

THE JOURNAL
OF THE
Board of Arts and Manufactures
FOR ONTARIO.

DECEMBER, 1867.

CLOSE OF THE SEVENTH VOLUME.

This number of the Journal closes the seventh year of its existence. Its issue was commenced with some little fear as to a successful result, but with reasonable hopes that by furnishing monthly a carefully prepared synopsis of the records of inventions and improvements in other lands, and by the publication of other practical and valuable information, it would eventually be appreciated by, and receive the support of, practical men. To some extent these hopes have been realized. During the past year we have received many both written and verbal commendations as to the character of the Journal, and the judicious selection of foreign matter it contains. We cannot, however, although much we might desire it, leave out of consideration the financial question connected with its publication. If all the 1,000 copies issued were paid for at 75 cents per annum, the sum realized would be but \$562 50; but as the cost of printing and publishing that number, charging nothing to the account for editing, is at least \$800; and as at least 250 copies are sent free to members of Parliament, exchanges, &c.; about 250 copies furnished through Mechanics' Institutes and Agricultural Societies at 50 cents per annum; and a large number of Subscribers (we suppose on account of the trifling amount of the subscription) neglect to pay up promptly, and some not at all, the loss on its publication absorbs at least one-third the entire income of the Board, and tends to cramp it in its other operations.

What we now ask of our Subscribers and friends, is, that they forward us all arrears of subscriptions due; and, as early as convenient, their subscriptions for the year 1868. The amounts are small; but upon their prompt payment depends, in all probability, the continuance or otherwise of the Journal beyond another year.

We enclose a slip with amount due to December 1868. Fractions of the Dollar may be sent in postage stamps.

STATUTES FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.

From a summary of the History of Agricultural Societies, and enactments by the Canadian Legislature for the encouragement of agriculture in the Province, published in the transactions of the Board of Agriculture, for the year 1856, we learn, that although some few societies were formed as early as the year 1825, no Act to incorporate them was passed until the year 1830, which Act provided for "the establishment of Agricultural Societies in the several districts of this Province," and provided that each district should receive one hundred pounds annually so long as the society should raise fifty pounds.

In 1835 another Act was passed continuing the previous one for one year longer, which "Act was permitted to expire before further legislation took place on the subject." In 1837 an Act was passed "for the purpose of re-establishing Agricultural Societies," and providing that the grant to each should be double the amount subscribed, up to the sum of two hundred pounds; and also providing for the formation of County, Riding, and Township Societies.

On the union of Upper and Lower Canada, an Act was passed, September, 1841, continuing the previous Act without alteration, till the end of the session ensuing the 1st November, 1844. In 1845 another Act was passed, essentially the same as the preceding one, but providing that the amount subscribed by members should be trebled by the legislative grant, up to two hundred and fifty pounds.

In 1846 the Agricultural Association for Upper Canada was formed, and in 1847 it was incorporated by Act of Parliament. In 1850 the Board of Agriculture was organized under enactment by the Legislature; and in 1851 another Act was passed "intended to adapt the organization of the Agricultural Societies of Upper Canada, to the Board of Agriculture," defining the position and duties of each, and affirming the previous grants as to trebling the amount subscribed by any county society, up to two hundred and fifty pounds.

In 1852 was passed the Act "to provide for the establishment of the Bureau of Agriculture, and to amend and consolidate the laws relating to agriculture." This Act placed the supervision of all Boards and Agricultural Societies under the Minister having charge of the Bureau, and also further defined their duties. Thus far we have derived our information from the transactions referred to.

By the Parliamentary Representation Act of 1853, Upper Canada was formed into new Electoral