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Halifax, January 20th, 1872.

We this month publish a continuation of the Annual Reports of the Agricultural Societies throughout the Province. A large number of these documents still remain to be printed in our next and future numbers; but it may not be amiss to refer briefly to some of the more noticeable points of the Reports already before our readers.

It will be evident to any one who reads these Reports that Improvement of Farm Animals is certainly the subject which rises above all others in importance in the minds of our energetic farmers. Those persons who can appreciate the feeling in this respect which exists now, and contrast it with the apathy and ignorance of seven or eight years ago, will be sensible of the valuable services rendered to the Province by the Central Board of Agriculture and its large family of County Societies. In those days a grade animal was counted as good as a thorough bred; now none of our Societies will use a grade on any terms if a thorough-bred can be obtained.

Then a few hundred dollars was thought to be a "fancy price" for a Bull, however good he might be, and no buyer could be obtained at such a price; now our farmers flock to the sales of stock and do not look at the price but at the animal and the produce which is to be the result of the purchase. Then imported animals were thought to be of no use unless they could be turned out into the woods to shift for themselves; now they are carefully fed and tended so that the fullest benefit may be realized. In short the steady improvement of stock has been accompanied by a growing feeling of interest on the part of our farmers, and by a corresponding improvement in the mode of treatment of all our farm animals; the results we see in the produce brought into our markets and in the increased comfort and intelligence of the farmers themselves. We doubt not but that there is at the present time growing up in the Province a race of young farmers who will rapidly distance their fathers in skill and enterprise, and the value of such a

result cannot well be over-estimated in an industrial community. That much still remains to be done is clearly indicated in these Reports. The Maxwells Society in Pictou County "after considerable time spent, and trouble involved" obtained a bull raised from stock imported by the Board, and although a grade, he gave great satisfaction, but the demand for another "of superior breed" is much felt. The Windsor Society reports: "No Government stock has been purchased by the Society, as it could not be procured." The Paradise Society has imported an Ayshire Bull from the State of Maine, also a Heifer of the same breed, besides purchasing a Short Horn, in King's County. At last meeting of the Amherst Society it was agreed to expend the funds in improvement of Stock; a similar resolution was passed by the North Sydney Society. The Middle River of Victoria Society finds great benefit from the Chester Pigs purchased from the Board's importation of 1870. This Society also reports upon an Alderney Bull purchased in the fall of