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CONTENTS:

PAGE.		PAGE.	
Mr. Longworth's Address.—The Past, Present and Future of Nova Scotia	9	AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES:	
Agriculture.....	10	Annapolis Agri. Society.....	14
Flax Machinery—Correspondence.....	11	Yarmouth County Agricultural Society.....	14
The New York State Agricultural Society.....	13	MISCELLANEOUS:	
Hand Thrasher.....	13	Spring Work.....	15
COMMUNICATIONS:		Alfred Saunders, Seedsman.....	16
Farmers' Clubs, By Thomas Tuzo, Esq., Horton Landing.....	13	North British Cattle Food Co.....	16
Orchard Grass—Chevalier Barley. By A. C. Thomas, Esq., Windsor..	14	Chester White Pigs for Sale.....	16

Halifax, 20th April, 1872.

It affords us much pleasure to be able to publish the following Speech of I. Longworth, Esq., Member of the Board of Agriculture for Colchester, delivered at a Conference Meeting of the Board with Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, on 22nd March, 1872, an abstract of which appeared in the minutes of the proceedings of the Board, published in the April number of the *Journal of Agriculture* :—

Mr. President,— Hoping that it will not be considered out of place on my part, in the hearing of the Chairman and Members of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, to make a few observations on the great subject which has brought us together—I do so, not because I deem it necessary to say one word to increase the deep interest those gentlemen already take in the subject,

but to satisfy them that the members of this Board are alive to its great importance to the country. As a prominent member of the late Board, in expressing himself relative to the Act under which this Board was formed, stated that "it would never do to permit the results of their recent successful efforts to perish," I hope it will be the great aim of this Board, as it is doubtless the strong desire of the Legislature, and the earnest wish of those whom we represent, to carry to a happy issue those grand measures for the promotion of the agriculture of the Province, which that Board so auspiciously inaugurated. That the former Board was enabled to effect so much good at so small a cost to the Province—some \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year on an average, a less sum than Mr. Cochrane of Compton, Ontario, often pays for one animal to improve his herd—is matter of surprise to all of us. What this good amounts to, is well known to every person who take an interest in the advancement of Nova

Scotian husbandry. Perhaps it is most visible in the marked degree of improvement that has taken place of late years in neat cattle in certain parts of the Province. For instance, last fall I attended a sale of cattle within the bounds of the Onslow Agricultural Society, and witnessed the astonishment of many farmers of the old school in seeing a pair of yearling steers—half-bred Durhams—sold for \$37.50; and I was much gratified to notice that they were not more surprised at the big price than they were at the large animals. They saw there was money in them, and after they were knocked down, a cautious farmer regretted that he had not run them up to \$40. In the same locality, a gentleman has a pair of two year old steers of that breed, for which he refused \$100. The other day, Mr. James Leaman, an enterprising butcher in Truro, paid \$180 for a pair of half-bred, and at the age (three years old) half fed, Durham steers. One of them, I saw alive, girted 7 feet 2 inches, and