



Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

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

VOL. IV.

HALIFAX, N. S., NOVEMBER, 1885.

No. 63.

A CIRCULAR has been addressed to the Secretaries of the several Agricultural Societies throughout the Province, notifying them of the business to be done at the Annual Meetings to be held on Tuesday 1st December. The Circular is reprinted on another page of this Journal.

At the Annual Meeting, Societies are required to Elect Officers and Directors for the year; and the Officers and Directors are required to present an Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, a copy of which is to be sent to the Secretary for Agriculture.

The Central Board having been abolished, it is not necessary to nominate persons for appointment thereto. The powers and duties of the Board now devolve upon the Governor-in-Council.

Special attention is called to the change in the Act in regard to Exhibitions. Provision is now made for County Exhibitions, to encourage which a sum of \$230 per annum may be granted to each County in those years in which a Provincial Exhibition is not held. District Exhibitions are abolished. The Governor-in-Council may, however, unite the grants of two or more Counties for one Exhibition, if a majority of the Agricultural Societies in each of such Counties so request.

It is desirable that the matter of County Exhibitions should be discussed as soon as possible, so that Societies may communicate with each other, and make arrangements for early publication of Prize Lists.

#### THE EDINBURGH APPLE AND PEAR CONGRESS OF 1885.

OF late years a new departure in Exhibitions has acquired favor, and is now attaining some importance in Britain,—the holding of Meetings or Congresses, as they are called, for special classes of products. One of these, the Apple and Pear Congress, to be held in Edinburgh this month, in connection with the Winter Show of the Caledonian Horticultural Society, is of special interest to a fruit-growing people.

Some of our readers may like to hear something of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society, as regards its antecedents and functions. It is an old institution, organized early in the present century, and was run on a parallel line with that of the Horticultural Society of London. The Caledonian Society organized an Experimental Garden, a deputation of its members visited the public and private gardens of Holland, France and Germany, and introduced to Scotland every variety of vegetable or fruit that they could find likely to prove useful to the country. One of these is the Gravenstein Apple, which was first seen by a member of this society on the Rhine, carried down the river in vessels in bulk. The society has for the last forty years or more held its regular Horticultural Exhibitions in Edinburgh; it has published a number of volumes of "Transactions," containing papers, some of great value as contributions to science, but many more of them useful, practical treatises on methods of

culture and garden management. The membership of the society, from its earliest days up to the present time, has always included the leading nobility and aristocracy of Scotland, but its affairs have been managed by practical scientific men, such as professors of the Edinburgh University, professional gardeners, nurserymen, florists, seedsman and amateur horticulturists.

The Apple and Pear Congress of 1885 is to be held under Royal Patronage, and to be managed by a committee consisting of the Marquis of Lothian, President, Sir James Gardiner, the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, the Earls of Hopetoun, and Stair, Professor Dickson, and a number of practical gardeners, nurserymen, and amateur pomologists, and horticulturists. The "General Committee" embraces the names of nearly 300 of the leading professional gardeners of Scotland, England and Ireland. No doubt the Congress will be a success. The following is the Programme of Arrangements, which we reprint in full, not only for the useful information it contains, but in case it may be thought wise to organize such Congresses in our own Province:—

At a meeting of the Council of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society, held on the 14th August, 1885, it was resolved to hold a Special Exhibition and Conference on Apples and Pears, in connection with the Society's Winter Show, in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on the 25th and 26th November, 1885.