

and machines are best suited to smooth intervals farms, and what are to be preferred for rough up-lands; let us know what are the most profitable varieties of apples for orchard culture, and why the general culture of apples is so strictly limited to a few counties; why the hum of the honey bee is so seldom heard; what varieties of culinary vegetables are adapted to the farmer's garden; and what creepers and flowers are best suited to throw an air of beauty around his dwelling.

These are a few of the topics that invite attention in the columns of the *JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE*. To the farmers of this Province we appeal for that practical information which they alone can give, in order that the various matters introduced may be discussed in a thoroughly practical and profitable manner. Let it not be said that the farmers of Nova Scotia lack the ambition necessary to give spirited support to a Journal specially charged with the interests of their profession.

#### ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES ORGANIZED UNDER THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

It is provided by the Act for the Encouragement of Agriculture, that the officers and directors of each county or district society, organized under authority of the Board, shall present at the annual meeting in December, a Report of the proceedings of the society during the year, in which shall be stated the names of all the members of the society, the amount paid by each, the names of all persons to whom premiums were awarded, with the name of the animal, article, or thing, in respect of which the same was granted, together with such remarks upon the agriculture of the county, as they may be enabled to offer, and a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the society during the year, which report and statement, if approved by the meeting, is to be entered in the journal of the society, and a true copy thereof, certified by the president and secretary to be correct, sent to the central Board within one month thereafter.

The reports received from the various societies throughout the Province, embrace much useful information, respecting

the operations of the societies themselves, the state of agriculture generally in their respective districts, and the means that are being adopted for its improvement. It is thought advisable, therefore, to present, at the earliest opportunity, an abstract of these reports, embracing, in as condensed a form as possible, such information as seems likely to prove of general interest.

Those societies whose reports were not accompanied by a statement of accounts, are required to supply the omission without further delay.

#### ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

##### BRIDGETOWN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Amount of subscriptions received, including entrance fees \$54.50. Proportion of Government Grant \$102. Total Receipts \$156.50. Amount paid in premiums \$84. Printing and other expenses \$11. Total disbursements \$95. Balance in Treasurer's hands \$61.50.

*President*, R. Ansley. *Secretary*, James E. Fellows.

The Society's attention has been chiefly occupied during the past year, in carrying out a general Exhibition of horses, neat stock, sheep and swine. The Exhibition was held on 12th October in conjunction with the Exhibition of the Fruit Growers' Association, and although it was not so large as on some former occasions, yet there were some superior animals in each class, and as a whole was considered satisfactory. The Exhibition proceedings were followed up by a public dinner, at which excellent speeches were delivered by His Excellency Admiral Sir James Hope, Dr. C. C. Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Forrester, and others.

There appears to be a want of zeal and energy in not striving more for general improvement in agriculture in the county. The soil is capable of producing large crops if properly tilled. The society offered a premium of \$40 to any member who would import a thorough bred Devon bull, with pedigree; it is the general impression that this breed is better adapted to the county than any other. Mr. Decie of Granville, has imported a number of Cotswold sheep. The Society respectfully suggests to the Board the propriety of distributing stock imported by Government *gratis* amongst the different societies, where suitable persons can be found to take care of them, instead of selling them by auction. The society also suggests a change in the time for holding annual meetings, from the first Tuesday to the first week in December, leaving societies to choose their own day, (Saturday, it is thought, would accommodate the farmers better.) [The time of meeting is fixed by the Act, and can only be altered by the Legislature.]

#### EASTERN ANNAPOILIS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Number of members \$40. Subscriptions paid \$40. Government Grant \$80.

*President*, H. Ince. *Vice President and Treasurer*, D. C. Sanders. *Secretary*, J. E. Chipman. *Directors*, Walter Welton, Maynard Wheelock, B. H. Parker, James Morton, Ingren E. Neily.

The society has only recently been re-organized. "Rule XII. All members will be expected to co-operate with the Committee of Management in their endeavours to advance by every means in their power the objects and interests of the society, and it shall be the duty of each member to furnish the Secretary annually, on or before the first day of December, with written information of the agricultural production, the extent and nature of land under cultivation, the amount and kind of stock kept, the amount and kind of manure applied to the acre, the time of sowing, planting and harvesting the crops, and every other kind of useful information." This is the sure way of enabling the officers of the society to give a correct annual report to the Board of Agriculture.

#### ANTIGONISH COUNTY.

##### ANTIGONISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH.

The society was re-organized on 19th September, 1864, at a special meeting called for the purpose, when the Hon. W. Henry explained the provisions of the new Act. The old Antigonish society has transferred its Library to the new one. Number of members 63. Subscriptions paid, \$111. Provincial grant, \$200. Proceeds of sales of stock, \$132.80. Total receipts, \$443.80. Cash paid for stock, \$120.83. Expenses of selecting and conveying do., discount, &c., \$66.70. Amount paid in prizes, \$101.70. Working expenses, \$32.19. Total amount of disbursements, \$321.42. Balance in Treasurer's hands, \$122.38.

*President*, John McDonald. *Vice-President*, R. Trotter. *Secretary and Treasurer*, C. B. Whidden. *Directors*, Moses Somers, Donald Chisholm, T. M. King, John Chisholm, and John Chisholm, West River.

Mr. John Randall, an officer of the society, proceeded to Prince Edward Island to select improved stock, and succeeded in obtaining 25 lambs and a two-year old ram.

Measures were adopted for holding a fair at Antigonish, and prizes were awarded to successful competitors, chiefly for cattle, sheep, horses and dairy produce. At the close of the fair the imported stock was sold, and the rams particularly went out at a high figure. The report concludes thus: "There appears to be a growing desire in the out-sections for improved stock, many of the lambs, as well as many pri-