

and for the encouragement of agricultural societies in Upper Canada, an act was passed, which provides—

"That when any agricultural society, for the purpose of importing any valuable stock, or whatever else might conduce to the improvement of agriculture, shall be constituted in any district in Upper Canada, and shall make it appear, by certificate under the hand of the treasurer of such district society, that the sum of not less than £25 has been actually subscribed and paid to the said treasurer by the several agricultural societies of such district, the president of the said society shall make application, enclosing the said certificate to the governor, lieutenant-governor, or person administering the government in this province, for and in support of the said society, it shall and may be lawful for the governor, lieutenant-governor, or person administering the government in this province, to issue his warrant to the receiver general in favour of the treasurer of the said society for treble the amount that shall have been paid or subscribed in such district as aforesaid: Provided always, that the annual sum to be granted to each district shall not exceed the sum of £250 currency.

"That in the event of there being county, riding, or township agricultural societies established, there shall not be more than one county or district society in each county or riding of any district within this province, and a proportion of the district bounty shall and may be granted to each county, riding or township agricultural society, and paid to them by the district society in proportion to the money that each county, riding or township agricultural society shall have subscribed: Provided nevertheless, that the whole sum granted to the district and county societies together shall not exceed the sum of £250 in each year; that, in the event of more than £50 being subscribed by the several societies in any district, the said grant of £250 shall be divided to each society in due proportion according to the amount of their subscriptions respectively.

"That each agricultural society shall and may elect such officers and make such by-laws for their guidance as to them shall seem best for promoting the interests of agriculture, according to the true intent and meaning of this act.

"That the treasurer's account of the receipts and expenditure of the preceding year shall, after the first year, always accompany the application for grants in aid of the said agricultural societies.

"That if the treasurer of any township society shall on or before the first day of July in each and every year, pay any sum of money into the hands of the treasurer of the district or county societies, he shall be entitled to receive the same again so soon as the legislative grant shall have been received, with a portion of the legislative grant equal to the amount so paid, or in proportion to what shall fall to them share upon an equal division being made, in proportion to the sums paid by the several societies in the district or county.

"That the secretary of each society shall annually transmit to the three branches of the Legislature, within fifteen days after the opening of each session of the provincial parliament, a report of its proceedings, showing the amount of the subscriptions received in the course of the year, and the amount received out of the public chest, the expenses of the society, the names of the persons to whom it shall have granted premiums, the objects for which such premiums were obtained, and all such other observations and information as he shall deem likely to tend to the improvement of agriculture."

Every district now has its agricultural society, and premiums are given for the best articles of live or dead stock exhibited at the annual show; and at some of these agricultural meetings stock is occasionally exhibited which would be no disgrace to the great cattle show at Smithfield. In many districts there are also branch societies in connection with the district society.

With respect to the provision made for public education, from a return made

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