

single farthing. They were quite satisfied that the money would be all paid. They regretted, in common with others, that there should be this deficiency, the knowledge of which had come upon them by surprise through this report; but they had taken steps, as soon as they possibly could, to have the matter remedied, and it was their full intention and belief that, before they separated as a Board, the requisite security would be given.

A communication was read from Mr. Denison, offering to give ample landed security for whatever amount was due by him to the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. CHRISTIE then remarked, in conclusion—I would only add that, so far as the Board of Agriculture are concerned, they court the fullest publicity in this matter. They have nothing to conceal; but they feel they have reason to complain that a one-sided and incorrect statement should be sent forth to the public without their having an opportunity of sending out their contradiction along with it. There must be some object in view in the course which has been taken. What that object is, I do not pretend to tell; but that there is some object in view, something to be gained by this course, I do most thoroughly believe. This thing has been brought out on the eve of an election of members of this Board, and it seems to have been hoped that these charges, in all their ascerbity and seriousness, having been sent to every County Society throughout the land, the contradiction of these charges might reach the Societies too late to serve as a vindication of the Board. But, although a day behind, we shall do all in our power to send forth the counter-agent to this most insidious document. It will not be possible for the members of the Board to attend all the meetings in their several divisions to vindicate their conduct; but I do indulge the hope that the statement of the Board may reach the public before they shall be called upon to determine as to their conduct. I say for myself, as I freely say for all my colleagues at this Board, that we have striven to the best of our ability to serve the public, and that we have done everything in our power to maintain the integrity and the usefulness of the Agricultural Association and the Board of Agriculture. We have done so for a long series of years. If the public, after seeing both sides of this case, shall pronounce that the Board have not done their duty, then we must submit to the verdict, although we shall feel that the verdict has not been a righteous one. I have confidence, however, in the public, that, when the whole question is presented to them in its true light, they will vindicate the character of the members of this Board, as men who for the long period I have mentioned, have done their best to promote the agricultural interests of this country; and will pronounce a verdict in accordance with the true facts of the case.

Mr. RYKERT said he would reserve the remarks he had to make on this matter, until he had an opportunity of making them in the House, where he had given notice of a motion to refer this report to a committee of enquiry.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved That Messrs. Christie, Stone, and Alexander be empowered to take the necessary security from the Treasurer for the balance due by him to the Board.

Resolved that Messrs. Patton, Osler, and Moss be consulted as to security.

The Board then adjourned.

Circular to Agricultural Societies.

TORONTO, Dec. 24, 1868.

SIR,—According to custom, I beg leave to address you in view of the approaching Annual Meeting of the Agricultural Societies. Under the new Agricultural Statute, the Annual Reports have to be forwarded to the Hon. Commissioner of the Bureau of Agriculture, instead of to the Board of Agriculture, as formerly. I need not, therefore, refer to the matter of those Reports, as has been my custom heretofore. But, under the new Act, it is the duty of the Secretary of the Agricultural Association to send a list of the retiring members of the Council each year to the Secretary of each County or Electoral Division Society. The names of the elected members of the present Board of Agriculture, who, together with the ex-officio members, have constituted the Council of the Association, are as follows:—Hon. D. Christie, Paris; Hon. Asa A. Burnham, Cobourg; Hon. G. Alexander, Woodstock; R. L. Denison, Toronto; William Ferguson, Kingston; Dr. Richmond, Gananoque; F. W. Stone, Guelph; J. C. Rykert, St. Catharines.

Under the new Statute, on the inauguration of the new system of electing the members of the Council of the Association, at the beginning of the incoming year, the whole of the members of the existing Board go out of office, and a council of twelve members will be elected in their place—one member for each Agricultural District. Retiring members, under the statute, are in all cases eligible for re-election.

Each County Society in each Agricultural District is required to elect one person, at its Annual Meeting—to represent it at the Council of the Association—by a majority of the votes of the members of the Society present at such meeting; and the Secretary of each Society shall, within eight days after the election, forward to the Commissioner of Agriculture the name of the person chosen by the Society.

The several Agricultural Districts, as per schedule A of the Act, are composed of the following Counties and Electoral Divisions, viz:—

1. Stormont, Dundas, Glengary, Prescott, and Cornwall.
2. Lanark, Renfrew, City of Ottawa, Carleton, and Russell.
3. Frontenac, City of Kingston, Leeds, Grenville, and Brockville.
4. Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox, and Addington.
5. Durham, Northumberland, Peterborough, and Victoria.
6. York, Ontario, Peel, Cardwell, and City of Toronto.
7. Wellington, Waterloo, Wentworth, Halton, and City of Hamilton.
8. Lincoln, Welland, Haldimand, Monck, and Niagara.
9. Elgin, Brant, Oxford, and Norfolk.
10. Huron, Bruce, Grey, Algoma, and Simcoe.
11. Perth, Middlesex, and City of London.
12. Essex, Kent, Bothwell, and Lambton.

In view of the termination of the existing organization of the Board of Agriculture, and the introduction of the new system in January next, I beg to submit the following summary Statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Board of Agriculture and the Agricultural Association for the past year 1867, as shown by the Audited Accounts, full details of which have been returned to the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture:

R. L. DENISON, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND THE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

1867.	DR.	
To Balance from 1866.....	\$20,708 22	
" Government grants to pay Agricultural Societies....	49,724 67	
" Govt grant to Board.....	4,000 00	
" Other receipts on account of Board.....	1,373 35	
" Receipts on account of Agricultural Association.....	5,934 11	
		\$32,149 85

CR.	
By Paid grants to Agricultural Societies.....	45,515 05
" Other Payments on account Board of Agriculture....	8,960 19
" Premiums awarded at Exhibitions.....	10,481 50
" Other payments on account of Association.....	4,600 44
	69,047 18

Dec. 31st—To Balance in hand. \$12,493 67

The Account for the current year stands at the present date as follows:

1868.	DR.	
To Balance from 1867.....	\$12,493 67	
" Government grant (half amount voted).....	5,000 00	
" Receipts on Board of Agriculture account.....	1,942 19	
" Subscriptions and admission tickets.....	10,724 20	
" Other receipts on Association account.....	1,807 46	
		\$31,857 52

CR.	
Dec. 24th—By Premiums paid to date.....	9,649 50
By total expenditure on all other objects to date....	13,123 50
	22,773 00

Balance in Treasurer's hands..... \$9,074 52

The account for 1868 being still open, will exhibit some difference from the foregoing statement before the end of the year. As soon after the end of the year as the Council shall order, the account will be placed in the hands of the Auditors appointed at the last Annual Meeting, so as to be audited and reported to the Commissioner of Agriculture and the various societies and institutes on or before the 1st of July next as required by statute.

Requesting that you will have the goodness to submit this circular for the information of the members of your society at the Annual Meeting,

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

HUGH C. THOMSON,
Secretary.

The Smithfield Club Cattle Show.

During the second week in December the Smithfield Club Cattle Show was held in the Agricultural Hall, Islington. This was in many respects a repetition of the show previously held in Birmingham, the greater number of the prize winners at that exhibition again taking honours at the metropolitan display. The *Mark Lane Express* characterises the show as good only in places. The Devons, Herefords and cross-breeds have, for general excellence, seldom been better, whereas the shorthorns made up only a moderate average, nor were the Scotch breeds so good as they have been. Amongst the sheep the Southdowns, with Lord Walsingham winning everything, were better than they have been for some years, whilst among the long-wools, the Lincolns still maintained their rising repute as one of the best represented breeds in the hall. The Leicesters and Cotswolds were short in numbers, and of no very