

**AGRICULTURAL.**

[FOR THE BEE.]

PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN NOVA SCOTIA, AND THE MEANS OF ITS IMPROVEMENT.

No. 4.

PROBABLE EFFECTS OF AN IMPROVED SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURE.

MR. DAWSON,

Sir,—We take it for granted that our system of Agriculture is defective, let us try and discover what effect an improved system would have upon the country, and the result will be very different from what a good many imagine. Let us suppose, that double the quantity of farm produce now taken to market, was to be brought: the consequence would be a glut of the market and lower prices: but still the farmer would get some money, as speculators would buy it up in hopes of making a profit; this stock in hand would prevent such large importations the following season, so that when the farmer brought the produce of next crop to dispose of, those who bought the part of the former for which he got the money, will be looking for him, and again offer him money for the whole, being enabled to do so from the profits of the first speculation. Another material alteration will arise from this; in place of spending two or three hours bartering a cwt. of flour for a piece of cloth for trousers, he will go into a store and say, I want two yards and a half of cloth? and after looking at different pieces he will cut himself in ten minutes to the satisfaction of both parties, as he will have the money to pay down for it: but before leaving, the merchant will say, 'any thing else you want, sir.' if you do not, you carry your money with you and hire labourers, whom you will get at a cheaper rate when they hear the money rattling in your pocket; this labour will increase the deorable produce, and so on, in an increased ratio another effect would be, that Millers could afford to put and keep their mills in better order, and from the greater quantity to manufacture, they could do it for less toll, and still have a better living: another result would be, that the mechanics and young men that now leave the country, looking for employment and payment for it, would find it at home. The fish that now go to the Yankees for flour would then go to the W. Indies for money, which, as great to the machine, would accelerate the motion, and make it go smoothly: but the most salutary and permanent effect of all would be, a steady demand for farm produce: men would then engage in the business, whose interest and care it would be to look out for the best market, and who would at all times (except when local circumstances affected the case) give a fair price. A failure of crop then would not be attended with the same direful consequences to the country as it is now; the probability is, that the grainness might be full, or at least, partly so, which, in place of being exported, would supply the home demand, and thus keep the money at home. Some may say, Old Rusticus is too sanguine; I hope not: we need not look for the effect produced exactly in the way here expressed, but if the thing is done in one, two, or even ten years, it will ultimately amount to about the same: every one will see my views in making these observations; I shall not make any more of them now, but pass on in my next to the ulterior object in view, namely, to point out what I conceive to be a mode of husbandry best adapted to the soil and situation of Nova Scotia; I shall give my own theory and practice as far as they go, and if there be things that I have not had an opportunity of trying, that I conceive may be useful, I shall communicate them as suggestions.

Yours truly,

**OLD RUSTICUS.**

**Pictou, } Court of General Sessions, SS. } January Term, 1835.**

The Grand Jury present to the Worshipful Court, that the sum of Seven Hundred and One pounds, two shillings, and sixpence, be assessed and raised on the District of Pictou, this present year, to pay the following accounts, viz:

	£	s.	d.
To the Commissioners of the Public Market, to enable them to discharge part of the debt due on the Market House, and the weighing machine, per acc't	202	5	4
To Joseph M'Naught, for services as constable, per acc't.	3	11	
To John M'Kay, Coroner of the District,	8	2	6
" John M'Kay, as Harbour Master,	1	2	6
" Abram Patterson & A D Gordon, p. a.	3	16	
" A. D. Gordon, Clerk of Market,	20	11	7
" Henry Blackadar, for conducting a criminal prosecution,	4	5	8
To John Holmes & John Walker, a Committee on Roads	3	11	3
To John M'Kay, Foreman of Sheriff's Jury for laying off Roads	7	4	
To John Hatch and Angus Graham, " Mathew Sproull, Foreman of Sheriff's Jury for laying out Roads,	3	12	
To J. W. Harris, for repairs on Court House	57	15	7
" John Taylor and others, a Committee for laying out Roads,	4	2	
To Dr. Martin, per acc't.	4	15	2
" William Milne, for printing,	5	3	6
" William Murdoch and others, a Committee for laying out Road and Plan,	15	7	
To Thos. Harris, Dep Surveyor, per acc't.	1	10	
" The proprietors of the Observer,	5	14	
" A D Gordon, for scales, weights and beam for the Market	4	5	2
To John Hamilton, as Crier of the Court,	7	10	
" William Cummings, Constable,	20		
" James Skinner, Jr Clk of Peace, salary,	10		
" James Skinner, Jr. for Stationary,	15		
" Mathew Patterson, Dis. Treas'r, salary,	1		
" William Browning, Constable services,	15		
" William Harris & others, for patrolling streets, &c.	96	6	10
To John W. Harris, per acc't.	16	15	3
" George M'Kay and others, damages for Roads,	3		
To William Harris, Clerk to Grand Jury, Sum to be assessed to make up the deficiency of the preceding year,	100		
Sum to be assessed in case the District may be visited by the Cholera, to be under the management of the Board of Health and a Committee of the Grand Jury,	30		
	261	5	1

**Amount of Cash received on account of the District of Pictou, for 1835.**

By Cash in Treasury chest, gen. sessions January Term, 1835,	£8	12	4
" Cash received out of balances from Collectors for 1833,	0	15	0
" Cash received out of balances from Collectors for 1834,	57	19	0
" Cash received, being sum advanced by order of Justices to overseers of Poor,	13	0	0
" Cash received from Collectors, out of Assessment for 1835,	598	16	6
	674	5	10

To Cash paid sundry Acc'ts for District purposes, as per the presentments of Grand Jury and confirmed by the Sessions,	672	16	1
" Balance cash in Treasury Chest 7th January, 1836,	1	9	9
	674	5	10

Balance due the District from Collectors for 1835,	91	9	1
Amount of Damages due by District, to individuals through whose lands roads have gone, and confirmed by the Sessions,	136	5	1-2
Mathew Paterson, District Treasurer.			

**Amount of Cash received and expended by the Commissioners of Streets, for the Town of Pictou.**

By Cash rec'd from sundry individuals in the Town of Pictou, in lieu of Statute Labour, together with the proportion of 3-5ths of the L. Money,	£118	4	5
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Balance due the Commissioners 7th January, 1836,	75	3	2-2
	188	7	7-12

To Cash balance due the Commissioners Gen'l Sessions, January, 1835,	61	0	0
Am't cash paid Labourers in cutting and repairing the streets, &c.	127	7	7-12
(Total number of day's labour, 320.)			

John Taylor, }  
Geo. Campbell, } Commissioners.

**Amount of Cash received and expended by the Commissioners for Pumps and Wells.**

By Cash received from the Collectors of Poor Rates for 1833, '4 and '5,	£24	19	7
Balance due the Commissioners Jan'y 7th, 1836.	6	18	11
	21	18	6

To balance due the Commissioners Gen. Sessions, January 1835,	10	13	11
Cash paid for Materials, and to Contractors, for keeping and repairing the pumps and wells, &c.,	21	4	7
	31	18	6

**Amount of Cash received and expended out of the Licence Fund, for 1835.**

By Amount of Cash received from Mr. James Skinner, Jr. C. Licence,	£181	11	1
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To Cash paid Amounts appropriated and voted by the Justices in sessions, to several individuals for the purpose of repairing the streets in the Towns of Pictou and New Glasgow, also for roads and bridges in other parts of the District.	£170	12	5
Bal in Treasurer's hands 7th January 1836.	1	18	6

Balance due to several persons formerly voted by the Sessions, and not yet paid; these sums are to be paid out of the Fund for this present year, and forms a part of the appropriation, £62 6 6 Mathew Patterson, District Treasurer.

**Amount of Cash received and expended by the Fire Wardens, for the Fire Engine, &c.**

By Cash received from the Collectors of Poor Rates, for 1833, '4 and '5,	£39	7	6-12
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To Cash paid to repair the fire Engine, Ladders, purchasing and erecting a fire alarm bell,	34	15	11
Bal in Treasurer's hands 7th Jan 1836,	4	11	7-12
	£59	7	6-12

**Amount of Cash received on Act of the District, for Licences, 1835.**

By Cash received by sundry persons throughout the District, for Licence Duty, and Fines, for the present yr,	£227	11	4
Balance due James Skinner, Jr, Clk. Licence, 7th January 1836,	13	11	2
	241	2	6

To balance due James Skinner, Jr, Clk. Licences, January, 1835,	28	17	0
Cash paid Mathew Paterson, District Treasurer, Collecting and costs of Prosecutions against sundry persons convicted for breaches, &c.	212	5	6
	241	2	6

**Amount Cash received on account of the Township of Pictou, for the poor, for the year 1835.**

By Cash received from Messrs J. D. B. Fraser and A Gordon, late Overseers of Poor for 1832 when going out of office; from the several Collectors out of the Assessment for 1835, and from the Justices out of arrears of former years, amounting to	£209	3	2-2
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