

however, expressed their satisfaction with the samples of grain exhibited; and stated that the few fat cattle and sheep entered were in capital order. It is recommended that the next Show be held in Hemmingford or Russelltown.

The Society has subscribed for fifty copies of the *Farmer's Journal* which the Officers and Directors have undertaken to circulate, and hope thereby to disseminate much valuable agricultural information throughout the County.

Not being able to obtain an importation of seed wheat from the Black Sea, or its neighbourhood; the Directors have determined to appropriate the balance of the Society's funds, amounting to seventy pounds, currency, for the purchase of wheat of an early description, the growth of Upper Canada and of Massachusetts, or one of the New England States, and are now negotiating for the delivery of grain of that description in the spring—an eminent house in Montreal having undertaken to furnish samples and to state conditions, in a short time.

An Agricultural Society has been in operation in this County for the last twenty-five years, and the Directors have no hesitation in stating, with much satisfaction, that its labours have encouraged the farmer and acted as a general stimulus to agricultural improvement in every department, which will continue and extend with the increasing resources of the husbandman; indeed, they venture to assert, that the present agricultural position of their County is not inferior to that of any other County in the eastern part of the Province. They have deliberately come to the conclusion that the funds of the Society should now, in a great measure, for the future, be devoted to the purchase and importation of seed grain and seed, animals of improved breeds—to the encouragement of improved agricultural machinery and implements—to premiums for well cultivated farms and green crops and the scientific application of prepared manures.

The Directors express their conviction, that when the Board of Agriculture shall be fully in operation and its objects carried out by the active co-operation of the County Societies, the agriculture of the Province will be greatly improved, and carried on to a greater extent and in a more scientific and profitable manner.

(Signed), J. KEITH, *President*.

R. H. NORVAL, *Secy.-Treas*
Beauharnois, 23rd Feb. 1854.

DRUMMOND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Report made at the General Meeting of the Agricultural Society for the County of Drummond. February, 1854.

The first year of the Agricultural Society under the Act 16 Vic. Cap. 18. having closed, it becomes our duty to make a full and detailed report of its proceedings. It may not, however, be opposed to the spirit of the required report to allude to the existence and proceedings of our County Agricultural Society, before its re-formation under the present Act.

The Agricultural Society of this County was formed in 1841; and, under varied fortunes,—as to support from the farmers,—it has steadily proceeded in its work—the improvement of Agriculture by the introduction of stock, grain, and implements of improved constructions.

A difference of opinion exists, and no doubt will continue to exist with our farmers as to the most desirable breed of cattle to be introduced. Those chosen for the purpose at the first institution of the Society were Ayrshires—and subsequently the short horn or Durham, of which breeds the Society brought into the County, six bulls, necessarily producing a numerous cross-breed progeny. Opinions differ as to these crosses being adapted to the climate, and the *feeding* our farmers can afford to give. It is not intended in this report to discuss this subject; but it is only fair to say, that if ill success has attended some farmers,—others, not better able *in means*, or in preparation for feeding, have been successful in raising the stock; and where the thorough breed has been obtained—and even where the cross breed has been attended to with care, advanced prices have been demanded and obtained for the stock.

As regards the sheep brought in by the Society—the improved Leicester breed—no diversity of opinion appears to exist, and the improvement thus obtained is acknowledged by all:—several flocks of excellent Sheep are now in the County.

Of grain, several samples of good wheat—and a considerable quantity of timothy and clover, besides turnips and other seeds, were obtained by the Society, for its members. An attempt to introduce foreign wheat (Nantzie Spring wheat) proved a failure, and may cause some hesitation in again attempting it.

The Society also obtained for its Members a variety of Agricultural Implements, of improved constructions over those in general use, aiding no doubt materially to an improved state, of Agriculture. This assistance to the Members of the Society, can no longer be afforded under the provisions of the new act.

Poultry also shared in the improvement sought after by the Society—the parties who attended to this branch of the Farm give a favorable account of their success.

Swine derived the least benefit from the Society, for through the enterprise of one of our body, to whom is due the position of our leading Farmer, the breed of Swine in the County can scarcely be surpassed—as a proof, it took the 1st prize, for Boar, and Sow, at the Provincial Exhibition for 1853.

Although the Society from its formation thus attended to the introduction of all that could improve the Agriculture of the County—it also applied its funds, not only in Premiums for Stock, grain and domestic manufactures, but to the establishment of a permanent place for its meetings—the Hall in which we are now assembled, would be no mean object, even in a larger place than our County Village—it afforded accommodation for many years to the County and District Shows and the conveniences around of pens, yard &c., justly entitled this County to the praise of conducting its exhibitions to the satisfaction both of the Judges, and exhibitors. In the erection of so spacious a building as the Agricultural Hall, the Society derived the benefit of the liberal aid of Mr. Watts, for several years President of the Society, for, though the funds of the Society eventually made all payments upon it, the necessary outlay was at first met by Mr. Watts.

Having endeavoured to trace the proceedings of the Society from its foundation in 1841 to its re-organization in 1853; it may not be out of place to give you the value of the property of which it was possessed, and the sums of money distributed to its Members under the various heads.

The real property of the Society (the Agricultural Hall, its ground, fences, &c.) may be considered worth,..... £250 0 0
Furniture, &c.,..... 25 0 0
Stock now in possession (the Bull Comet)..... 75 0 0