

of the county of Inverness, presented to said society at its annual meeting in December, 1865.

The said officers and directors beg to report that on Wednesday the 20th of September last, a meeting of the directors and members of the Agricultural Society of Mabou and Port Hood, was held at Mabou for the purpose of procuring the annual number of members required by law, and promoting the general objects of the society. The number of members being 47, and the amount of subscriptions \$53, together with the participation in provincial grant \$85, (yet to be drawn) with the two hundred dollars reported in December, 1864, will make the sum in treasurer's hands three hundred and thirty-eight dollars.

That on the 19th of June last the directors sent Allan Cameron, Esq., to Prince Edward Island, to select and procure stock for the society, but having failed in doing so, last September at meeting of the society. John H. McKeen, Esq., was engaged to procure the desired stock in P. E. Island, but reported no vessel could be found to freight the stock from P. E. Island. Finally, the directors procured the service of Robert Trotter, Esq., to select in Antigonish and Pictou improved breeds of cattle and sheep. Four bulls, and fifteen ram lambs were so purchased, and brought to Port Hood, early in December (this present month) and sold at public sale.

The cost of stock per Mr. Trotter's bill (purchased in Antigonish and Pictou) - - - \$171 00
Expenses in all to Port Hood - - - 47 00

Amount of Account Sales - - - 210 00

Loss to be sustained by Society - - - 8 60
Mr. Cameron's expenses to P. E. Island 12 30
Paid Mr. Croub's, Ag. Soc. Margaree - 2 00
John H. McKeen - - - 4 50
Expenses of Sec'y and Treasurer - - 14 15
Balance in Treasurer's hands at date - 211 45

\$218 60

210 00

Amount of subscriptions and grant 1863, reported December, 1865 - - - \$200 00

Amount of Subscriptions not including grant - - - 53 00

\$253 00

1865.

Dec. 26th, Balance in hand of Treas. \$211 00
Add to this prov. grant when drawn - 85 00

\$296 00

The four bulls purchased by Mr. Trotter for this Society, are represented to be Durham breeds.

The ram lambs are principally Leicester. There has been one ram imported from Canada to Halifax, and those purchased for this Society have not yet arrived; however, it was sold with the other stock, and the price \$18.50 is included in account sales, and it will be delivered upon its safe arrival to the purchaser.

We, the President and Secretary of the Mabou and Port Hood Agricultural Society, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the report of said society at its annual meeting in December 1865.

At the annual general meeting of this society held at Mabou on the first Tuesday of December, 1865, as required by chap. 96, sec. 18 of the revised statutes, the meeting organized by calling Geo. C. Lawrence, Esq., to the chair, and on motion having been seconded, the following gentlemen were unanimously elected officers-bearers for the ensuing year:—President, Peter Smith; Vice-President, Allan Cameron; Secretary and Treasurer, Hugh McDonald; Directors: Samuel McDonald, Donald McL. McDonald, J. D. Cameron, John McNeil, Angus Beaton.

HUGH McDONALD,
Secy. and Treas.

SOUTH-WEST MARGAREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

KING'S COUNTY.

UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF EAST CORNWALLIS.

We, the council of the U. A. Society of East Cornwallis, beg leave to submit the following report:

It is with much satisfaction that we have in our power to report an increase of membership over the past year, of seventeen, there being now fifty-seven members enrolled, fifty-five of whom have paid their dues for the year. This is a gratifying feature in the formation and conducting of the society, which we trust will be so managed in future as to merit the confidence of the farmers of Cornwallis.

Every farmer should be a member of an Agricultural Society, and thereby contribute to the benefit of the whole. Combinations of intelligent men can accomplish great and important results which it is impossible for single individuals to do, and hence the strong claims our society has upon the support and assistance of the intelligent men of the lower portion of this township.

During the short time (18 months) this society has been in operation, it has accomplished more than its promoters could have anticipated, with the small annual fee of one dollar (\$1.00) from each member, but at the same time we cannot be insensible to the fact that something is also due to the efficiency of the present law, regulating the formation and conducting of local societies, together with the large and increased grant for agricultural purposes placed at the disposal of the board of agriculture of Nova Scotia, by the legislature.

We also beg to say that we learn with pleasure that the board of agriculture are about recommending the legislature to purchase a farm, upon which it is contemplated to breed the different kinds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, for the province, from imported stock of the highest pedigree and character.

The society, with the limited funds placed at their disposal, have now on hand two bulls, whose stock-getting properties are of a superior character, especially "Sir Gaspard," whose yearlings and calves indicate excellent parts and qualities.

The bull, purchased from the importation of the board of agriculture,—which was raised in New Brunswick from an imported bull and cow,—is a fine animal, and has served, for members, 45, for non-members, 63,—total, 109. We can probably count on 100 services.

The Durham bull "Sir Gaspard," since his purchase has served, for members, 8, for non-members, 5,—total, 13; making a total of 122. The infusion of this much blood of a superior bred animal cannot fail to make an impression upon the future stock of this section of the country, which we have no hesitation in saying is quite equal, if not superior, to any in the country.

The society will soon want a bull to take the place of "Sir Gaspard," and the council would recommend that the funds of the society be husbanded for the coming year, in order that one of a superior character may be procured.

The ram owned by the society has given very general satisfaction as regards the superiority of his lambs, and last year served about fifty sheep. They are unable to report the number of sheep this year, as the season is not yet ended. We would recommend that he be sold at the annual meeting, to be delivered in one fortnight, and that arrangements be made at an early day to purchase one or more good rams for the coming season; and we believe nearly as good sheep for our purposes can be obtained in New Brunswick at much less cost than from any other place.

In order that the society may be able to con-

duct its operations more successfully and efficiently, we would recommend that the annual payment of the members be increased, at least, to \$2 per annum. This would afford a much larger fund for the purchase of stock, or otherwise to advance the interest of the society, than possibly can be obtained from the fee now paid.

While we firmly believe that every farmer should be a member of an agricultural society, or otherwise contribute to its support and maintenance, yet we would hesitate to advise this society to shut the door of privileges wholly to non-members; yet we must confess that we believe it is but just and right to ourselves, while we contribute our subscriptions and time towards the promotion of the great cause of agriculture, to make a greater difference than heretofore between members and non-members in the privilege of the service of the animals belonging to them. This is a matter of importance, and we beg to call the attention of the society particularly to it.

Another important matter connected with the operation of this society for the past year was the cattle show at Wolfville. We cannot afford time and space in this report to go into the merits of the exhibition in general, and will dismiss the subject for the present by the single observation that in all enlightened countries they have become one of the settled institutions of the age, and would seem to be necessary for the collecting and grouping together of the science, skill and art shown in the production of the finest specimens of stock of all description and kind, implements of husbandry, and of everything directly or indirectly bearing upon the productions of the farmer.

The cattle show took place at Wolfville, on Wednesday, the 11th day of October, being the same day on which the "Fruit Grower's Association" held their third and most successful exhibition, which called a larger number of persons together than otherwise would have attended. The day was somewhat favourable, but rather cold for the cattle in the field which were not sheltered.

The exhibition being held under the auspices of this and the society of Lower Horton, a much larger number of animals might have been expected on exhibition, but we attribute this largely to the fact, especially in reference to young cattle, that there was not a large number of premiums in each department. Many farmers ascertaining that their neighbours had a finer animal, would not take the trouble or go to the expense of taking the animal to the exhibition, feeling assured that they could not possibly obtain a premium, and further, would not suffer the supposed mortification of being excelled by their more successful neighbours. This should not be so, and we hope that at future exhibitions this will be largely remedied.

There were, however, on the ground, 18 horses of all kinds (exclusive of sucking colts), 8 bulls, 25 pairs oxen and steers, 19 cows, 10 heifers, 11 rams, 16 ewes and lambs, 5 boars, 2 sows with litter of pigs. The exhibition being confined to cattle, horses, sheep and swine, there was no display of agricultural implements.

One very gratifying fact to this society is, that the bull and rams which they exhibited took first prizes in their class, a proof that the class of animals owned by this society are of a first-class character.

The awards by the judges, as far as we can learn, gave very general satisfaction to all parties interested.

The expenses, which will be reported in the treasurer's account, connected with the exhibition are trifling, the combined council and committee giving their time gratis.

While we are of the opinion that an annual county exhibition would be attended with beneficial results, we cannot, as before expressed, advise another the coming season, for reasons there stated.

It might not be out of place here to make a remark or two in reference to the fruit exhibition at Wolfville, which was held the same day as our