

and at the same time take part in celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of an event in which the people of both Provinces are interested.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
JULIUS L. INCHES.

Dr. George Lawson, Halifax.

EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, FOR YEAR 1882.

*Presented to House of Assembly, 12th
March, 1883.*

In consequence of the early period at which the Legislature was called together last year, the Board met on 24th February, elected officers, held conference with the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, and transacted other business. The officers elected were:—David Matheson, President; Israel Longworth, Vice-President; Professor Lawson, Secretary and Treasurer.

In accordance with the requirement of the Act, which specifies the month of March as the time for the annual meeting, the Board met again on 2nd March, and on the following day a second conference was held with the Agricultural Committee of the House. An Executive Committee, consisting of Messrs. Longworth, Starratt and Archibald, with the President, was appointed to carry out the details of business transacted at this meeting, and to dispose of such other matters, not requiring the attendance of the whole Board, as might arise during the season.

Meetings of the Executive Committee were held in April, and again in August, 1882, and in January, 1883. Details of the business transacted at these meetings have been published in the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE and the public newspapers. It is not thought necessary to repeat the discussions that took place on the various subjects under consideration. The statements in this report will consequently be confined to the general conclusions arrived at and business done by the Board during the year; and, for convenience, these will be given in a classified form:—

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

One of the most important duties devolving upon the Board by the Act is the maintenance in vigour and efficiency at the County and District Societies. The Board is required to receive the Accounts and Reports of such Societies, and, before granting Certificates to entitle them to participate in the Provincial grant, to see that they have complied with the provisions of the Act. The Board have accordingly examined with care the Annual Reports, Accounts, and

also the attested Returns of paid Membership, of the several Agricultural Societies that have applied for participation in the grant for the year 1882, and have prepared the following Statement showing the result of their examination. The names of the Societies are given in a classified form, also, in each case, the number of Members, the amount of attested subscriptions, the proportion of grant to which the Society will be entitled, and the names of the principal officers for the year responsible for the management of the Society's affairs. In the case of several Societies additional information has still to be obtained or corrections made of errors in attestation before their certificates for participation can be issued.

The general results of the Abstract of Returns show that the total number of Societies in the Province is the same as last year, but that there is an increase in the number in the Counties of Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland and Kings, and a decrease in Digby, Hants, Inverness and Yarmouth. In the other counties the number of Societies remains as before. There is a diminution, however, in the total number of members to the extent of 523; of subscriptions, to the amount of \$523.12; and of grants in aid, amounting in all to \$347.00.

The record of Societies for the last nineteen years shows that, during the operations of the Board, the Societies have increased in successive years from 37 in 1864 to 86 in 1882; the membership from 1744 to 4770; the subscriptions from \$1859 to \$5663; and the grants in aid from \$3010 to \$6480.

The holding, during the year, of District Exhibitions (to be afterwards referred to) necessarily limited to some extent the operations of the Societies more immediately concerned, by occupying the attention and time of Officers and Members, and making an exceptional draft upon the funds; but it is gratifying to the Board to be able to report that, notwithstanding this disturbing influence, most of the Societies in the several Counties have shown a fair amount of industry and zeal in carrying out the objects for which they have been organized, more especially the improvement of Live-stock.

In the County of Annapolis, the Clements Society has increased its Live-stock during the year, and now owns a Durham and Ayrshire bull, three other cattle and a Shropshire ram.

The Annapolis Royal Society has purchased the Short Horn Bull Duke of Edinburgh.

The Clarence Society has purchased a bull, in addition to the Earl of Suffey previously owned. The interest in raising Short Horn Cattle in the Society, is in-

creasing, and many are endeavoring to secure Thoroughbred animals.

The Paradise Society has secured the Short Horn Bull Favorite, No. 89, which took 1st prize at the Dominion Exhibition at Halifax. Most of the Members being interested in Dairying, have been using thorough-bred Ayrshire bulls for several years, in order to raise a class of cows of good milking qualities. They now purpose crossing the Ayrshire and Short Horn, so as to obtain suitable stock for beef and the dairy as well.

The Nictaux Society has decided in favour of an Ayrshire Bull for the large Dairy District in the western section of the Society, to take the place of a grade now owned. They have exchanged the bull formerly owned, for Kennebec Chief, and retain the Devon Fenwick Williams. Encouraged by the offer of the Government, the Society imported 17 Leicester Sheep from New Brunswick, which were sold, and realized \$187, so that there was a profit to the Society above cost and expenses of \$39.10.

The Bridgetown Agricultural Society has three thorough-bred Short Horn bulls, whose services are now showing a marked improvement in the stock of the district. The Society has adopted the system of giving bonuses on the purchase of bulls, allowing the purchaser to receive the fees, so that no fees appear in the Treasurer's general account.

In the County of Antigonish, the North Grant Society report having imported sixty dollars' worth of white Seed Wheat, which was sold at cost to members in lots of from two to six bushels, and gave an abundant yield, the quality being such that samples took both first and second prizes at the District Exhibition. The Society thus turned its funds to account, without sustaining any loss, and much good was done.

The Bayfield (Co Antigonish) Society's accounts show a payment of \$209.72 for 27 Lambs, and 5 Ewes from Prince Edward Island, and proceeds of sale of same as \$140.02.

The Antigonish Society purchased a thorough-bred Durham Bull, and still own the English Short Horn Lord Randolph. The St Andrew's Society has purchased the thorough-bred Durham Bull Alfonso.

In Cape Breton County, the Sydney Society reports ownership of two-fifths of the Stud Horse Richmond, also a Threshing Machine. The Society has purchased and disposed of to Members, one Ayrshire bull, 1 Shropshire Down Ram, and 1 Leicester Ram, 1 Ayrshire Cow; and several grade Ayrshire and Jersey cows and heifers are owned by Members.

The Sydney Mines and Little Bras d'Or Society purchased two thorough-