, at least within the life time of the animals recorded therein. A few breeders were in favor of the Board retaining the management.

Mr. Hugh Love moved, That we are happy to hear that greater care and promptitude is being exercised in regard to the Shorthorn Herd Book, and we hope such may continue to a greater extent, and that in the meantime we believe it best to leave the matter, as it is, in the hands of the Board of Agriculture and Arts.

Mr. Geo. Hood, of Guelph, seconded the motion. An amendment was moved and seconded by prominent breeders, to the effect that the A. and A. Association give the control of the record to the breeders, the breeders not having confidence in the past management. When these motions were put the members of the Board did not vote. Eighteen of those present voted for Mr. Love's motion and seventeen for the breeders' amendment. Some of the prominent breeders did not vote, but the majority of those who did voted for the amendment. Several who voted for Mr. Love's motion were not Shorthorn breeders, and some who were breeders voted for the motion because they thought there should be two records—one for grades, the other for pure-bred animals.