

It was moved by W. D. Dimock, seconded by Mr. I. Longworth, and passed unanimously, that a County Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition be held in the Exhibition Building, Truro, during the year.

The following Committee, together with the Presidents and Secretaries of all Agricultural Societies in the County, were appointed:—Major Blair, J. B. Fraser, I. Longworth, J. B. Calkin, C. P. Blanchard, J. F. Blanchard, W. N. Dickson, George Layton, and Gardiner Olish. This Committee to have full charge of everything in connection with the carrying out of the Exhibition.

A vote of thanks was then given to the Chairman and Secretary for their kindness in presiding and recording the transactions of the meeting.

Mr. Patterson believed a County Exhibition to be the *desideratum* just now. It would bring out many exhibitors who feared the larger Provincial competition. He hoped it would be carried out successfully and redound to the credit of the County.

The Secretary also replied in a few well chosen remarks.

We are now fairly launched into another Agricultural contest. It was the understanding at the meeting that if the Central Board locate the Provincial Exhibition for this year in Colchester, the Committee above named should have full charge of it. This County now holds a responsible position in the interests of Agriculture, before the Province. We have, in one aspect, taken a step in the van, let us now go on with a more rapid course than before. Our own resources alone must make the County Exhibition a success. We have no government Grant to fall back upon. The Agricultural Societies must, one and all, come gallantly to the front with their means. Our mechanics must at once take some steps to assist the Committee, so that a good, large Prize List can be offered in their department. Now, who will make the first move in this matter?

REPORT OF THE EXHIBITION COMMITTEE OF 1876, TO THE PEOPLE OF COLCHESTER.

We, your Committee, appointed at a meeting held in Loughhead's Hall, Truro, on the 25th of January, 1876, to have the immediate supervision and work of carrying out the late Provincial Exhibition, beg leave to report.

At a meeting held in the same Hall, Truro, on the 28th of the same month, W. M. Blair, J. B. Calkin, and W. D. Dimock were appointed a sub-committee to arrange a Prize List, taking the Prize List of 1874 as a basis, and to report to the General Committee as soon as possible. This Sub-Committee reported on Feb. 4th, and their report, after many

amendments, was accepted and ordered to be sent to the Central Board of Agriculture for approval. This report was soon returned with but few changes, and immediately printed, and ordered to be distributed among the Agricultural Societies of Colchester County, the Central Board taking upon themselves the *onus* of distributing said Prize List among all Agricultural Societies in the Province, outside this County. The amount offered was \$5332—after the list came from the Central Board; several Prizes that your Committee had arranged for competition in different industrial departments being cut out on the ground that the Government grant of \$4000 was for Agriculture alone. The amount offered for Prizes by your Committee was afterwards somewhat increased through the kindness and liberality of Governor Archibald, who offered \$10 for the best assortment of Boots and Shoes,

\$10 for the best assortment of Hats and Caps, and

\$20 for the best collection of Furniture.

Also, by the Improved Stock Horse Company, Maitland, offering for the best 'Knox' Colt got by 'Jim Fiske,' \$20.

For the second best, \$20.

" third best, \$10.

And also by Mr. Robt. Wilkes, Montreal, who gave a Bronze Group, "Cow and Calf," for the greatest number of premiums taken in neat cattle.

Your Committee would also return thanks for the very handsome Prizes offered by Mr. Vick, of Rochester, N. Y., for flowers and plants. These appeared in the Prize List as "Vick's special Prizes."

The Prize Lists and Entry Papers were distributed as widely over the Province as possible, and though here and there a complaint has arisen that the Exhibition was not fully advertized, your Committee are inclined to think that apathy or indifference to our vital interests of Agriculture on the part of intending exhibitors should be assigned as a reason, rather than a lack of information in relation to the details of the Provincial Competition.

It was necessary, to carry out the work successfully, that sub-committees should be appointed, having charge of particular departments. These Committees consisted of members of the General Committee together with others who kindly volunteered their assistance. The work of all was performed with satisfaction to your Committee, and with good results to the Exhibition. Your Committee take this opportunity to convey thanks to those, not members of the General Committee, for their untiring assistance, and especially to the Railway authorities, more especially to P. Innis, Esq., General Manager of the W. & A. R. R., R. Luttrell, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Government R.

R., and L. B. Archibald, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of East Division of Government R. R., for the great favors and accommodations rendered during Exhibition week.

Your Committee suggested to the Central Board that the Exhibition should open on the 2nd of October, but the Board overruled them and accordingly the following week was chosen, and from the 9th to the 13th of October the Provincial Exhibition remained open. The Exhibition was opened with appropriate ceremonies, Col. Laurie, the President of the Central Board of Agriculture reading an address, and the Lieut. Governor formally declaring the Exhibition opened. The closing ceremonies were somewhat similar. The Hon. P. C. Mill, Provincial Secretary, delivered an address, with a formal closing by the Chairman of your Committee. The work of the week was enlivened, and the interest of visitors daily kept up by the fine playing of the efficient Band of the 78th, under the leadership of Mr. Pemberton.

The Exhibition, under our charge, we have reason to believe was a success. Double as many entries are recorded as in Halifax in 1874. The amount and quality of stock exhibited was vastly superior, the home manufactures were equally as good, grains were as good, while roots and vegetables were much in excess of those of '74. These facts prove to us that not only as a farming people are we making wonderful strides in the improvement of our stock, the cultivation of our soils, and the quality of our home manufactures, but also, what some beforehand doubted, that our central county towns are as suitable, if not more so, for Provincial Exhibitions as the metropolis of the Province.

Financially the Exhibition was a success. There remained, after paying all expenses, \$1025, to the credit of your Committee. This sum has been placed in the hands of Trustees to be invested for the benefit of the County at any future Exhibitions. In the event of a County Exhibition during the coming autumn, the following motion was placed on record by your Committee at their last meeting: "That during the year, \$150 of the money now to the credit of the Committee be taken for fencing and otherwise improving the Exhibition grounds; \$500 be set aside for a Prize List for a County Exhibition, and the balance be left at interest for the erection of any future Exhibition Building that may be required."

In conclusion your Committee have to say that they have made application for the contemplated Provincial Exhibition this autumn—though all things indicate that either King's or Halifax County will be the successful applicant—if so, your Committee would suggest that active measures be at once taken to arrange a County Exhibition to be held in the Exhibition Buildings here, a week or fortnight previous to the Provincial Competition; believing that our local resources can be fostered and encouraged to such an extent thereby, that we, as a County, will be able to compete more favorably at the Provincial Exhibition. The Exhibition that we have endeavored faithfully to bring to a success has already had a most stimulating effect, not only in Colchester, but all over the Province. Stock-raisers are searching everywhere for better animals than they now possess. Farmers in the western parts of the Province are