

view of the inconvenient situation of the agriculturists in the Island of Cape Breton, and the disadvantages of attending a sale at Halifax, a portion of such grant (not less than one-fourth) be separately devoted to an importation to be sold in Cape Breton during the Island District Exhibition, and that the selection of stock be made in accordance with a decision to be arrived at by a meeting of delegates from the several societies;

And further, That such societies be allowed to supplement the grant with contributions from the societies directly, and the proceeds of sale revert to the Board of Agriculture, after deducting expenses and amount supplemented by societies. Purchase and sale of stock to be conducted subject to approval of Board.

This recommendation was not adopted, but, at last meeting of the Legislature, the Committee on Agriculture recommended as follows, and their recommendation was approved of by the House of Assembly:—

"There is, however, a very urgent want of improvement in our flocks of sheep, which cannot be supplied without importation.

"We recommend, therefore, that grants be made to each Society or Societies in each District as may subscribe and pay up a fund for making such importation.

"That the *bona fide* paying up and expenditure of such money shall be certified by affidavit of the President or Presidents of such Societies, and that the sheep so imported shall be sold at public auction within the District, and to the members of such Societies as make the importation."

The Executive Council of the Province at a meeting held 28th April, 1882, passed the following Minute, which was approved of by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor:—

"That the Board be informed that the Government will be prepared to carry out the recommendation of the Committee on Agriculture, adopted by the House of Assembly at its recent Session, in regard to the importation of Sheep."

In accordance with the above report and minute, the Board notified the officers of Agricultural Societies, by circular, that they were prepared to receive applications from Societies in the several Agricultural Districts of the Province for grants in aid for Importation of Sheep,—such applications to give the names of the Societies uniting in the importation, the amount subscribed and paid up, and the amount expended; all duly declared to before a Justice of the Peace by the President or Presidents of such Societies.

The following applications were received for Premiums on Sheep Importation, and, after being duly examined by

the Board, were transmitted to the Government, with a recommendation that amounts for which the several Districts had qualified should be paid.

District No. 1.—No application.

District No. 2.—J. B. H. Parker, President, Nictaux Agricultural Society. Amount subscribed, \$148.00; expended, \$122.

District No. 3.—(1) St. Clair Jones, President, Weymouth Society. Subscribed, \$25.00; expended, \$22.74. (2) John H. Bower, President, Shelburne Society. Subscribed, \$100.00; expended, \$100.95.

District No. 4.—W. M. Blair, President of Onslow Society, and Jas. D. Putnam, President of Brookfield Society. Subscribed \$300; expended, \$300.

District No. 5.—No application.

District No. 6.—Simeon Anconi, President, LeMoine Society. Amount expended, \$40.

PRESENTATION OF JERSEY BULL LITCHFIELD 15TH TO THE PROVINCE BY F. RATCHFORD STARR, ESQ.

The Board have pleasure in stating that, with great liberality, F. Ratchford Starr, Esq., of the Echo Farm, Litchfield, Connecticut, a native of this Province, has presented, through the Board, to the Province the valuable Jersey Bull Litchfield, 15th, sired by the celebrated Centennial Prize Bull. The Bull has been quarantined, and arrangements are now being made for securing his services in suitable localities in the Province during the present year.

POTATO BEETLE.

During last year the so-called Colorado or Potato Beetle, which has been so destructive to the potato crop in other parts of America, has begun to show itself in Nova Scotia. The Board has collected information as to the best means of destroying it, which will be diffused among the farmers at the proper season. Persons in whose neighbourhood the insect may appear are invited to apply to members of the Board for circulars or advice.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION OF 1883.

The Board have accepted the offer of the Onslow Agricultural Society to carry out the Provincial Exhibition of 1883 at Truro. The regulations and prize list will be considered by the Board at the annual meeting in March, and thereafter submitted to the Governor in Council for approval and sanction, in terms of the Act.

RECOMMENDATION IN REFERENCE TO A VETERINARY SURGEON.

Last year the Board of Agriculture passed a resolution bringing to the notice of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, the desirability of

obtaining, if possible, an annual grant from the Legislature, to secure the services of a competent veterinary surgeon for the Province. The subject, however, was not reported by the Committee, and the House had no opportunity of dealing with it. This year the question has been presented to us under a memorial from the Halifax County Agricultural Society. Whatever may be thought of its importance by others, the members of the Board feel it their duty to state it as their firm belief to the Government and Members of the Assembly that, in the absence of chairs for the study of veterinary science in our Normal Schools and Colleges, the necessity of one or more competent surgeons in the Province is apparent from a consideration of the large amount of capital invested in horses, cattle, sheep and pigs, and the many and heavy losses to which the owners are subjected from not being able to command skilled treatment in dealing with the great number of diseases and accidents to which such animals are continually liable.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE BOARD.

The Account Current of the Treasurer, for the year, and relative vouchers, are submitted herewith, having been examined and checked by the Auditing Committee of the Board. The balance in hand at the beginning of the year was \$16.70, and at the close \$320.31. The total amount drawn from the Provincial Treasury was \$12607.00, of which \$6733.08 was paid to Societies, and \$4000 to District Exhibition Committees, leaving \$1873.92 for all other purposes. As the balance now in hand is \$303.61 in excess of that at the commencement of the year, it will be seen that the total expenditure of Government money by the Board during the year, apart from grants to Societies and Exhibitions, has been \$1570.31. By collections for cattle sales, the Board have been able to replace the Stock Farm Fund to the extent of \$1762.91, which amount is now on deposit at interest in the People's Bank. The "Agricultural Journal" has paid itself. From the Registration and Transfer fees of cattle, the sum of \$70.75 has been realized. The following abstracts present a general view of the financial affairs of the Board for the year:—

General Abstract of Treasurer's A/c, 1882.

Cn.	
By Balance, February 1882.....	\$ 16 70
Provincial Treasury.....	12607 00
Collected for cattle sold, and arrears	2251 08
Fees for Registration and Transfers of Cattle.....	70 75
Agricultural Journal subscriptions and advertising, 1882, \$366.93, less expense of printing and mailing, \$364.53.....	2 40
Rent of Quarantine Premises, reimbursed by Dominion Government.	50 00

\$14997 93