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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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We are sorry that the large amount of official matter in this number leaves no room for a reprint of Mr. Longworth's valuable article on the Colchester Short Horns, published in the *Morning Herald* of 28th April.

Copies of the Annual Report of the Central Board of Agriculture have been sent to the Secretaries of all Agricultural Societies throughout the Province. Any Secretary who has not received one should enquire at his local Post-office, or report to the Secretary of the Board. Secretaries should preserve these Reports for reference as they are very apt to be required at the Annual Meetings of Societies, held in December,—by which time the Queen's Printer's supply of copies will probably be exhausted, and it will consequently be impossible then to supply applicants.

Warrants have been issued to all qualified Agricultural Societies in the several counties of the Province for payment of their Annual Legislative Grants. The amount of grant paid is larger this year than it ever was before. During the first year of the Board's existence, (1864), after a year's effort in the formation of new Societies, the total amount of grant qualified for was \$3010. For the past year (1884) the sum, now being paid to Societies, amounts to \$6835. It is hoped that, at the end of the present year, the Reports of Societies will make a show of substantial work commensurate with the increased amount of grant for which they have qualified, and the liber-

ality shown by the Legislature in authorising the appropriation.

The officers of some of the Agricultural Societies write expressing astonishment at the smallness of the grants in certain cases, and suggesting that there must be some mistake. If they will carefully look through the Annual report of the Board (sent to all Secretaries) they will see that the amount of grant, in each case, depends upon the amount of subscriptions paid by the Society's members. In one county, for example, from which complaint comes, one Society's members have contributed in subscriptions during the year \$587, whilst a neighboring Society shows only \$56. The consequence of this is that the large Society absorbs a large share of the grant. The increase in the number of Societies in some counties also has the effect of reducing the grants. In one county there are eleven Societies, among which the amount of \$400 for the county has to be divided. When we divide 400 by 11, we have an average for each Society of \$36.36,—and a Society that falls below the average in its amount of subscriptions will consequently fare rather poorly. Where local circumstances are not unfavourable, it is better for two or more weak Societies to join together and form a strong organization, like the Societies at Yarmouth and New Glasgow. The former shows a subscription list for the year of \$640.50, and at last balancing: "cash in hand \$1149.71," which is a nice little nest-egg with which to commence another year's work. The New Glasgow Society glories in the possession

of 850 dollars worth of thoroughbred Bulls, and a subscription list of the year of \$587.50. A Society that limits its financial exertions to the raising of \$40 so as merely to come within qualifying range cannot hope to compete with such Institutions as those to which we have referred.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.—MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PROVINCE BUILDING, HALIFAX,
Tuesday, 21st April, 1885.

Present—Israel Longworth, V. P., in the Chair; Hon. Isidore LeBlanc, Col. W. E. Starratt, Professor Lawson, Secretary.

Hon. Mr. LeBlanc produced a copy of the Report of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Assembly, which was read by the Secretary.

Read also, a Bill entitled, "An Act to Encourage Agricultural Education" that had been introduced into the House of Assembly by the Hon. Provincial Secretary, and which was highly approved of by the members of the Board.

The Committee then proceeded to the examination of the Regulations and Prize List for the Provincial Exhibition of 1885, as presented by the Exhibition Committee of King's County.

Mr. Longworth, Vice-President, and Col. W. E. Starratt, severally reported that the Prize List prepared by the King's County Exhibition Committee for the Provincial Exhibition of 1885,