

# The Farmer's Journal

And

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE LOWER CANADA BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

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### The Farmer's Journal.

THE FARMER'S JOURNAL.—With the present number we conclude the second volume. Parties desirous of continuing their subscriptions will please remit the amount to us during the current month. As formerly noticed the price for the ensuing year is 2s 6d per copy. We hope that the Presidents and Secretaries of the different Local Agricultural Societies will exert themselves to obtain a liberal increase to our subscription list.

#### PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION AT QUEBEC.

At a meeting of the Local Committee, held at the Exhibition Office, on the 23rd February, 1855, pursuant to notice.

#### Present :

- James Gibb, Esq., Chairman.
- W. H. Anderson, Esq.
- Hon. N. H. Belleau.
- Capt. Rhodes, M.P.F.
- Joseph Hamel, Esq.
- Johm Musson, Esq.
- Isaac R. Eckart, Secretary.

The Secretary reported, that the letter, of which a copy follows, had been transmitted to him by a member of the Local Committee, to be read at this meeting, which being done, it was proposed by Mr. Belleau, seconded by Mr. Anderson, and resolved unanimously,

That the letter just read, addressed to the Board of Agriculture, in answer to the Report of the said Board, as published in the *Farmer's Journal* of February, 1855, relative to the Provincial Exhibition, held at Quebec, in September, 1854—is approved by this Committee—and the President is requested to sign the same for the Committee, and

send a copy thereof in the name of the said Committee to the President of the Board of Agriculture, with a request that the same be published in the *Farmer's Journal*.

Copy of a Letter read at the Meeting of the Local Committee (of the Provincial Exhibition, held at Quebec in September, 1854,) on the 23rd Feby., 1855 :

The attention of the Local Committee of the Provincial Exhibition, held at Quebec in 1854—having been called to the proceedings of the Board of Agriculture of the 31st January, 1855, as published in the *Farmer's Journal* of 1st February, 1855—they deem it a duty they owe to the public as well as to themselves, to express their surprise and astonishment at the very unfair manner in which the Board of Agriculture are acting towards them, in circulating a Document whose object is to censure their Committee, more particularly, as no opportunity has been offered to the President or Secretary of the Local Committee to attend the above Meeting of the Board of Agriculture, when explanations could have been asked and given, which would have been alike satisfactory to the Board and to the public, who have been so unnecessarily called in to witness their proceedings.

It has not escaped the observation of the Local Committee, that the language of the published report of the proceedings in question, partakes fully of its intemperate character, and the Local Committee protest against this attempt of bringing private gentlemen by name into disrepute, for acts done by them in the fulfilment of an onerous and patriotic duty, because those acts do not suit the humour of the Board of Agriculture, arising from their own defective arrangements, or from a misapprehension of the relations Local Committees bear to the Board. The Local Committee particularly refer to the unusual introduction of the President's and Secretary's surname on all

possible and unnecessary occasions through the report, and to the appellation of "Mr. Secretary Eckart" being used when the terms, the President and the Secretary would have sufficed, and would have been considered usual and courteous. The Committee, therefore, regret the Board of Agriculture of Lower Canada should have so far forgot its own dignity, as to descend to such means of shewing its ill humour, especially when referring to a body of gentlemen, at least as respectable as themselves, and whose services in the cause of agriculture have been as arduous and as persevering. The Local Committee, in Quebec, in undertaking the duties (which the Board of Agriculture are now anxious to show would have been so much better performed by themselves) depended in some degree upon the correctness of an estimate furnished to them by the Board of the probable revenue and the probable expenditure. An estimate of such a nature, made in the month of February, of so eventsful a year as the past, could not be expected to prove very correct, especially as the Local Committee were not allowed to make any arrangements until the month of May, and then only on their informing the Minister of Agriculture of their intention to resign if they were not allowed to proceed; the cholera, the general elections, and the unusual price of labour and materials were sufficient causes to justify a breakdown, but the Local Committee determined to proceed though they received little or no assistance from the members of the Board of Agriculture, either previous to the show, or in contributions to the show.

The Local Committee however, depended upon such portion of the probable revenue, as alone appeared to be susceptible of certainty, viz. :—

Ten per cent allowed by law from Agricultural Societies ..... £750 0 0