

any ever seen here before. Our sheep and pigs have undergone a decided improvement for the last six years.

In the months of May and June last the farm crops in this district appeared to be a total failure, but by the continual warm showers during the months of July and early part of August, the direful calamity threatened was replaced by a bountiful harvest; and, although later than usual, the fine weather in September and October enabled the farmers to secure their crops in good condition; in order to give a distinct account of the different kinds of crops, we begin with hay.

Hay.—This crop, although very doubtful in the early summer, has turned out beyond the usual growth of many former years, and was saved in good condition. Wheat—this crop although sparingly sowed, looked well, but was slightly injured by frost, and only for the late season would be a paying crop. Oats—this crop turned out well, both in straw and grain. Barley—this crop yielded well, both in quantity and quality. Potatoes—those planted on wet uplands missed considerably, but what grew did well: those planted on light alluvial soils yielded ten to one.

STATE OF THE FUNDS.

The Middle River Agricultural Society in account with the Treasurer.

1874.—To balance in the hands of the Treasurer, 1873.....	\$333 51
To bounty for 1873.....	176 00
“ Subscriptions of members for 1874.....	83 00
	\$592 51
Cr.	
By paid for Journals.....	\$ 4.00
“ Mr. Saunders for seeds.....	37.30
“ Freight from Halifax and truckage to M. River.....	1.40
Paid James McLeod his expenses after stud horse.....	58.37
Wintering three Bulls.....	31.00
Paid for Leicester Ram.....	10.00
Incidental expenses.....	25.00
	167.07

Balance in hand..... \$452.44

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows, viz:—*President*—John McDouald; *Vice-President*—D. McQuarrie; *Directors*—Edward McLeod, William Caird, Samuel Nicholson, John Hunter and Donald Fenlayson; *Treasurer*—Hector Campbell; *Secretary*—John McLennan; John Ross, Esq., nominated as member to represent us at the Board of Agriculture.

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARRSBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The last annual meeting of the Society was held at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 2nd December, 1873. The previous year's report was then read and approved, all the officers were re-elected to serve for 1874. The following persons gave notice in writing that they had withdrawn from the Society, viz., Robert Gibson and Hamlet

Webster. Mr. T. D. Dickson was nominated by the officers as a suitable candidate for appointment to serve as a member of the Central Board of Agriculture for the year 1874, in compliance with the amendment to the Act “for the encouragement of Agriculture,” passed in the Session of 1873.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 7th April, 1874. It was then resolved that bounties be paid on the first Tuesday of November next, on crops raised in 1874, and compost made in 1874, as follows, viz., on 10 bushels wheat, 5s.; 5 bushels, 2s. 6d.; on 10 bushels rye, 5s.; 5 bushels, 2s. 6d.; on 10 bushels barley, 2s. 6d.; 5 bushels, 1s. 3d.; on 100 bushels Swedish turnips, 5s.; 50 bushels, 2s. 6d.; on 1 bushel haysced, 2s. 6d.; $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel, 1s. 3d.; on 60 loads compost, 5s.; 30 loads, 2s. 6d. It was also resolved that bounties be paid on the first Tuesday of November, 1876, for covered sheds or cellars for saving manure viz., to accommodate 10 head of cattle, £1, 1s. 9d.; 5 head, 15s., members who have received similar bounties, premiums or donations within the past fifteen years to be excluded. It was resolved that the Society contribute £10 from its next Provincial Grant towards the Prize fund of the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition to be held in Halifax, in October, 1874, one-third to be deducted from bounties, premiums or donations payable to each member to reimburse the Society to the extent of five pounds, or one-half the amount. It was also resolved that the Society take this year twenty-five numbers of the *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia*,—one number to be given gratis to each of the eleven officers, the remaining fourteen numbers to be sold to members at cost. It was also resolved that a bull calf or yearling of the Ayrshire breed, be procured for the Ratchford River Section whenever practicable—such animal when procured to be sold to the highest bidder. The purchaser to give bonds to keep him as a breeder in the said section until he is five years old, and through the season when he is five years old. The costs and charges to the Society not to exceed five pounds.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday the 3rd November, 1874, when bounties on wheat, barley, Swedish turnips, and haysced raised in 1874, on compost made in 1874, on orchards of ten grafted apple trees, set out or grafted between the 1st Tuesday of November, 1870, and the 1st Tuesday of November 1872, were paid as follows, viz., on wheat, £2, 7s. d.; on barley £2, 3s. 9d.; on Swedish turnips, £4, 17s. 6; on compost £18; on haysced, £5, 11s. 3d.; on grafted apple trees, £12, 10s.; to the amount of £46, 5s.

It was resolved that Daniel York be paid 7s. 6d. for the use of a room to hold meetings of the officers and Society through the year, and that the Secretary be paid 22s. 6d. for his services and stationery used by him in 1874. It was also resolved that the Society take 25 numbers of the *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia* for the year 1875, commencing in March next to be disposed of in the usual manner.

Through the year the Treasurer has received £34, 11s. 3d., from members—£30, 12s. 6d. of which is subscriptions due for 1874, and £3, 19s. 3d. subscriptions due for years previous to 1874. He received £5 from Wm. Kirkpatrick to return that amount advanced to him in November 1871, to purchase a bull for the Diligent River and Mill Village Sec-

tions. The bull was bought but retained by him as private property. He also received £26, 11s. 11d. from the Central Board of Agriculture, assigned to the Society out of Provincial money voted for Agricultural Societies in Nova Scotia for the year 1873. He received £3, 19s. 9d. in contributions from members drawing bounties in November 1874 towards the £10 voted by the Society in April, 1874, in aid of the fund for the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition to be held in Halifax in October, 1874. He also received one pound for *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia* for the year 1874, sold to members at first cost. These amounts make the sum of the funds for this year to be £71, 3s. 5d. Out of this, payments were made as before stated, on wheat, barley, Swedish turnips, and haysced raised in 1874, compost made in 1874, and on orchards of ten grafted apple trees each. Purchase and freight of a potato digger from St. Cathrine's, Ontario, £7, 9s. 3d.; *Journals of Agriculture for Nova Scotia* for the year 1873, including sixty extra numbers for the month of January, 1874, £2, 10s.; Postages, 1s. 7d. $\frac{1}{4}$; Room to hold meetings of Society and officers in, in 1874, 7s. 6d.; Services of Secretary, and stationery used by him in 1874, 22s. 6d. These sums, including the balance of £17 16s. 5d. $\frac{1}{2}$, due the Treasurer on the 4th November, 1873, amount to £75, 12s. 4d., leaving a balance of £4, 8s. 11d. due him at the close of the business for this year.

Out of 149 members in 1873, two withdrew, seven having joined the Society in 1874—154 are liable to pay 5s. each in 1874. From these £34, 11s. 3d. was received, £3, 19s. 3d. of which is subscriptions due for years previous to 1874. The arrearages on the subscriptions for 1874 are £7, 18s.

Twenty-five numbers of the *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia* for the year 1874, have been received and read in the different sections of the Society through the year. Each of the different officers receives a number gratis, the remaining fourteen numbers are sold to members at first cost. Sixty extra numbers of the *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia* for the month of January 1874, containing the 32nd annual report of Parrsborough Agricultural Society for the year 1873, were procured at a cost of a few shillings, and distributed gratuitously to members of the Society and otherwise, chiefly within the limits of the Society. This plan of circulating the annual report of the proceedings of the Society has afforded much satisfaction to all interested for the past two years.

Several of our best farmers tried this Fall the “Dick's patent Potato Digger,” imported from St. Cathrine's, Ontario, last Fall. It came too late to try last year. All alike condemn it as of no service, no better than a common plough. Either they did not know how to use it, or the implement is a deception. Can it be possible that the certificates forwarded, highly recommending it, from twenty-three farmers from different parts of New York and the Province of Ontario, all of whom say they have used it or seen it used, are forgeries or untruthful? We hope the fault is rather in our want of acquaintance with its use on the part of farmers here, than in the imperfection of the implement itself. It would not be right therefore to condemn it fully without further trial, and if possible by some one familiar with putting the different parts together and using it. The