

The following gentlemen were introduced as a deputation from Truro:—J. B. Dickie, Esq., Custos of the County; J. Calkin, Esq., Vice-President of the Eastern Fruit Growers' Association; and Wm. Blair, Esq., President of the Onslow Agricultural Society.

The Secretary was then called upon to read Mr. Longworth's communication, previously referred to.

Mr. Dickie addressed the Board. He stated that a public meeting was held last week in Truro, at which it was decided to request the Board to hold the forthcoming Provincial Agricultural Exhibition in Truro. He pointed out how desirable it is to hold such exhibitions in agricultural districts, in the midst of agriculturists; that Truro is now connected by rail so as to form in more ways than one the central town of the Province; that it would be more convenient, especially for the Eastern farmers, to come to Truro; and that the inhabitants of Truro and surrounding country would cheerfully do everything in their power to promote the success of the exhibition.

Mr. Calkin followed, taking up in order the objections that might be made to holding the exhibition in Truro. The accommodation for visitors in Truro was ample, as the inhabitants generally would open their houses to visitors, whilst in Halifax the accommodation was confined to hotels, and the Halifax Hotels are sufficient only for their ordinary number of guests. Truro was prepared to make a handsome offer in the way of defraying the expense of the exhibition. Directions could be put up cheaper in Truro than in Halifax. Above all, exhibitions should have an educational object, and the beneficial effect, he thought, would be greater upon the inhabitants of an agricultural district than upon city people.

Mr. Blair then spoke. He thought he could not add much to what had been said by his colleagues; but was clearly of opinion that such exhibitions should not be held in the capital of the province. It was true, he said, that more people would attend the Exhibition in Halifax, for there was a larger population in the city, but, if held in the country, the right kind of people would have a better opportunity of being present. They could drive in their own wagons distances of 30, 40 or 50 miles, whilst city people might not care to go 60 or 80 miles by rail. At the recent Exhibition at Truro, \$175 had been collected in ten cent admissions in three hours. There was a great disadvantage in taking animals into the city, and at last Exhibition (1868), most of the animals exhibited were fancy stock owned by gentlemen in Halifax, who had very little intercourse with agriculturists. In New Brunswick and Ontario, the principle of rotation in regard to locality is

followed, and should also be adopted here if Provincial Exhibitions are to be successful.

The Vice-President invited an expression of the opinions of members of the Board.

Mr. Dakin said the Board had no power to alter the place, the Government had definitely fixed on Halifax. Mr. Matheson pointed out that if the Board really thought the place fixed unsuitable, they might express their opinion to the Government, and request reconsideration. Mr. O'Brien referred to the spirited action of the Truro people, but feared the time was past to make a change.

Mr. Cameron said that other parts of the Province had to be considered, especially the East, where there was no rail communication. If there was to be any change of place, he thought New Glasgow the true geographical centre, for Antigonish and Cape Breton had good right to be considered on account of their agricultural importance. But he doubted the wisdom of a change. Eastern farmers generally would like to have the Exhibition in Halifax, as stock and produce brought to Halifax would have a market, after being exhibited, that could not be looked for in Truro or New Glasgow.

Other members spoke of the necessity of persons in various parts of the Province visiting Halifax once a year at least, on business, and the Exhibition would be a convenient time for their doing so; besides many persons, especially young people, who had never been to Halifax, would rather go there to an Exhibition than to Truro.

The deputation then withdrew.

Moved by Mr. Sprott, that in the opinion of this Board the Provincial Exhibition of 1874 should be held in Halifax.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Whitman and passed unanimously.

The Secretary was instructed to insert a notice in the *Agricultural Journal*, to the effect that societies desiring Orchard Grass Seed may obtain a limited supply on presenting to Mr. Saunders a written order from the Member of the Board representing their County.

The Board then adjourned.

After the adjournment of the Board, the committee appointed to prepare the Prize list met, and made arrangements for dividing the labour, so as to promote the speedy completion of their work. In consequence of the recent wind and rain storms, John Ross, Esq., M. P. P., and B. Zwicker, Esq., Lunenburg, did not reach the city until after the business was nearly closed. Having gone over the Minutes with the President and Secretary, they approve generally of the proceedings.

GEORGE LAWSON, Secretary.

Mr. East's evidence before the Lords' Committee on the subject of the alleged scarcity of horses in England is very instructive, and a brief condensation of some of its leading points may not be without interest to our readers. Mr. East is a man of great experience as a horse dealer, a contractor, and a job-master, having regularly a thousand geldings at work. He buys young horses, breaks them at three years, but does not work them till four and a half. By sparing them for a year or a year and a half, two or three more years' work is got out of them. Horses in England are very much worse than they were, although there are still some as good as ever. Formerly it paid farmers to breed horses, now although prices have risen it does not pay them, for beef and mutton pay better. Fewer horses are kept on the farms; the Germans and French have of late years been buying up all the best mares they could obtain, consequently the English farmers have fewer animals to breed from, and these of an inferior description. Yorkshire used to supply large numbers, but now two cannot be got there where twenty were offered before. The farmers have sold their good mares at good prices to the foreigner, and now they have nothing left worth breeding from. Two very useful stallions that were put into the Beverley and Haulderness country had to be withdrawn from the stud because "there were no mares to put them to." Sucking colts that used to be worth eight pounds now sell for twenty-four. English contractors and dealers began to go to Ireland for horses. Mr. East went to Germany, but the horses although well broken and showy did not stand wear. Irish horses are now brought over to England in large numbers. The price of horses has been rising for the last ten years, but it is within the last two years that the greatest difference is observable. As the scarcity is due to decrease in breeding, it must continue to increase. All the horses of the London Omnibus Company are foreign, because they cannot get English. The remedy suggested for all this is that "the exportation of mares should be stopped;" but it seems rather late to lock the stable door now, and other suggestions are therefore made. Encourage breeding by taking taxes off working and breeding animals on a farm. Assist the farmers by stallions, as is done in Scotland, where at the Agricultural Show a premium of £50—two hundred and fifty dollars—is given for a horse with one condition, that he remain in the district to cover for a year. Then a noble Lord asks: Do you think £50 would make it worth the while of the owner of a stallion to keep him in the country and let him cover at an under price? Whereupon the business man replies: There