

His Worship the Mayor moved that Colonel Laurie be elected Vice President, which was seconded by Mr. Silver, and also passed unanimously.

Mr. Northup moved that the Hon. W. A. Henry be elected a Vice President, which was seconded by Mr. Mackinlay and passed unanimously.

On motion of Colonel Laurie, George Madill, Esq., Gay's River, was elected a Vice President.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, W. C. Silver, Esq., was elected Treasurer, and Dr. Lawson Secretary.

The following gentlemen were named as a committee, and were empowered to nominate four additional members for the outlying districts, so soon as the Society should be fully formed:—Joseph J. Northup, Esq., Charles Hamilton, Esq., J. P., Alex. Anderson, Esq., Wm. Veith, Esq., Wm. Duffus, Esq.,

Sir William Young then addressed the meeting in terms of congratulation and encouragement. It was highly gratifying, he said, to see so large an assembly of gentlemen interested in the industrial welfare of the country, coming forward to take a personal part in the promotion of agricultural improvement. The great importance of the agricultural interest was but very imperfectly known. Our fisheries, manufactures, and mines are all important, and it is not wise to exalt one branch of industry above another, but the fact should be better known that the produce raised by our farmers amounts in value to four times that of all the other producing classes together. Boards of Agriculture are apt to become hypothetical, and to aim at imaginary benefits, but our Provincial Board, in its importations of stock, and grain, and other improvements, had steadily kept in view, in a real and substantial manner, the actual wants of the country, and no one who reads the reports carefully could doubt but that twenty pounds worth of benefit had been derived from every one that had been given to the Board by the Legislature. He then referred to the pleasant green fields of Belgium with their cows and other cattle, perfect pictures of rural beauty; to the taste among the aristocracy of England for improved breeds of farm stock; to the large amount of capital employed by English tenant farmers, one man not infrequently having a capital of thirty thousand pounds laid out upon a rented farm.—and contrasted this with the condition of Nova Scotian farming. The Board is doing much good; the stock in many parts of the Province is exhibiting a marked improvement, and the best thing that could happen was a continuance and acceleration of the steady progress in which our farmers are now engaged. Mind is the origin of all industrial power, and material wealth. Lawyers and

Doctors, if they are to succeed, must spend all their spare time in reading and study. Much more must the farmer read—read the agricultural periodicals of the day, and teach his children to read them. If he does so, and keeps free of debt, he can look abroad upon the expanding buds and green fields of spring time with a satisfaction and independence and happiness unknown to either lawyer or politician. Let us all venerate the farmer.

Mr. Monaghan suggested that application should be made to Hon. Horace Capron for the Washington Reports.

His Worship the Mayor also addressed the meeting, urging the importance of reading. Every one who has a plough on his farm, or uses one, should read a periodical.

A vote of thanks was cordially passed to the Hon. the Chief Justice, and then adjourned the most spirited and successful agricultural meeting that has been held in Halifax for several years.

### Communications.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture:

TRURO, MARCH 17TH, 1871.

Sir,—While I have frequently been highly gratified in perusing notices of remarkable cows in agricultural papers of other countries, I have as often regretted that they did not appear in the *Journal of Agriculture* in relation to the kind of Nova Scotia. For various cogent reasons, it is very unfortunate that, to a large extent, the true mission of a cow is not properly understood by the farmers of this Province. The majority of them consider her an animal for getting stock, to raise for the butcher, and do not attach sufficient importance to her milk, and its quality for making butter. Many of these, by feeding their cows, when dry, on straw, and letting them stand out in cold weather, fail to accomplish successfully their chief object in keeping them, and do themselves as much injury financially as they occasion the animals physically, which they would soon discover from a different and more generous treatment. Even not a few of the members of our Provincial renowned Onslow Agricultural Society would look askance at a brother member who advocated the purchase of a thorough bred Ayrshire Bull, to displace some grade Durham not very celebrated for its milk strain, and if a committee were appointed to buy such an animal, ten chances to one if it would not select a bull of the larger breed, in whose stock are not combined to perfection all the qualities to be desired in horned cattle. But our Society is waking up in this respect, as may be judged from its late purchase of Captain Jinks, considered the handsomest, and about the

finest Devon bull in America. No doubt the Captain, and the Cheese Factory, shortly to be erected at Onslow, will do much to convince our farmers that beef is not every thing, but that an additional and equal profit may be derived from keeping cows in a milk and butter point of view as well.

To accomplish this great end, cows of the best breed to be had must be obtained; and not only that; they must be fed, and well fed. When the Cheese Factory gets in good running order, farmers will realize that if it is to be of any benefit to them, their cows must be well kept. They will find it manifestly for their interest to abandon the too-common and foolish practice of selling so much off their farms, that in many cases they are obliged to turn their cattle out to browse and grow poor in the Spring of the year, when they should be under cover, keeping up their condition and flow of milk, by converting farm produce into rich manure, with which the lands of their owners may be vastly improved.

The results attained from good cows well kept, have, in many cases, been most extraordinary; and in no case, where cows were worth keeping, have they failed to be otherwise than highly satisfactory.

A correspondent in the *Country Gentleman* gives an account of an astonishing yield of milk by an Ayrshire cow, bred and owned by Mr. S. Scammon, of Stratham, N. H. The writer of the communication from which we quote, took considerable personal trouble to ascertain the facts of the case, and vouches for the correctness of the statement. The cow was of a "pale yellow colour, and girths 6 feet 3 inches." The year that she was six years old Mr. Scammon kept an "exact account" of the butter made from her which amounted to six hundred and ten pounds. Her milk weighed 14,540 lbs.—being almost 40 lbs. per day, through the year, and nearly 12 lbs. per week of butter, through the year. Mr. Scammon gives his cow good hay during the winter, and generally two quarts of corn meal per day when she gives milk. In summer he gives her four quarts of meal per day, till July, then decreases to two quarts, and after haying turns her out to grass and gives no meal. He also gives her green corn stalks in their season. He thinks the meal is principally useful in increasing the quality rather than the quantity of the milk.

His two daughters, he says, milk this cow, "one on each side of her, with a large pale apiece." Would sell her "for \$1,000," and nothing less.

This cow "usually give milk the year round, but is usually dry one month before calving." She "runs all to milk," so that if no meal were given her she would get very thin."