

On motion of Mr. Pomroy, it is resolved that the Secretary be instructed to correspond with the Member of Parliament for Sherbrooke, the Mayor of the city, and the President of the Agricultural Society of Sherbrooke, that they make known to the Board what sums of money they can place at their disposal to help it to defray the expenses of the Exhibition which will be held by the Agricultural Association of Lower Canada in October next.

Proposed by Mr. Gasgrain and resolved, that \$200 be employed and devoted to establish a museum or exhibition of improved agricultural implements, to be opened and kept by the Agricultural School of St. Ann's College, whose proprietors shall have the care and direction, but gratuitously, and that this sum be paid on the order and under the direction of the President.

The Board then adjourned.



THE last meeting of the Board of Agriculture for Lower Canada, as will be seen by the following remarks, were

fraught with questions of immense interest for the progress of agriculture; and never has the Board brought forward so many and such important topics. They have surpassed their usual measure of suggestions, and have opened up a new system of working, with a desire to devote the liberal awards of public money to the promotion of the greatest amount of possible good. Up to the present time our Provincial Shows have been rather an agricultural festival or rejoicing, than a meeting together of persons highly interested in the progress of the art and science of agriculture.

The amount of the awards based as they were on a principle of distribution, rather than upon the true reward of success obtained by intelligent care and culture, has done much to retard the progress of the wise and intelligent farmer in the adoption of a superior breed of animals, and a better and a more rational system of agriculture.

The statute law enjoins that the Board of Agriculture must import both animals and seed grain of a superior quality; establish also a museum and library where the farmer may find all sorts of agricultural implements for inspection, and adopt those best suited to his wants. But heretofore both the museum and library have been considered of secondary importance, compared with the usual annual exhibition, which has generally resulted in exposing to the public the defects of an agricultural organization, and the absence

of the true principles that ought to have been their guide, both in respect to the choice of breeds the best suited, and of the most useful implements.

It appears that the Board has at last resolved to face all difficulties, and at the same time has shown its sincere desire to fulfil all the important obligations that are required by the Provincial Statute, viz:

1. To take measures, with the approbation of the Minister of Agriculture, to procure and set in operation, a model, illustrative, or experimental farm, or farms, in their respective sections of the Province, and in connexion with any public school or college, and to manage and conduct the same.

2. To establish at Montreal an agricultural museum, and an agricultural and horticultural library.

3. To take measures to obtain from other countries, animals of a new or improved breed.

4. New varieties of grain, seeds, and vegetables.

5. And to test the quality, value, and usefulness of such animals, grain, seed, vegetables or other productions, implements or machines.

6. To publish in such manner and form as to secure the widest circulation among the agricultural societies and farmers generally, all such reports that the Board may adjudge suitable for publication.

In reference to the first suggestion, the Board has named a Committee to report at its next meeting in April, the best and most practical method to establish an agricultural School in Montreal.

The district of Quebec at the present time possesses such an establishment at Ste. Anne's, Kamouraska, and Montreal ought ere this have had such an establishment, and if our information is correct, we believe the projected one at Montreal will be attached to the farm belonging to the Montreal Seminary, which is at present occupied by Mr. Ossaye. Whatever may be the results, they indicate a desire on the part of our farmers to obtain practical and useful information. We have always held that the teaching of agriculture as a science must form the foundation of all agricultural progress in the advancement of Canada, and it is with no small pleasure we perceive the march of public opinion in the right direction on this important point.

The establishment at Montreal of a museum of improved agricultural implements, is intimately connected with the teaching of agriculture, and is more particularly called for by those farmers who have a desire to modify their present system of manual labour. Farmers from a distance will be pleased to find there an assortment of the most approved and useful implements of husbandry, and will at the same time be astonished at the inventions devoted to the manual part of agricultural labour, at the adoption of the means to a given end, and saving of a great amount of time and money. Manufacturers have for a long time complained, and justly, of the impossibility to answer the demands of the farmer, because they had no approved models.