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

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NEXT number of the *Journal of Agriculture* (April) will contain the Prize List and Regulations of the Provincial Exhibition to be held at Truro during first week of October; also the Prize List of the Kentville Exhibition, to be held in September, open to the Province.

THE Annual Report of the Central Board of Agriculture for 1877 has been issued. It occupies 160 pages and embraces full statistics of Societies, extracts from the Reports of all-Agricultural Societies in the Province, List of Prizes awarded at the Provincial Exhibition at Kentville, and Lists of all thorough-bred Cattle within the bounds of each Society throughout the Province. Copies of this Report may be obtained through Members of the Legislature or Members of the Board of Agriculture, or from the Secretary of the Board.

MR. SIMON BEATTIE, so well known by his importations of Duchess Stock and Clydesdale Horses, in conjunction with the Hon. Senator Cochrane, has been on a business cruise through the Northern and Southern States and the Canadian Provinces. He took passage in the *Austrian* for England on the 9th March. The Secretary of the Board had a conference with him at Halifax, and made prelimin-

ary arrangements with a view to a probable importation from England this Fall. In consequence of restrictions on importation, hitherto imposed in the States and Canada, the prices of thorough-bred stock in England are at present very low.

WE understand that there will be a public sale by auction of thorough-bred DEVON CATTLE at Oakfield in April. As there will probably be a large number of superior animals offered, the opportunity will be an excellent one for Societies providing themselves with Bulls.

The Cows and Heifers will no doubt be secured by private individuals, who will thus be enabled to start new Herds. The Oakfield Devons are in fine healthy condition.

WE commend to the earnest attention of the farmers of Antigonish County, the able lecture recently delivered to the Bayfield Agricultural Society by Dr. J. W. Macdonald, and published in this *Journal*. It may be profitably read likewise by the farmers of every other county in the Province. There is a lesson for all. Dr. Macdonald shows that 44 years ago people had as little idea of growing oats as they have now of wheat, that whilst Antigonish has made progress in other grains, it now raises only a fourth more

wheat than it raised then, whilst the increase in population demands more than double the quantity; that at present the Antigonish farmers sow only enough wheat to feed the "weevil" (as they call it), and import what is needed to feed their families; that the increase in cattle export merely keeps pace with increase of population, and does not make up for breadstuffs that have to be bought, and for which the County annually pays seventy thousand dollars; that the "weevil" and rust are largely in the farmers' own hands and subject to their intelligent control; and that, for a better system of farming, we want, not a better soil, nor a better climate, but a more suitable, intelligent training of our Agriculturists. In that portion of Dr. Macdonald's lecture relating to the possible amelioration of our climate, we cannot fully follow him, until some means shall be devised of getting rid of the spring ice, and of the low temperature of the surface waters in early summer time, around our shores. Our small Peninsula has its climate determined more by the surrounding ocean currents than the physical condition of its own surface.

A NEW Agricultural Society is in course of formation at Great Village, Londonderry, County Colchester. Farmers in that district desirous of aiding in the movement should communicate with Suther Spencer, Esq., of Great Village.