

cities in the province; and that the farms of its members may be examples of skillful farming, and their improved stock excite to emulation those who have hitherto thought but little of the advantages of agricultural societies. No better investment can possibly be made of the people's money than that part which is appropriated to branch societies for the encouragement of agriculture, nor can a dollar a year be more profitably spent than investing it to the same purpose.

A desire has been expressed by the majority of members that the funds of the past year should be expended in the purchase of a Durham bull, but after every exertion being made it was found impossible to procure one; and as in the month of June an offer had been made to the society by Mr. Reid, of Fredericton, N.B., of a pure blood Cotswold ram, the officers and directors came to the resolution to purchase him notwithstanding the price asked, viz. \$125, thinking it better thus to appropriate the funds of the society than allow them to remain idle, and lose, perhaps, an animal so much needed for the improvement of the breed of sheep at present in this part of the county.

In September, the Hon. Charles Perley, of Woodstock, N. B., offered for sale to the society a Durham bull. Mr. Perley's well-known reputation of being one of the first farmers and breeders of stock in New Brunswick, induced your directors to negotiate with him, and ultimately to purchase the bull. He reached here on the 3rd Nov. and fully answered the description given of him by Mr. Perley. He is a very superior animal, and one which it is to be hoped will be found greatly to improve the stock of this part of the county generally, and more particularly that of the members of the society.

At the meeting of 13th March last, a visiting committee was appointed to report upon the farms of members, as to their culture, rotation of crops, management generally, arrangement of barns, yard, &c. The following is extracted from their report:—"While your committee are well aware of a very great improvement within the last few years in the character of farm buildings, with reference both to their comfort and convenience, as well as adding largely to the quantity and quality of manures; yet much is still required, as not sufficient importance is attached to this department of agriculture.

"Your committee have also much pleasure in observing the spirit manifested by your members generally in the improvement of stock of every description, selecting from the more approved breeds, and by bestowing a greater amount of care and attention upon their stock. The crops generally have been good, and estimated at 3110 bushels of oats, on 160 acres, black oats generally sown; 1060 bushels of barley, on 43 acres, the two-rowed preferred; rye, winter and spring, 375 bushels, on 30 acres; corn, 270 bushels, on 14 acres, crop generally diminished by late frosts; buckwheat, (not extensively cultivated) 280 bushels, on 19 acres; beans, 58 bushels on 4 acres; turnips, 3000 bushels, on 10 acres, (the green top preferred); potatoes, 7700 bushels, on 70 acres." The foregoing applies to farms of members only.

The principal varieties of potatoes cultivated are the Calicoes, Jackson White, Prince Albert, and the early Blue Nose. There has been very little of the old-fashioned root among them, and they have all yielded fair average crops, although in some cases they have been small in size, owing to the exceeding dryness of the season. A few years ago the Dalmahoy potato was imported by this society, and has proved itself, to those who have planted them, one of the best potatoes in the neighbourhood. The Early Handsworth, imported at the same time—a dwarf potato not growing more than from 4 to 8 inches high—is found to be very early, at least a fortnight earlier than the Ash Leaf Kidney. Davis' Seedling, a red and particularly fine potato, was a year or two ago imported by a gentleman of this society, of which he speaks in the most favourable terms. The following description of it is given in the *Maine Farmer* of January, 1864:—"It is a large

roundish, smooth and reddish skinned potato, and its flesh is nearly white, only having a slight yellowish tinge. I have grown it in 1861-2-3, and find it very productive and hardy. It also grows well on all kinds of soil, and keeps perfectly fresh until late in the ensuing spring, and so forms a very desirable variety for home consumption and for late marketing. It has, for this reason, when sent to our northern city markets late in the season, often commanded more than double as much per bushel as any other potato. It is also an early ripening potato, as it ripens as early as most of our early potatoes, and equals most of them in excellence of quality,—and hence it is a popular new variety that bids fair to supplant most of our fine older, but less productive sorts, such as the Carter, Mercier, &c."

The following is a list of the officers and directors.—*Pres.*, Henry Ince; *Vice-Pres.*, Chas. Armstrong; *Treas.*, D. C. Landers; *Sec'y.*, G. V. Ince; *Directors*, B. H. Parker, Handly Fitch, Walter Welton, J. Clarke Neily and Jacob Neily.

Treasurer's Account, 1864-5.	
1864.	Do.
	Postage, Stationery, &c. \$3.45
1865.	
July 1.	Paid Mr. Reid for the ram <i>Great Guelph</i> , and expenses 129.76
Dec.	Hon. Charles Perley, for bull and expenses 99.81
	Printing Handbills, &c. 1.50
	<hr/>
Dec. 1.	Balance due society 13.22
	<hr/>
	\$247.74
	<hr/>
	<i>Cn.</i>
	Subscriptions for 1864 \$45.00
	Do. Do. 1865 42.00
	Provincial Grant, 1864 80.00
	Do. Do. 1865 80.00
	Cash from Mr. Ince 0.74
	<hr/>
	\$247.74

D. C. LANDERS,
Treasurer.
GEO. V. INCE,
Sec'y E.A.A.S.

Nictaux, Dec. 1, 1865.

BRIDGETOWN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Bridgetown, January 8th, 1865.

I will forward the Annual Report of Bridgetown Agricultural Society in a few days.
J. E. FELLOWS.

ANTIGONISH COUNTY.

ANTIGONISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Antigonish, Jan'y 9th, 1866.

At the annual meeting of the Antigonish Agricultural Society, the accompanying report together with an account of receipts and expenditures was submitted and adopted.

Total receipts \$321.98, expenditures \$460.30; balance in hand \$61.68.

At our first quarterly meeting held in March last, it was resolved to purchase at least one 2 year old bull and 2 yearlings. The Society having corresponded with parties in various parts of this Province and P. E. Island found it impossible to obtain the number required. Two yearling bulls were purchased in King's county, the one Durham and the other chiefly Ayrshire, every ram was taken to benefit each member of the society as long as possible; but this society covers so large an area it would seem necessary to have the number of bulls increased in order to do justice to all.

In June it was resolved to hold no fair this year, to expend our funds in importing lambs from P. E. Island, or wherever would be more

expedient. In September it was deemed advisable to import from P. E. Island 20 ram and 11 ewe lambs; Mr. David McNairn was chosen to proceed to the Island and purchase the above named stock. The amount of subscriptions this year being less than last the government grant was \$172.00 instead of \$200.00 as last year.

The crops in this county, excepting wheat, may be considered a fair average, and the farming interests of the county in a flourishing condition.

C. B. WHIDDEN,
Secretary.

CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

NORTH SYDNEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

[PRESIDENT'S LETTER]

North Sydney, 9th Decem., 1865.

The North Sydney Agricultural Society held their annual meeting on Tuesday last agreeably to law, at which prizes were awarded for wheat, barley, oats, butter, &c., which you will perceive by the Secretary's report; the grain exhibited was of a good quality—wheat 66lbs., oats 4 lbs., per bushel. The crops have been very fair in this district, and all kinds of produce command a high price. The Society have awarded very trifling premiums, reserving their funds to purchase improved stock, which is much wanted. They seem to think the black sea wheat best adapted to this climate. Can you inform me where it can be purchased in the Spring for seed, and also the best breed of Sheep, Pigs, &c. (Can any correspondent favor us with information on these points?)

T. S. BOWS, *President.*

[SECRETARY'S REPORT.]

The annual meeting of this Society was held in the Temperance Hall at North Sydney on Tuesday the 5th day of December, L. Robertson, Esq., in the chair, the President, Thomas S. Bown, Esq., not being able to attend. The officers and directors for the past year were re-elected without opposition, as follows:—Thom. S. Bown, President; L. Robertson, Vice-President; Alexander Musgrave, Secretary; William Johnston, Treasurer; Messrs. Moses Hull, Henry Musgrave, James Munn, Alexander Gillis, and John Forbes, directors.

All the members of the Society are anxious to procure some choice breed of sheep, and a bull or two, either from Canada or P. E. Island, and the directors were earnestly requested to attend to this matter as early as possible. It was moved and seconded that forty or fifty dollars be advanced from the funds of the Society to procure some foreign wheat, the black sea wheat if possible; this was objected to and over-ruled, as most of the members wished to confine the funds for a year or two to come, chiefly to the improvement of their live stock, save and except what was absolutely required to pay for prizes. Immediately after, the business of the meeting was closed, an exhibition was held, but on a very limited scale, where prizes were awarded to the following parties;—Henry Musgrave, for the best cheese, 10s.; second best do., Mrs. Mary Johnston, 7s. 6d. Alexander Musgrave, for best butter, 10s.; second do., Henry Musgrave, 7s. 6d. Henry Musgrave, for best wheat (64 lbs.) 12s. 6d.; second do., Alexander Morse, 7s. 6d. Alexander Morse, 7s. 6d. Alexander Musgrave for best barley, 10s.; second best Jas. Munn, 7s. 6d. William Gillis for best oats, 44 lbs., 10s.; second best Henry Musgrave. James Moore for best buckwheat, 57 lbs., 10s.; second best Henry Musgrave. James Moore for best hay seed, 10s.; second best Henry Musgrave, 7s. 6d. William England for best homespun, nil wool, 10s.; second best Mrs. James Johnson, 7s. 6d. Alex. Musgrave for best homespun, cotton and wool, 10s.;