

was issued in a printed form with the *Royal Gazette*. A committee of the Board were then making arrangements for an extensive importation of stock from Ontario, and had ordered a quantity of Pigs from Pennsylvania. Their operations were soon stopped by the discovery that the legal effect of the new Act was to abolish the Board altogether, and leave its members without any power of further action, either in carrying on necessary routine business or proceeding to the formation of a new Board. In the meantime the Agricultural Societies all over the country were proceeding with their work, importing stock, arranging exhibitions, offering prizes for competition, purchasing improved implements, and otherwise incurring heavy liabilities, on the faith of their annual grants, payable at the close of the year. The Central Board was the mainspring that kept all this machinery in motion. It directed their labours, furnished information, aided in the establishment of Societies in suitable localities, examined their accounts, ascertained the extent of their efforts, made rateable appropriations to them out of the Provincial grant, imported live stock and seed grain to supply their wants, and generally adopted such measures as were best calculated to maintain them in an active and efficient condition. When this mainspring was suddenly snapped, (by accident apparently rather than by design) it was felt that immediate action was required to prevent the destruction of the whole agricultural organization of the country. The President and Officers of the old Board communicated at once with the Provincial Government, and so soon as it was authoritatively settled that the old Board had ceased to exist, they suggested to the Government the propriety of proceeding at once to the formation of a new one. The members of the Government very naturally replied that the members of the old Board had all the information and experience necessary for the formation of a new one, and seemed to be the proper parties to act. The Government would therefore desire them to do so, and requested that Secretaries of Societies should be notified to select representatives under the new Act,—the old Board in the meantime, and until a new Board could be organized, continuing to exercise all the powers and functions of a Central Board of Agriculture as heretofore.

This proposal was acquiesced in by the members of the Board, who agreed to continue to discharge these functions, as requested, rather than permit the system,

on which so much pains had been bestowed, to go down. It is too late now to make any importation of stock this season, but all the other operations of the Board have been resumed, the usual appropriations will be made to Agricultural Societies, and every practicable effort put forth to promote their efficiency and improvement.

In our present number will be found full Reports of two important County Exhibitions, viz: those of Yarmouth and Pictou. Both were open to the competition of the whole Province; but the prizes offered at such Exhibitions are hardly high enough to entice competitors from a great distance. It is a pleasing feature, however, to observe that at Pictou the competition was by no means confined to the County, and for one reason we are rather pleased than sorry that the Pictou farmers were in several instances beaten at their own Show by Truro men, Mr. Samuel A. Craig, of Truro, having gained 1st prize for White Field Carrots, 1st prize also for Yellow Carrots, and 1st for Purpletop Turnips, whilst Mr. G. Eaton of Truro carried off the 2nd prize, for Field Carrots, and the first for Swedish Turnips. We cite these awards thus prominently for the purpose of exciting a little rivalry in root culture, which we know to be thoroughly well understood in Pictou County. Let the Pictonians retrieve themselves at next year's Exhibition, otherwise we shall fear they are not exerting themselves to the utmost in this important branch of farming. We hear the Pictou Exhibition highly spoken of, and full details will be found in the elaborate Report. Pictou is becoming famous for Pigs, and Societies in other counties are now going there for their White Chesters.

We have copied from the *Eastern Chronicle* an article on County Exhibitions, the suggestions of which are well worthy of consideration. There are great practical difficulties in the way of prolonging a County Exhibition over two or more days, but some of the evils complained of might be avoided by requiring animals from a distance to be brought the evening before, and every animal and article to be located at an early hour in the morning. The Judges and Committees might thus complete the bulk of their work early in the forenoon, so as to leave the greater part of the day free for inspection of the Exhibition. Of course an arrangement of this kind involves thorough preparation beforehand on the part of Committee and Exhibitors, as little work as possible being left for Exhibition day.

Much credit is due to the Secretary of the Yarmouth County Society for the full and spirited Report which he prepared of the Yarmouth Exhibition, and the liberality of the Yarmouth *Herald* in giving up so many of its columns to an

Agricultural Report is deserving of notice as indicating, among other things, that there is something else besides party politics worthy at times of engaging the minds of intelligent and industrious people. Many of the suggestions in Mr. Brown's Report are well worthy of attention from the Secretaries, Committeemen and Members of other Societies throughout the Province, and we hope they will be carefully read. The system of Committee's Reports, printed under each class, is another feature worthy of imitation.

It is obvious from the Yarmouth Report that the breeds of cattle are rapidly improving in that County, through the Short Horns, Ayrshire, Devon and Alderney importations made within the last few years, and that still greater improvement will show itself in the animals to be brought forward at future exhibitions, when the young stock now being raised shall have had time to mature. The remarks respecting the Alderney breed should be read carefully by every dairy farmer in the Province.

The present number contains the concluding portion of an able lecture on the Management of Grass Lands in England, which has valuable lessons for us here, where grass is comparatively so much more important. The superiority of farm-yard manure over artificials for grass, shown in this lecture, agrees very well with the results of some of our farmers that have been published in former numbers of this publication. The article on Utilization of Sewage is also from an English source, and furnishes valuable information on a subject which has as yet received no attention whatever in this city or province.

We learn by letter from A. Chisholm, Esq., St. Andrews, Antigonish, that an Agricultural Society has been formed there; that the requisite amount (\$40) is nearly subscribed, and paid, and that the Society desires recognition under the Board of Agriculture. We wish the new Society every success, and have written to Mr. Chisholm with all necessary information as to the steps required to be taken.

We have received, rather out of season, the Annual Report and Accounts of the King's County Agricultural Society, which is in a thriving condition. The Society kept two Bulls and two Boars during the year, and owns several farm implements. The bull purchased by Mr. Bowser at the Provincial sale is well spoken of. Potatoes were an average crop, and a good deal diseased. A middling large breadth was sown with wheat, and the crop good except that sown in May, which was much injured by the weevil. The oats in uplands were good, but very few were sown upon the dykes which were flooded in 1869. Indian Corn a good crop. Other