

The Drill Shed in Spring Garden Road, and General's and Governor's Fields in rear, had been granted respectively by the Hon. Minister of Militia, His Excellency the Lieut. General and His Honor the Lieut. Governor, for use during the Exhibition. Convenient buildings for the shelter of the horses, cattle, sheep and pigs were erected by the Board in the Governor's and General's fields, poultry pens in the Drill Yard, and the requisite fittings in the Drill Building for the effective display of the grain and field seeds, dairy produce, woollen manufactures, roots and vegetables, agricultural implements, fruits, and ornamental plants and flowers.

The Cattle Sheds and Drill Building were ready for Exhibitors to commence their work of arrangement on Monday morning, 5th October. The public opening of the Exhibition to spectators took place on Tuesday the 6th, when on invitation of Sir William Young, on behalf of the Board, the Opening Address was delivered by His Honor Lieut. Governor Archibald. The grounds and buildings were kept open during the following Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and were visited by upwards of eighteen thousand persons. The perfect decorum of this vast assemblage, both in the grounds and throughout the city, was the subject of general remark, and lessened much the anxiety and labour of those who were charged with carrying out the arrangements. The Exhibition was finally closed on Friday afternoon, 9th October, on which occasion His Honor Lieut. Governor Tilley, of New Brunswick, delivered a Closing Address.

To enumerate the names of those who gratuitously rendered signal service in the course of the Exhibition arrangements, would extend this Report beyond its proper limits; but the Board feel that public mention should be made of the fact that of the hundreds of official and private persons, both in the city and throughout the various counties, who were applied to, to act in various official capacities or otherwise render assistance, every one who could do so readily and cheerfully complied with the requests of the Board, and all cordially united in promoting the success of the undertaking.

The financial results of the Exhibition were satisfactory. Originally the Legislature had voted \$4000 as a prize fund, in the belief that the entry fees of spectators would cover all the other expenses. But when the Board proceeded, in 1873, to draw up a Prize List, they found that a satisfactory Prize List could not be framed without exceeding that sum. They were accordingly authorized by the Government to extend the Prize List as far as they thought could be safely done, so as to keep the ultimate deficiency down to \$2000.00. The Board accordingly,

after careful calculation, offered prizes, which, with subsequent supplements, ultimately extended to a sum total of upwards of \$7000.00. The offering of this apparently large sum was based upon a calculation that, as in the case of the Exhibition of 1868, at least ten per cent. of the prizes offered would not be awarded. The sum actually paid for prizes, as shown by the accounts herewith submitted, amounts to \$5736.50; this does not include some few unclaimed prizes and others that were not finally adjusted until the recent annual meeting of the Board, which are, however, quite trifling in amount. The erection of cattle sheds in the Governor's field, work in the Drill Shed, &c., cost \$2110.91. All other expenses, including the preparatory expenditure of printing and circulating Prize List, &c., during 1873, amounted to \$2920.99. These expenses, together with prizes, amounting to \$10,768.40, are met from the following sources, viz.: 1. Legislative grant of \$4000.00; 2. Subscriptions by Agricultural Societies \$1609.41; 3. Prize Fund for Plants and Flowers raised by Horticulturists of Halifax \$348.00; 4. Fruit Growers' Associations \$200.00; 5. Mr. Fraser's contribution for Condiment Prizes \$100; 6. Amount collected at gate for admission of spectators \$3536.50; 7. Proceeds of sales of Fruit \$66.08. Total \$9859.99. The total amount of deficiency to be made up by the Government, instead of being \$2000.00 as was estimated, amounts to only \$908.41.

The Board, after very careful consideration at successive meetings, have resolved to make the following recommendations to the Hon. the House of Assembly:—

1. In view of the general demand, all over the Province, for an importation of thorough-bred stock, viz.: Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, of a higher character than any previously imported, it is recommended that the Board be authorized to make an importation during the coming season; that for this purpose they be authorized, as formerly, to use the Stock Fund of \$8000.00 (originally granted towards the establishment of a Stock Farm) for the purchase of animals, on the condition that the proceeds of sales shall be used to replace the Stock Fund to its original amount, and that any contingent loss be met by a Legislative Grant not to exceed \$5000.00,—only such portion of the grant to be drawn as shall be necessary to cover the actual loss on the importation and sale, and expenses connected therewith.

2. That in addition to the sum annually voted for agricultural purposes, a further sum of \$4000.00 be annually given as a Prize Fund for a Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, to be held under direction of the Government and

Board of Agriculture in any County, selected by the Board, in which an Agricultural Society, or other responsible body, shall be prepared to furnish suitable Exhibition grounds and buildings, and shall be willing to undertake the necessary expense attending the management of such Exhibition,—the managers to collect a small entrance fee from visitors, and from each exhibitor, to go towards defraying the general expenses. That the first Annual Exhibition be held in the autumn of 1875.

3. That a further sum of \$600.00 be voted to enable the Board to offer a bonus, for one year only, to encourage the erection of a Bone Mill by parties willing to undertake to supply farmers with Bone Dust at reasonable rates, in accordance with arrangements entered into during the last Session.

4. That as soon as the Legislature shall think it expedient, an annual sum of \$400.00 be voted to furnish prizes for the best managed farms in each of the six districts into which the Province is divided for the purposes of the Agricultural Act.

5. The following Resolution was passed by the Board on 21st October, 1874:—"Feeling very sensible that the present salary of the Secretary is not at all commensurate with the work to be performed, which work has largely increased since the amount of salary was fixed, and, considering the heavy financial responsibility now attached to the office, and the very valuable assistance rendered to Agriculture by the present incumbent, Professor Lawson,—the Board respectfully, but most strongly, recommend to the Government that the salary of the Secretary be now raised to \$1200, to commence from 1st January, 1875." The increased salary can still be paid out of the ordinary Legislative grant to the Board, as the other working expenses of the Board have been considerably reduced by the last amendment to the Agricultural Act. The increase of the Secretary's salary will not, therefore, require any increase on the Legislative grant, but merely a change in the Act, which at present limits the salary to \$600.

6. Some years ago the Board established a monthly Agricultural Journal, for the publication of the Reports of County and District Societies, and for the diffusion of useful information in regard to improved modes of culture and stock raising. The Reports of Societies have latterly increased to such an extent that it has not been found practicable to give more than brief extracts of many of them in the Journal, and, even with this reduction, and the occasional issue of double numbers, the ordinary reading matter of the Journal has been very much curtailed. The Board propose that, in future, the Journal be used only for the publication