

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND THE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The next and last table I shall submit is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Board of Agriculture and the Agricultural Association from the first organization of those bodies. In regard to this statement I have to make the following remarks and explanations :—

1st. The figures for the first four years are not given as absolutely correct. The accounts for those years in possession of the Board, as I have already stated in another part of this report, are imperfect, and I have been obliged to make up this portion of the statement from such scattered documents and reports as I could find. I may safely say, however, that any difference there may be between the figures in the table and the actual amount received and expended in those years is but trifling. 2nd. The year 1849 was the first in which any Government support was received by the Association. 3rd. The grants from Government include all grants both to the Board and the Agricultural Societies. The grants from Municipalities, &c., include all local contributions in aid of the Provincial Exhibitions. The column for Members' Subscriptions, &c., includes all other sources of revenue, viz :— private donations, admission fees to the Shows, rent of stalls and refreshment stands on the grounds, produce from the experimental farm while that was cultivated by the Board, subscriptions for the Journal and Transactions, &c., &c. In the amounts for expenditure the incidental expenses include all the payments of every description except the grants to the Agricultural Societies, and the premiums awarded at the Exhibitions, viz : for buildings upon and management of the experimental farm, construction of buildings and fencing and improving the grounds for the exhibitions, printing and advertizing, expenses of Members attending meetings of the Board, payment of salaries of officers, and services of superintendents, clerks, caretakers, gatekeepers, and other assistants at the shows, publication of the Journal and Transactions; rent of offices, fuel, insurance, building new offices, &c., &c. 4th. The amount of total receipts each year is the net amount actually received, not including the balance on hand from the previous year, no sum thus entering into the account more than once, and the total at the end of 1863

showing the net receipts and expenditure from the beginning. 5th. The receipts from municipalities, and from subscriptions, &c., and the payments on account of incidental expenses, appear to vary in amount very widely in years closely following one upon another. The reasons for this are several. In the first place the receipts from Members' subscriptions and admission fees to the grounds, have actually varied very considerably in amount in immediately succeeding years, owing to local and other causes, and in the next place the local contributions for the preparation of the exhibition buildings and grounds have sometimes been paid into the funds of the Association and expended by them, and consequently entered into the account, and at other times have been received and expended entirely by the Local Committee, and do not appear in the accounts of the Association at all. And then, in some years there have been special sources of income, and special objects of expenditure.

The following instances will be sufficient to point out the character of some of the causes of these variations in amount.

1849. This is the first year any public grant was made in aid of the Agricultural Association.

1853. This year the grants to the Agricultural Societies were first made through the Board.

1854. The construction of buildings upon and improvement of the experimental farm adds largely to the incidental expenses.

1856. This year the first permanent exhibition building, or so called Crystal Palace, was erected at Kingston. The building was erected, by the Local Committee, and the expenditure does not enter into the accounts of the Association. A special grant was however made to the Board by the Government for the purpose of aiding the Kingston Local Committee to meet its liabilities. The receipt this year include grants from the municipalities surrounding Brantford in aid of the exhibition of 1857. The expenditure includes the disbursement of the special grants from Government, payment of part of the cost of the buildings for 1857, and other expenses of a special character.

1857. The last set of temporary exhibitions up to the present time, was erected this year at Brantford. It will be seen that, from the rapidly increasing magnitude of the exhibitions, even before the adoption of the permanent building system, the con