

Abstract of Annual Reports and Proceedings of Agricultural Societies.

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CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

SYDNEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Having been appointed Secretary of the Sydney Agricultural Society on the 6th day of December last, (at the annual meeting,) and having this day been put in possession of the records of the Society, I find that the late Secretary has neglected sending in to the Central Board, a report of the proceedings of the Society for the past year, and I shall now endeavor to repair the omission, so far as lies in my power.

The Society was re-organized under the provisions of the late act, on the 2nd day of September, 1864.

69 members have joined the Society; \$69 have been received for subscriptions; \$3 have been received for debts due; \$107 have been allowed out of Provincial Grant; total amount of funds in hands of Treasurer, \$179.

At the meeting for the Election of Officers, &c., on the first Tuesday of December last, the following persons were chosen:—

President, Thomas Butler; *Vice-President*, John Lewis; *Secretary*, C. H. Harrington; *Treasurer*, William Buchanan; *Directors*, John George Andrews, Alex. Campbell, William Bradford, Alexander Howie, John Muggah.

The re-organization of the Society is too recent to afford much matter for a report, but it is hoped we are in a fair way to do so at our next annual meeting.

The Society is about importing for spring use, to the extent of \$100, in seeds and grain, and \$80 in implements, which will be sold to the members of the Society at cost and charges. [The Secretary of the Society has been written to in reference to this proposal.]

Before the close of the proper season for doing so, the directors will, if possible, introduce a short horn Durham bull, some pure South-down ewe sheep and Leicester rams, with other improved breeds of animals.

The lateness of the spring, and an excessively wet fall, were unfavorable to farming operations in this county.

Late sown grains on low wet soils, did not fill; and hay, on the dried and more exposed uplands, suffered from cold and drouth in the earlier months; otherwise the yield has been sufficient to recompense the farmer, as the value in the market is greater than in former years.

Potatoes are better in quality, and the yield more abundant, than for several years past.

Turnips are not cultivated to any extent,—they require more attention than farmers are willing to give them, are not sufficiently stimulated in their earlier growth, and the yield generally is poor. The same may be said of root crops generally.

Very little fruit is raised in this county, and, except in the gardens of a few gentlemen, is poor in quality.

A large quantity of butter is made, much of which is exported to Newfoundland. The quality of this article is improving from year to year. Very little cheese is made.

The increased consumption of all kinds of farm produce,—occasioned by the opening of new mines, railway extension, and the rush of shipping,—it is hoped will stimulate the farmers to increased exertion. The cultivation of clover and turnip crops—the foundation of all good farming—must be attended to. This will require the application of lime, and more stimulating manures than the droppings of ill-housed and poorly fed animals, and above all, the introduction of draining. We expect improvement in these things.

C. H. HARRINGTON,
Sec. Sydney Ag. Soc'y.

COUNTY OF HALIFAX.

LOWER MUSQUODOBOIT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The semi-annual meeting of the Lower Musquodoboit Agricultural Society, took place on the 14th April, 1865.

No. of members for the present year, 55; paid \$55. The following resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved, That we purchase an improved breed of bulls, from the western part of the province, for the use of the Society. The bulls to be sold at auction.

One hundred and twenty dollars was voted for that purpose.

Resolved, That we hold an agricultural show in October next, for the exhibition of agricultural and horticultural produce.

\$80 was voted to be given for prizes for the best articles.

C. N. SPROTT,
Sec. of the L. M. A. Soc'y.

LUNENBURG COUNTY.

CHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

After due publicity given by posted notices, a meeting was held in the Town House, on the 24th day of March, 1865, at 2 o'clock, P.M., for the purpose of re-

organizing the "Chester Agricultural Society."

On motion the Rev. Charles Shreve was elected Chairman; and H. B. Mitchell, Secretary.

After reading the act relating to such societies, and the names of forty-two subscribers being already on the list, the society proceeded to the election of its officers, when the following were chosen:

President, Edward Heckman; *Vice-President*, Robert A. Smith; *Treasurer*, David Witford; *Secretary*, H. B. Mitchell; *Directors*, William Duncan, Thos. Whitford, Joseph Veizor, Stephen Corkum, John Webber.

On motion, it was decided that the society take in its circuit the limits of this district of Chester, as represented by the sessions of the same.

A committee was appointed to inspect and report as to the advisability of purchasing a certain bull offered to the society by Robt. Smith.

On motion, it was decided to appropriate \$20 to the purchasing of an improved breed of hogs, and \$40 in the purchase of seeds.

The next meeting was appointed for Monday, the 10th day of April, at 2 o'clock, P.M.

The second meeting took place according to appointment, when it was decided to purchase the bull before alluded to, for the sum of \$32, and arrangements were made for his keep; he is to be kept only for the use of the members of the society. It was also decided that one young boar be bought, and the remainder of the \$20 be expended in purchasing young sows; and, also, that the \$40 appropriated for seeds, be devoted, \$20 for purchasing clover seed, and \$20 for timothy seed; and, also, that \$12 be devoted to purchasing black seed oats, and some of the imported new potatoes, if procurable.

The sum of \$1, annually, to constitute membership.

H. B. MITCHELL,
Secretary.

INDIAN CORN AS A FODDER CROP.—Grow it on strong soils—no matter how rich—the nearer it approaches in richness to a barn-yard, the better; but sow the seed very thick, so that it cannot get an overgrowth, and become "worthless" for fodder. Let its density act as a check to its lofty aspirations. When grown on soils of this description, and seeded quite thick, the amount of fodder per acre would be apt to make a novice stare.

EARLY SPRING FLOWERS.—In Scotland the snow-drop first showed its flowers this year on the 2nd of February, the winter aconite on the 14th of January, according to reports by Mr. McNab and Mr. Saddler.