

stock company, on an extensive scale, for importing improved breeds of Cattle. The Board after considering Mr. M. Kellar's proposition, thought it would be premature to take any decided action thereon at present; but instructed the Secretary to thank that gentleman for his communication, and to insert it along with the usual proceedings, in the *Agriculturist*, for the purpose of drawing the attention of Societies and enterprising individuals to the subject, who are requested to favor the Board with their views and wishes.

CHATHAM, 4th Oct., 1853.

To George Buckland, Esq., Secretary Board of Agriculture, Toronto.

SIR,—Having had the honor of being one of your associates as judge of Short-horn Durham cattle, at the Provincial Exhibition at Cobourg, I take the liberty of addressing you and submitting to your consideration a scheme for the importation of Durham cattle from England to this Province, which, I think, if carried into effect would prove beneficial to the agriculturists of Canada individually and collectively. At present the few Durham cattle in the country have been imported at a heavy expense by a few enterprising individuals, and they must sell for large prices or lose by their cattle,—consequently there are hundreds in the Province who would become distinguished breeders, if the animals could be got near themselves at what might be termed a moderate price, who are unable to bear the expense of importation for themselves, or paying the prices now demanded.

To obviate this difficulty, I would suggest that a Joint Stock Importation Society be organized, composed of the Board of Agriculture and such of the County Societies as wish to become stockholders. Let the Board of Directors of this Association be composed of two or more of the members of the Board of Agriculture, and the President of each County Society. Thus organized we shall suppose that the Board of Agriculture would appropriate at least £1000, and we might safely calculate upon £100 from each of the forty counties in Canada West, making a sum of £4000 from counties, in all £5000 as the capital of the Association. These funds should then be given to two respectable gentlemen who are good judges of stock, who would proceed to England and invest the whole in the purchase of Durham cattle: they could also charter a vessel and fit her up comfortably for carrying the stock, which would add greatly to their safety, compared to the manner in which private individuals have to ship stock. Immediately after their arrival (say at Toronto) they should be sold by auction, *confining sales to the representatives of the various Societies who had contributed to the fund*;—unless this precaution was used parties from the United States and Canada, who had not contributed directly or indirectly to aid the Association, might step in and reap all the advantages of the undertaking by purchasing the stock and taking them out of the country.

The sum which I have set down (£5000) is much smaller than might be got from the sources referred to—a little exertion on the part of a few enterprising, active men, would raise £10,000 instead of £5000, which would be all the better for the Association, as £10,000 worth would be attended with very little more expense than £5000 worth. I have no doubt the undertaking would be profitable to the stockholders, but that should be a secondary consideration, for the indirect advantages of getting good stock into the country would much more than pay for the loss of a few dollars on the money advanced. If the receipts of the sale would more than cover costs and charges, the surplus could be divided in proportion to the stock held by each Society. Or if the sales should not cover the cost, the deficiency could be made up without being felt by any one of the stockholders.

In addition to the few reasons I have given above, I would further state, that Canada is no longer a poor and dependant Colony, but is fast emerging from her obscure and humble position, to rank among the most enlightened and enterprising nations of the earth. Already has she become a formidable rival to our enterprising neighbors,—in education, commerce, manufactures and agriculture, we are fast treading on their heels; we must not flag in our exertions, but work unitedly and energetically in developing the vast resources of our noble Province, let us not rest satisfied with being a rival to the neighboring Republic, let us aim at being her equal and, if possible, her superior. She has for many years enjoyed the patronage of our people, purchasing stock, implements and goods which should be got at home; vast sums of money have thus been transferred from Canada to the States. Everything must be done to enable our farmers, above all others, to get implements, stock, or anything they need, at home, without the trouble and expense of going across the lines for them. And as stock is now in good demand and will pay the breeder to rear them for sale, they should be put within his reach. The Americans have made large importations of fine stock from England lately, and unless we do something in the way of importation also, our breeders must of necessity go to Ohio or some other State and purchase.

Should the Board deem my suggestion worthy of consideration, and think of carrying it into practice, they may rely on my co-operation in doing anything I can to assist them.

I am respectfully yours truly,

ARCHIBALD M. KELLAR.

The expense and risk of importing live stock from the mother country having been considered, and the best means of mitigating the same, it was

*Resolved*,—That it be suggested to the Bureau of Agriculture, the desirableness and importance making arrangements with the Canadian Ocean of Steam Navigation Company for a fair rate of charges on the importation of Stock, Implements and Seeds for the use of Agriculturists in Canada.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Charrock, recently from England, and now residing