

Mr. RYKERT moved that Messrs. Christie, White, Cowan, Mills and Dr. Beatty, be appointed a Committee to approve the Treasurer's security, and that they meet at the office of the Board on the 17th of March.

Mr. CHRISTIE moved, seconded by Mr. McDONELL, that Professor Croft be consulting chemist, that Andrew Smith be veterinary surgeon and referee; that James Fleming be seculman; that W. A. Cooley be general superintendent of the exhibition; that J. E. Pell be superintendent of the arts and manufactures departments, that J. Fleming and W. H. Mills be superintendents of the grain, roots, and horticulture departments. Carried.

At this stage of the proceedings, the minutes of the Board were read and approved of. The Secretary then read the Auditors' report.

The Auditors appointed at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural Association of Ontario, held at Hamilton, in September, 1868, would first remark, that under existing circumstances, they have felt it their duty to allude to matters which occurred prior to the year 1868.

The classified account of receipts and expenditure, prepared by the Secretary from his books, and those of the Treasurer, together with the vouchers, will show, —

The balance brought forward	\$12,493 67
The receipts	19,539 85
Total	\$32,033 52
The payments	25,116 38
showing a balance on hand	6,908 14
The Treasurer brings down a balance in his books of	559 11
To which add two items twice charged	11 00
	570 11
By adding the charge for commission made by the Treasurer in 1867	6,558 00
Making	\$6,908 11
It will be seen the accounts so far agree.	
Add to this,	

Interest on renewals of Note, 1867	150 28
Interest on renewals of Note, 1868	150 50
Commission charged by Treasurer in 1867	\$60 00
	1,100 55

These together

There is a Note held by the Bank of British North America against the Board, under the seal of the Board, signed by the President, Treasurer and Secretary	\$,500 00
And, now under protest, for Interest and Protest for 23rd February, 1869	143 86
	3,943 36

There is also a balance left from the Paris Exhibition Fund, reported to us to be about

There is also a balance left from the fund given for the entertainment of the Maritime Guests, at London, in 1865, reported to be about

These together make

Which sum remains in the Treasurer's hands, to be accounted for to the Association.

In the accounts of 1868, the sum of \$1,600 is charged as Treasurer's salary; and in the accounts of 1867 \$400 is charged, making together \$2,000; which, by resolution of the Board, was appropriated to Mr. Denison, as Treasurer, for the years 1867 and 1868.

The Auditors, in charging the interest, as above, back to the Treasurer's account, do so

believing that no such necessity existed as that of discounting a note; large balances appearing from year to year to the credit of the Association, and upon which no interest has been allowed.

The money given by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to be invested, the interest of which, from year to year, to be given in a prize or prizes, was lent to the late Col. Thomson, then President of the Board; the amount was £200 currency, or \$300.

It bears interest at 8 per cent., which appears at the credit in account. We are informed that this is secured by a bond given by the executors of the deceased.

We would respectfully draw the attention of the Board to insurance on property. We are of the opinion that the Library should be insured; and it is a matter for the Board to consider, if a sufficient amount is insured on the Hall.

The farm property is insured in a Mutual Company; Mr. Denison, the Treasurer, being liable on a note for premium, for \$18, upon which \$4 has been paid and charged in accounts.

The certificate of the Secretary, as to the issuing of orders for payments, to the amount of \$220, for which we had no vouchers, will explain itself. Since the certificate was made out Mr. Denison has produced receipts, and the butts of his cheque book showing all paid but five persons, the amount \$27. We have not deducted this sum from the accounts. The Treasurer placed before us vouchers paid since the 31st December, 1868, amounting to \$105 91; these are entered in the Treasurer's books, and certified to by us, and the vouchers handed over to the Secretary, but not included in the accounts.

JAMES JOHNSON, }
THOS. D. HARRIS, } Auditors.
Toronto, 23rd Feb., 1869.

Our charge for audit is \$122.

JAMES JOHNSON,
THOS. D. HARRIS.

The Auditors' Report was received, and the charge ordered to be paid. Before passing any vote on Mr. Denison's claim for \$800 commission, it was resolved to request him to meet the Board on the following day.

Mr. CHRISTIE said it had been an understood thing with Mr. Denison's Solicitor, that the item should be withdrawn. He did not see how then it appeared in the report. The Secretary explained, that in a conversation with Mr. Denison, that gentleman had disclaimed all knowledge of such an agreement having been come to by his Solicitor.

Dr. BEATTY stated that the Board had all along distinctly repudiated the idea of Mr. Denison's right to charge any commission in any circumstances. When the idea was first mooted an augmentation of \$600 had been made to Mr. Denison's salary, on the distinct understanding that the Board should bear no more of charges for commission.

The Secretary read a letter from the Poultry Association to the following effect:—

Sir—I have the honour to inform you that the Ontario Poultry Association have instructed me to communicate with the Council of Agriculture and Arts Association of Ontario on the following subjects:—

1st. That in reply to a deputation from the Ontario Poultry Association to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Arts, soliciting a grant of money in aid of the Association, they were referred by that gentleman to the Agricultural Association as a body, receiving from the Government a large annual money grant, a portion of which is appro-

riated to the same object as that for which the Poultry Association was formed.

2nd. That, in view of the many obligations already received from the late Board of Agriculture, the Poultry Association did not feel justified in making the application suggested by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Arts; nor do they now deem it prudent to solicit from the Council of Agriculture and Arts Association a direct annual grant.

3rd. The Poultry Association, however, desire to direct the attention of the Council of the Agriculture and Arts Association to the admitted fact, that, since their organization in the latter part of the year 1866, marked improvement has taken place in the specimens of poultry shown at the respective exhibitions—Provincial as well as local—held since that period; that such improvement is evident in the increased number and improved breeds of birds shown, the class of persons who have recently become exhibitors, the importation into the Province of breeds of poultry hitherto unknown therein, and generally the increased interest in poultry taken by a large class of persons hitherto indifferent to such matters.

4th. That this desirable state of affairs is chiefly attributable to the wholesome competition which has, under the auspices of the Poultry Association, lately arisen, and to the high standard of excellence adopted by the Association, whereby judges, in awarding prizes, are guided and governed, which standard, to the poultry fancier, cannot fail to contrast itself forcibly with the mode of judging and classifying fowls adopted at Provincial Exhibitions prior to the inauguration of the Poultry Association, and which at county and township shows still obtains.

5th.—In view of the foregoing facts, the Poultry Association respectfully submit to the Council of the Agriculture and Arts Association whether it would not be alike in the interests of that body, as in creating a still greater impetus to the importation and improvement of the breed of poultry in this Province, to transfer to the Poultry Association the entire control and management of the poultry branch of their annual exhibitions, with power to prepare prize lists, appoint judges, award and withhold prizes, and generally to conduct the details of that branch of the exhibition, in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as those by which the exhibitions under their own auspices are guided and governed, and that the amount of prizes awarded, as well as other expenses incurred in respect of such exhibitions, be paid out of the funds of the Agriculture and Arts Association, together with an annual contribution of \$— towards the funds of the Poultry Association, by way of remuneration in attending to the duties above enumerated.

I have therefore to request that you will, as soon as convenient, submit for the consideration of that body the subject of this communication.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

THOS. MCLEAN,
Hon. Secretary.

Mr. MILLS moved, seconded by Mr. SKED that a by-law be enacted appointing the President, Mr. Christie, Mr. John Walton, Mr. J. C. Rykert, and Mr. Cowan, to be an Executive Committee.

This by-law, after some discussion, was passed.

Mr. RYKERT moved, seconded by Mr. MILLS, that the annual exhibition be held on the 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of September.