

the Societies, I think such action as I suggested, on the part of the Board of Agriculture, would not only be fully justified, but would be gratefully acknowledged in the early future as the origin of a new era.

The publisher of the *American Agriculturist* offers liberal premiums to canvassers; last fall I distributed 150 of their premium lists, with a printed circular of my own, one to each Agricultural Society, and to each chief post town in the province, advising the formation of a club, each agent to act independently, and in his own interest. I have for several years spent considerable sums in various ways in endeavoring to extend the circulation of Agricultural papers, but with very little success outside of my own County.

Our season has been even milder than in Halifax County. We have not had half a dozen cold days since the first frost, thermometer 16° and then only for a few hours on one night; no frost in the ground now, and not a particle of snow or ice visible anywhere, ploughing practicable every way, draining going on and other out-door-work continuously, dandelions in bloom in the fields and mayflowers in the forests, while pansies and daisies are peeping out from under the bushes in the garden, and the bees are out in full flight for food every day or two.

Yours, very truly,

CHARLES J. BROWN.

Sec. Yar. Ag. Society.

GRAND PRE.

Can any reader of the *Journal of Agriculture* inform what is the origin of the name now famous in Nova Scotia, of Grand Pre? that is, whether the Grand Pre was so named on its own account or after some Frenchman of that name? And whether it is in any way connected with the African traveller De Grand Pre, or any member of his family.

HISTORICUS.

THE NORWAY OAT—FACTS.

YARMOUTH, 4TH FEB., 1870.

An article in the February *Agriculturist* speaks very disparagingly of the Norway oat, and gives the yield in competition with several other varieties, the Norway poorest in the lot.

So far as our experience goes, the yield of the Norway is prodigious, far exceeding any other variety. I watched them in every stage of growth throughout the season, with increasing wonder and admiration; several times I brought with me from the field stools of the Norway and P. E. Island oat to convince the incredulous by exhibiting the remarkable contrast, I even took the trouble to count the grains, but it is certainly within

bounds to say that the Norway beat the Island 5 to 1.

The seed we received was small and light, and its appearance very much against it. This was said to have been owing to an unfavorable season in 1868; the seed improved both in size and weight in 1869.

CHARLES J. BROWN.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

BRIDGETOWN AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

The low state of the funds obliged us to restrict the exhibition to shows of fruits, roots, dairy produce, and domestic manufacture.

The show of Fruit was probably the best ever exhibited by the Society, the fruit being very large and perfect as to form and colour.

The show of Roots was by no means despicable. The potatoes were superb, especially the Early Rose, exhibited by Mr. W. Dodge.

But few samples of Cheese were exhibited, several of the larger dairies having been sent to market. The Butter shown was said by the judges, to be the best lot they ever inspected.

The show in Domestic Manufactures was small, yet some fine samples of linen were exhibited.

SHORT REMARKS ON THE CROPS.

The root and grain crops are above the average with the exception of Indian corn, which has fallen below the average. The Potato crop has not been so good for a number of years. Wheat when sown late yielded a good return, the earlier sown suffered from the midge.

The Hay crop not so heavy as last year, but the quality much better, and housed in better condition.

The Society have thought it advisable not to have an exhibition the coming year, it being thought preferable to omit it for one year, and appropriate the funds to purchase of stock.

The Society now wishes to purchase a Durham Bull.

The following are the Officers for the ensuing year:—*President*, Oliver Foster; *Vice-Pres.*, Charles B. Whitman; *Treas.*, W. Y. Foster; *Sec'y.*, Eugene P. Troop; *Directors*, Geo. Willet, Wm. Miller, Stephen E. Bent, Wanford Dodge, Joseph Fellows.

EUGENE P. TROOP, *Sec'y.*

OLIVER FOSTER, *Pres.*

PARADISE AGRICULTURAL SOC'Y.

At the quarterly meeting, held in April last, the Society voted twenty dollars (20.00) to be spent in purchasing seed wheat. The wheat was brought direct from Canada and distributed equally amongst the members and proved to be a success. At the quarterly meeting in September, it was resolved to hold an Exhibition on the 14th October, and the Committee of Arrangements report as follows: That due preparation was made for holding the exhibition and it was attended with very gratifying success, both as regards the number and quality of the articles exhibited.

The show of Stock, Fruit, Vegetables and Dairy produce, was particularly good, and the various grains, wheat especially, was very respectable. There was also a large attendance of visitors at the exhibition, and every thing connected therewith was fairly indicative of a growing interest in the pursuit of agriculture.

In connection with the exhibition, a public dinner was given at 6 o'clock, p.m., and it was then resolved to hold a meeting in the evening for the discussion of agricultural and kindred topics.

After the miscellaneous business was over, it was moved by Isaac Longley, Esq., and seconded by A. Longley, Esq., that we proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following were duly elected:—Israel Longley, *Pres.*, re-elected; Samuel Balcom, *Vice-Pres.*; Wm. L. Leonard, *Sec'y.*; Stewart Leonard, *Treas.*; E. Bent, J. Longley, W. Daniels, H. H. Morse, *Directors*.

WM. L. LEONARD, *Sec'y.*

The Society meets on the first Monday of every month for agricultural discussion.

LOWER STEWIAKKE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Society is able to report somewhat favourably. Crops of all kinds have been pretty good, wheat and potatoes rather extra. The Society is working pretty well. We, like all others, however, meet with our discouragements from time to time, but on the whole there is a marked improvement in our stock. The white Chester pigs are a decided improvement, they have given general satisfaction. The half-bred Shropshire rams, too, which we purchased last fall, have done well, they have brought us some fine lambs indeed. The Bulls have not done so well, being old, very troublesome, and not sure stock-getters. Consequently a special meeting was called on Nov. 1st, and it was decided to sell both the bulls and rams under our former restrictions, viz.: to be sold in the Society and to be kept two years for the benefit of the Society. Having been duly advertised, the sale took place at John McNutt's, on the 8th November, at 2 p.m. The bulls having neither good characters nor good recommendations from their former keepers, we found selling a hard ticket, and therefore tried the other thing: and they were finally taken, one by James A. Tays, and the other by W. Chipman. The rams were sold, five of them at 1 month's credit, the other taken by Robert Kent, last fall, was lost, for which he paid \$4.

Our Annual meeting was held on the 1st Tuesday in Dec. Our Officers for the year are:—James A. Tays, *Pres.*; Wm. H. Hogge, *Vice-Pres.*; E. C. Banks, *Sec'y.* & *Treasurer*; R. J. Pollock, Daniel Wright, W. Hiltz, J. B. Banks, and G. W. Daniell, *Directors*.

A Committee of three, viz.: R. J. Pollock, James A. Tays, and William Hiltz, were appointed to meet in Truro, on January 13th, with Committees from other Societies in the County for the purpose of devising ways and means for holding an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of this County in the year 1870.

A resolution was also passed—*That whereas* Mr. John Tays having formerly taken a very active part in this Society and as he has now in a great measure retired from business and thereby being unable to derive any direct be-