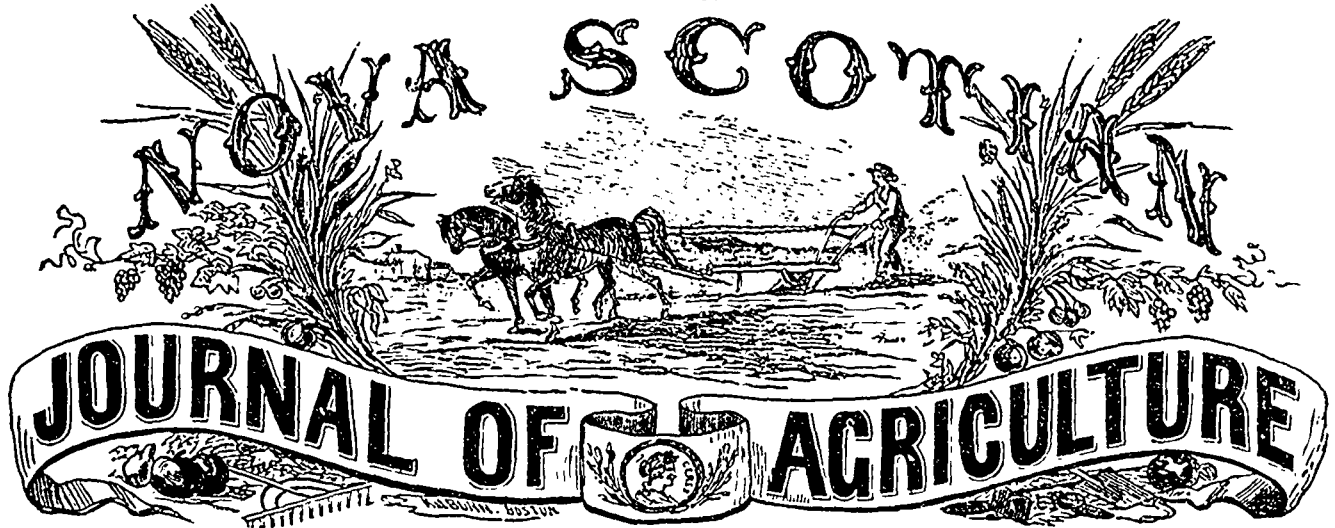


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A BROAD HINT TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION of 1868 is exciting an increasing amount of interest. The general committee and sub-committees have been holding very frequent, almost daily, meetings, and the prize list is nearly ready for publication. The prizes are on a scale of liberality hitherto unknown in this Province, not only in the department of Agriculture, but especially in that of Arts and Manufactures; a total sum of eleven thousand dollars being offered. The Board of Agriculture feels that the carrying out of this Exhibition is one of the most important trusts that have been confided to it by the Legislature,—and the Board has a right to expect the hearty co-operation and support of every farmer in the Province, and in a special manner of every member of every Agricultural Society. Now several Societies have come forward in a very handsome manner. The Western Halifax, Antigonish and Windsor Societies each contribute \$100 towards the common fund, and other Societies follow, according to their ability. But some of the proposed contributions are so miserably small that we confess to a blush of shame as we reach the bottom of

the list; one Society offers six dollars and another four. For forty well-to-do farmers in the fertile valley of Margaree to meet together in solemn conclave and gravely resolve upon raising a total fund of four dollars in a year and a half as their contribution to the greatest effort towards agricultural improvement that has ever been attempted in the Province, is surely a mistake. Then quite a number of Societies that we thought to be in an active state have shown no signs of life in this matter; but it is to be supposed that these are working hard in their respective localities, quietly raising large sums to eclipse totally the hundred dollar Societies. Let the officers and members of every Society in the Province emulate each other in striving how much they can do; if they fail in this they fail in their obvious duty, and in one of the most important objects for which Agricultural Societies have been established. Of the 3000 members of Societies in the Province, we hope for their own comfort that every one will come up to the Exhibition next year with an honest smile on his face, arising from an honest conviction that he has done his part.

We speak explicitly on this important matter, because we believe that it has not been fully considered by many Societies.

The farmers of Yarmouth, or Mabou, or St. Ann's or Guysborough, ought to feel as much interest in this Exhibition as those of Halifax or Windsor. To regard the gaining of a few prizes as the great benefit to be obtained at such an Exhibition, is a miserable misconception. The objects are, to bring before our farmers the capabilities of our soil and climate, to show the appliances that may be brought to bear upon our farms so as to render them more productive, to bring together animals and implements of the very best kinds, and thus enable Societies and individuals to supply their wants, to afford to intelligent farmers the means of meeting with their fellows and exchanging information, in short, to make the farmer a wiser, and better, and richer man, and enable him, by the use of modern improvements, to exercise his mind more and his muscle less. These are the advantages that are looked for by the intelligent farmers who visit the great Agricultural Exhibitions of England, and Ireland, and Scotland, and Canada, and the United States of America, and these are the advantages, likewise, that the really intelligent farmers of Nova Scotia expect. For a man to argue that this Exhibition will be of no interest to him because it is not at his own door, is equi-