



Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero : de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.

VOL. III.

HALIFAX, N. S., DECEMBER, 1877.

No. 10.

HALIFAX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of Members will be held in the Library, Old Province building, Halifax, on Tuesday, 4th December, at 12 o'clock, noon, in accordance with the Act for the Encouragement of Agriculture.

The Hon. SIR WILLIAM YOUNG, President, in the chair.

Business.—Report of Proceedings for the past year. Treasurer's Accounts. Reports of Halifax City Committee on the Society's Live Stock on the Peninsula. Report of Milford Committee on the Society's Live Stock in that District. Report of Committee on proposal to hold Provincial Exhibition in the City of Halifax. Arrangements for 1878. Election of Office-Bearers for 1878. Miscellaneous Business.

At the close of the Meeting the Office-Bearers will nominate a Representative to the Central Board of Agriculture.

By order of the President and Directors.
GEORGE LAWSON,

Sec. Hfc. Co. Ag. Soc.

Members who have not paid their Annual Subscriptions for 1877, and gentlemen desirous of becoming members, will please hand the amount (one dollar) to W. C. Silver, Esq., Treasurer, previous to time of meeting.

A COMPLETE list of Prizes awarded at the recent Provincial Agricultural Exhibition, will be published in the Annual Report of the Central Board of Agriculture, now in course of preparation for the House of Assembly.

RECENTLY the attention of the public has been called, in a prominent manner, both by the city and country press, to the question, Whether our Provincial Agricultural Exhibitions should be held in the city of Halifax, or in the country towns? Some persons contend that these Exhibitions ought to be confined to the City, where the great mass of the population is congregated, and where there is ample room for strangers; others argue that cattle shows are out of place in a city, and should be taken to the country. The view adopted by the Board of Agriculture, and the Legislature, as expressed by the Exhibition Act of 1875, is that Provincial Agricultural Exhibitions should be held successively in all the counties of the Province (not excluding Halifax), and in the order in which the counties shall prepare to furnish the means and undertake the labour of carrying them out.

The object of these Exhibitions is two-fold. First, to encourage and promote improvement in live stock, implements, and field products, by rewarding the most successful and meritorious improvers, and thus induce them to persevere in, and extend, their labors.

Secondly, by exposing to the public gaze the finest results of the efforts of our most successful cultivators and stock raisers, to arouse the energies of the entire farming population throughout the whole country, and even to stimulate to activity and improvement the mowers of unsown hay.

The object first stated may be accomplished by holding the Exhibitions at any

central or conveniently accessible point,—that is, anywhere within railway range, for when live stock and other exhibits are once on board the cars, it is matter of comparatively little moment whether they have to run to Pictou or Annapolis, to Amherst or Windsor, to Halifax or Kentville or Truro, provided the railway arrangements and freight charges are made (as they always ought to be) to suit distant exhibitors.

It will be obvious to many that if the mere personal convenience of the largest number is to outweigh other advantages, Halifax has the dead weight; it is practically the most accessible point by rail and water from all parts of the Province; it is the place where everybody has business to transact; the Mecca to which farmers, merchants, lawyers, schoolmasters, politicians, doctors, clergymen, lumbermen, fishermen, miners, capitalists, in short all kinds of live men, repair at least once a year. If the first object, then, were the only one aimed at by Exhibitions, we should prefer to see them held annually in the city of Halifax.

But the second object, that of arousing the agriculturists of the Province generally to a sense of the necessity for improvement, so as to start them in the race, could never be accomplished by holding Exhibitions yearly in Halifax. The fifty years' experience of the Agricultural Society of Scotland has served to confirm that body more and more in their opinion that the beneficial effects of holding Exhibitions in different localities are so great as to outweigh all other considerations; so that instead of erecting—as they could