

their existence upon the products of the soil; and every improvement which tends to the increase of those products multiplies the wealth and happiness of mankind to a degree greater than any other operations of life, measured by the much greater number of those employed in it." The total amount appropriated to the Department for the year was \$197,070. This is quite independent of the efforts made by individual States, upon which the encouragement of agriculture by Colleges, Societies, and Exhibitions almost entirely depends.

Our readers would observe from the Report of the Half Yearly Meeting of the Central Board, published last month, that a Resolution was passed in favour of holding a Provincial Exhibition during the month of October, 1873, in some central part of the Province; and that the Board resolved to apply to the Legislature at its next session for the necessary funds to carry out the contemplated Exhibition. We have had no Exhibition since 1868, and it is now time that the public should have an opportunity of judging whether an improvement has taken place in our agricultural productions commensurate with the efforts that have been made since then by the Legislature and the Board. We hope, therefore, that the proposal will be taken up in a liberal spirit, and fully and fairly considered. We offer no comment at present upon the general utility of such Exhibitions, as we believe that every intelligent and progressive man looks upon Agricultural and Industrial Exhibitions as absolute necessities in a civilized and progressive country.

We have already received the Reports of Annual Meetings of several of the Agricultural Societies held on the second Tuesday of December; but their publication in detail must necessarily be deferred till next month. The Windsor Agricultural Society has expended \$401.70 this season in purchase of two bulls of the Government Stock. The Hon. R. A. McHaffey has been nominated to represent the Society as Candidate for election to the Central Board. It is proposed to increase the annual subscription from \$2 to \$4, to enable the Society to "keep up with the times." A Committee has been appointed to consider the practicability of

forming a Farmer's Club. The Annual Fair was held as usual (*See Journal of Agriculture, Oct. 1872*). The Tutamagouche Society's Meeting is reported as the largest that has been held since the Society was formed, and a greatly increased interest was manifested in the proceedings.

In the October number of the *Journal* we reprinted from the Acts of 1872, an Act authorising the Central Board, as a Bureau of Agriculture, to establish Farmer's Clubs in the different Counties of the Province. The minimum number of Members is to be fifteen, the fee for membership two dollars a year. The Regulations under which these Clubs are to be conducted, and the form in which encouragement is to be given to them, will no doubt come up for consideration at next meeting of the Board. There can be no doubt of the utility of such Clubs under judicious management, and we shall be glad to receive any suggestions that may tend to throw light upon the details which we have referred to as likely to engage the Members of the Central Board at their next meeting.

We had much pleasure in attending the Annual Exhibition of the Fruit Growers' Association, at Wolfville, where there were many gratified visitors from Halifax and other parts of the Province. Our notice was crowded out last month, and the prize list was published long ago in the newspapers; but a remark may still be made. Having, a week or two before, seen the Fruit Shows in Massachusetts, New York State and Ontario, we were able to make a sort of mind's eye comparison. At Boston, Elmira, Rochester and Hamilton, the open-air grapes and peaches were truly splendid, and in quantities quite overwhelming, dozens of tons lying in open boxes and baskets along the streets of Buffalo all night without the slightest protection from policemen or attendants of any kind. In such fruits as these we can only compete on fair terms with our more favored neighbours by extending our glass graperies. But, in regard to apples, although we saw much fine fruit, especially at Hamilton, yet we are impressed with the belief that Cornwallis can beat all comers in size and general excellence of fruit, heaviness of crop, economy of orchard management, and critical knowledge of the varieties and their peculiarities. It is said that the flavour of some varieties is only fully developed when they are grown in certain localities. Be this as it may, we know that the Cornwallis apples are delicious—for, after the Exhibition was closed, Dr. Hea, the Secretary, with rare consideration and generous liberality, sent to us a

selection of the principal kinds exhibited; and although they have been presented, again and again, to good judges and sound critics, those who know an apple from an apple, every specimen has been declared "most excellent."

At last meeting of the Central Board of Agriculture it was resolved to establish an official Stock Register for Nova Scotia, and the Secretary of the Board was requested to act as Registrar. The Stock Register will be opened on 1st January, 1873, for the registration of all *thorough-bred* cattle and horses imported into or raised in the Province. No grade or cross-bred animal, and no animal that is not of perfectly pure blood can be registered under any circumstances. Should the evidence of purity be insufficient in any case, it shall be the duty of the Registrar to decline to make any entry of the animal.

Pedigrees for entry may be sent to the Registrar. The fee for each entry is forty cents, which entitles the party registering to a Certificate of Pedigree.

We observe that at a meeting of the Smithfield Club, London, on 6th November—Lord Tredegar, President, in the Chair—arrangements were made for the Smithfield Show, which is now being held. The Veterinary Surgeon of the Club was to attend—day and night—from Thursday morning, Dec. 5, to Saturday night, Dec. 7, to inspect every animal previous to admission, and for these three consecutive days and two and a half nights of incessant sleepless horse work he was to be paid 40 guineas. The Earl of Powis offers a prize for the instruments for slaughtering animals by dividing the spinal cord. We hope that Colonel Laurie, who is now in London, will let our readers hear something of the Smithfield Show in next number of the *Journal*.

That small speck in the Atlantic ocean, near the west coast of Europe, called by English-speaking people, the United Kingdom, affords a root-hold for some stalks of grain. The Earl of Dinsmore has published a letter to a Prussian Civil Engineer, in which he states the value of the cereal crop, after deducting all that is used as horse-feed, at the equivalent of 230 millions of Canadian dollars; potatoes 200 millions of dollars; turnips and mangels 175 millions of dollars; peas and beans, 25 millions of dollars. Live stock yields 490 millions of dollars worth of food every year, not counting dairy produce. The total of food thus produced annually on the farms of England is worth more than a thousand millions of dollars, in addition to which there is food imported to the value of 220 millions.