

them. The great difficulty in carrying out the plan of purchasing is to avoid partiality, and the Committee have anxiously considered this point, and have determined to recommend:

1. That all who have received prizes or honorable mention at the London Exhibition in 1851, or the New York Exhibition of 1853, and all who have received first prizes at either of the Provincial Exhibitions of Upper and Lower Canada in 1853 and 1854, should be invited to send propositions to the Local Committees stating whether they will send specimens of their products and manufactures for exhibition to Montreal or Toronto, on or before 1st February next, payment to be made for such articles at the fair wholesale market value to be decided in case of dispute by the Judges at the Local Exhibition.

2. The Local Committee may further recommend for consideration a proposition from any party who has received a first prize at any Local Exhibition, which shall be referred to the Sub-Committee of the Executive Committee charged with that branch of industry.

3. In case of failure to obtain contributions from the above classes or under special circumstances, the Sub-Committee may take such steps as they may think best to ensure a proper representation of their particular branch. By these means it is hoped that public confidence will be inspired in the impartiality of the Committee. But it is proposed to go further. The whole public are invited to compete at the Local Exhibitions, at Montreal and Toronto, and any successful competitor will have his contribution purchased on the same terms as those furnished by the classes already described. The Executive Committee do not bind themselves to send to the Paris Exhibition any of the articles which they engage to purchase. They must be guided by circumstances, such as the extent of the contribution, the quantity of space allotted, &c., &c. The articles not sent will of course be resold on account of the commission. The propositions made by the parties entitled to furnish articles under the above regulations must be as specific as possible, and must be forwarded at once to the Secretary, so that the proper Sub-Committee may dispose of them. It will be advisable to prevent as much as possible similar articles being made by different manufacturers and mechanics. It is hoped that no delay will now take place, and that the Local Committees will be active in obtaining and promptly procuring the propositions of intended contributors. It is recommended that all the contributions be sent to Montreal or Toronto, where they will be delivered free of expense to the Central Committee at each place, and exhibited to the public at a small admission price. Jurors will be appointed to aid the Committee in determining on the articles to be sent to Paris, but no prizes will be awarded. Such is the scheme which the Executive Committee are of opinion will, if zealously supported by the local Committees and the public, ensure for Canada an honorable position at the great Paris Exhibition.

F. HINCKS, *Chairman.*

J. C. TACHE, *Secretary.*

Acting upon the recommendations in the Report, we learn that Local Committees have already been organized in several places. At Montreal, the Local Committee is in vigorous operation, meeting twice a-week, and using all possible dispatch in procuring specimens. At Toronto, we regret to say, a good deal of time has already been lost. However, a preliminary meeting was held at the office of the Board of Agriculture on the 1st instant, for the purpose of organizing a Local Committee. Although the meeting was thinly attended, nearly all the resident members of the Commission were present. E. W. Thomson, Esq., was appointed Chairman, and G. W. Allan, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer. It was decided to call another meeting of the Local Committee on Saturday, 9th instant, to be held in the County Council Chamber, Shire Hall. With the view of ensuring a full attendance, the Secretary was requested to advertise the meeting fully, and also send Circulars to all the parties above named who are ex-officio members of the Local Committee. It is to be hoped that when this meeting takes place, some well-arranged method of action will be decided upon. It is necessary to proceed to work, with all possible activity, or the time will pass away before anything worthy of this part of the Province has been done.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The Agricultural Societies of Upper Canada are not only increasing every year in number, but also, generally speaking, in systematic activity and usefulness. Much of our agricultural improvement and prosperity is no doubt to be traced, more or less directly, to these invaluable organizations, which are richly deserving the best sympathies and support of a discerning and patriotic public. Nevertheless, there is much that is yet defective in the working of these institutions, and we are far short of practically realizing what is evidently the leading and characteristic principle of the present Agricultural Statute, viz., the systematic and harmonious action of the different classes of Societies, organized in accordance with its provisions for the