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HALIFAX, 17th Feb., 1870.

We publish to-day the list of GRANTS TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES FOR 1869. Warrants were mailed to the Secretaries of the several Societies on 7th February, to enable them to draw their monies. The principle upon which these Grants are made is sufficiently simple, and has been frequently explained,—yet we still have demands for explanation, and it may therefore be useful to repeat briefly the terms of the Act. A Society is formed by 40 persons or more, each subscribing and paying at least one dollar. Such Society, if recognized by the Board, is entitled to an annual grant, double the amount of its attested subscription list, but not in any case exceeding \$200. As the sum assigned to each County is limited to \$240, it is rare that a Society can obtain double the amount of its subscription list, especially if there are other Societies in the same County, in which case the whole sum to which the County is entitled is apportioned among the several Societies in rateable proportion to the amount of

their respective subscriptions. It will be seen that for the past year several Counties have not claimed the full amount of grant to which they would have been entitled if Societies of sufficient strength had been organized.

AGRICULTURE IN NEW BRUNSWICK is receiving increased attention, and the Agriculturists of that Province will naturally feel encouraged, as well as flattered, by the prominence given to their pursuit in the speech of Governor Wilmot in opening the Legislature on the 10th inst. The Governor's first paragraph contained an expression of thankfulness to a beneficent Providence for the harvest of the past year, which was greater than that of any previous year in the history of the Province. The agricultural interest, he said, whose annual value is beyond that of all the other productive industries of the Province, is rapidly extending, and under skillful management will yet more and more establish its claim as "*the first and most indispensable of all industrial pursuits.*"

The production of BEET ROOT SUGAR in Nova Scotia was proposed a few years ago, but no effective steps were taken. In view of Cuban troubles and the destruction of our maple forests, it may be worth while to remind our farmers of the practicability of growing Beet Sugar. Last year 625,000 tons of Beet Sugar were manufactured in Europe, and this year it is expected there will be 100,000 tons additional. In a few years it is expected a million tons will be produced annually. Already the European Beet Farms supply more sugar than all Cuba. In the west of Scotland Beet Sugar is largely grown.

The subject of LOCAL EXHIBITIONS is fortunately exciting the attention of our Agricultural Societies. A Committee has been formed at TRURO for the purpose of carrying out an Exhibition in the County of Colchester during the autumn. It is anticipated that the various Societies in the County will join hand in hand in this movement, and that the far-