

District No. 2.—Digby, Shelburne, Yarmouth, three counties. Exhibition at Yarmouth.....	\$ 660 67
District No. 4.—Hants, Colchester, Cumberland, three counties. Exhibition at Truro.....	660 67
District No. 5.—Pictou, Antigonish, Guysboro', three counties. Exhibition at Antigonish.....	660 67
District No. 6.—Cape Breton Counties—four. Exhibition at North Sydney.....	\$83 89
Total.....	\$4000 00

Full details of the results of these Exhibitions, Accounts, and Prize Lists, are appended to this Report.

#### DOMINION EXHIBITION AT KINGSTON.

The Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario, having informed the Board that the Dominion Government had appropriated \$500 towards the transportation of animals and articles from Nova Scotia to the Dominion Exhibition at Kingston, the following scheme was submitted by the Board to the Provincial Government:—

1. That the sum of \$500 so placed at disposal be expended in the transport to Kingston of such horses, cattle, and other live stock and manufactures, as may be entered and previously examined and approved of by the Board as of sufficient merit.

2. That the exhibitors of live stock so approved be required to take charge of them personally or by their agents, in conveyance to and from the exhibition.

3. That a suitable exhibit of the economic minerals of the Province be made at the expense of the Provincial Government.

4. That the Government be requested to appoint a Commissioner to proceed to Kingston in care of the minerals, and that he be required likewise to take charge of such exhibits, in the departments of fisheries and manufactures only, as may be offered by exhibitors who do not desire either to accompany their exhibits or employ agents. Such exhibits are to be taken at the risk of exhibitors.

5. The Executive Officers of the Board of Agriculture will give all practicable assistance to the Government, in receiving entries and arranging for the examination and transport of offered exhibits.

6. In the event of the preceding arrangement being approved of and sanctioned by the Government, the Secretary of the Board advertise intending exhibitors to intimate the nature of their exhibits, and act generally in conjunction with the Government Commissioner when appointed.

The arrangement proposed having been approved of, the Government appointed Dr. Honeyman of the Provincial Museum to take charge of the Exhibits for Nova Scotia.

#### RECOMMENDED INCREASE OF GRANTS TO SOCIETIES.

The Board at Annual Meeting 2nd Feb., adopted the following Resolution:—

Recommended, that it is thought exceedingly desirable by the Board that the Legislature should be applied to, through the Committee of Agriculture, to increase the County Grant to Agricultural Societies, with a view to their greater efficiency; that the urgent necessity for such increase may be seen in the case of Central Agricultural Society of King's County, one of the six Societies in the most important agricultural county in Nova Scotia, receiving no more than \$21.40 from the annual grant. Also, that, in the future, not disturbing existing Societies, the number of Societies in any one County should not exceed six, unless, in the opinion of the member of the Board for the district, the county is so territorially situated, that not to increase the number injustice would be done to a large class of farmers who could not conveniently belong to any existing Society. And that the Agricultural Act be so amended as to legalize such limitation of Societies. The necessity of some such legal restriction upon multiplication of Societies is pressing itself upon the Board on account of the large number of Societies at present established in several counties, in connection also with the fact that the present grant to each county is considered by the Board quite too small to materially conserve the interests of Provincial agriculture when divided among too many Societies in any one County.

#### PREMIUMS ON IMPORTATION OF HORSES.

The Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, in their Report, recommended that the Government should empower the Central Board to pay, from the Stock Farm fund, the amount applied for as bonuses on Horses imported during 1881, and, in succeeding years, to authorize the Board to pay an amount not to exceed \$800 in any one year, on the purchase price of importations as recommended in the additional report presented by the Committee during the session of 1881; and the House Committee further recommended the Government to pass a Bill, if necessary, to give effect to the above recommendation, and that regulations be provided, &c.

On 2nd of March, 1882, the Board passed the following resolution:—

"That the Board recommend that an Act be passed authorizing the Board to spend annually a sum not exceeding say \$1,000, in bonuses on importation of horses in terms of former recommendation of Agricultural Committee, the bonus to any one horse not to exceed, say, \$200, at ten per cent. on purchase price, and to be paid only on the Board being satisfied in every case that the horse is a useful

and otherwise suitable animal, that the price paid and upon which bonus is claimed is reasonable in amount, and on the owner giving a bond to keep the animal for service at what the Board shall consider fair rates for a term of five years. And, further, that the Board be authorized to make regulations in accordance with the Agricultural Committee's report, and to enact and enforce special stipulations in necessary cases, to secure the effective carrying out of the Committee's recommendations.

Several applications for bonuses on Horses having been sent to the Board last year, and others during 1882, the Board expressed their desire to receive instructions from, and sanction of, the Government, to enable them to take effective measures to carry out the views of the Assembly's Committee, so far as the Government might deem it proper to do so. The balance of the Stock Farm fund not being available for the purpose of paying bonuses, in consequence of the stock last imported having been sold on endorsed notes, an advance by the Government was required to meet the payment of such bonuses on Horses as might be authorized.

The Board were authorized by the Government to announce that the premiums would be paid, but that payment would have to be deferred until the Board recovered a sufficient amount from the sales of Cattle, in which the Stock Farm fund had been invested.

The following bonuses were authorized, payment to be made on the owners executing a bond to keep the Horses in the Province for five years, for service at reasonable fees:—

1. To Alexander Cochrane Newport, for Norman Percheron Horse "French Republic." Purchase price of Horse, \$1,000. Fee for service, \$8. Amount of bonus, \$100.

2. To Ezra A. Davidson, Portapique, County Colchester, for horse "Ruler Hugo" to serve in Cumberland, Colchester and Hants. Fee for service, \$8.00 for season. Purchase price, \$200.00. Bonus, \$20.00.

3. To C. P. Blanchard, Truro, for horse, "Tronbadour," to serve in County Colchester. Fee, \$5.00. Price, \$175.00. Bonus, \$17.50.

#### IMPORTATION OF SHEEP.

In February, 1882, the Board recommended: That it is thought very desirable, in the opinion of the Board, that the Agricultural Committee be requested to suggest to the Legislature the necessity of a special grant of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for an importation of sheep and pigs, now very much required. The animals to be sold at Halifax in the autumn.

Resolved, That in the event of such special grant being recommended, and in