

able one, at least in this section of Nova Scotia, for both putting in seed and in gathering harvest; consequently our farmers have their hay mows filled with fodder in many cases of a better quality than usual, and their stables in most cases crowded with cattle.

Hay, which is our most important crop, more so perhaps than in many other sections of the Province, we may consider a full average yield. Wheat, an unimportant item here. One of our members reports a yield of 52 bushels from about 3 acres, but few farmers sow any. Barley, not much sown but generally a fair crop. Scarcely any farmers grow Rye, those who do report a good crop. Oats, a larger breadth of this grain is grown by our farmers than that which is devoted to all the other kinds of grain. The yield for the present year was probably but about an average one. Buckwheat, considerable sown, crop good. Nearly all kinds of grain were more, or less injured by the August storm, but the damage inflicted here was slight, compared to that done in several parts of the Province.

We have to report an extraordinary crop of potatoes, the yield an unusually large one, and the crop excellent. One of our members reports about 1000 bushels from 4 acres, or an average of 250 bushels. Of other root crops there is complaint that the yield is poor. Fruit in this section is not important, and the crop this year one of the poorest.

In referring to the business of the society, we have to regret that farmers of Lower Stewiacke and vicinity are so reluctant in joining the Agricultural Society, and that so many of the members take little or no interest in the business and prosperity of the Society; and farther that the stock animals purchased and kept at so much expense, are not patronized as they should be.

A meeting of the officers was held Dec. 9th, 1872. In order to accommodate a number of the farmers residing in a section of the settlement called Fort Ellis, it was resolved that a third bull be provided for the coming summer, and Mr. Job Dart, Mr. W. H. Hogg, Mr. Wm. Daniel were appointed a committee to carry the resolution into effect. Mr. James Maxwell to have the supervision of the bull and see that he is kept in proper condition. Mr. Wm. Daniell agreed to keep the grade bull "Tam O'Shanter" for one year for the sum of forty dollars. Mr. W. W. Ramsay to have the supervision of this bull. Mr. E. E. Banks, Mr. W. M. Hiltz, and W. W. Pickings were appointed a committee to arrange the keeping of the Ayrshire bull "Young Prince of Wales" on the south side of the Stewiacke river. Mr. E. Banks to have the supervision of how he is kept. Mr. James Maxwell, Mr. E. E. Banks, and

W. M. Hiltz were appointed a committee to arrange for keeping the boar, or to exchange for another if they shall deem it advisable to do so. Mr. Hiltz to have the supervision of the boar and see that he is kept in a satisfactory condition. It was decided that all animals shall be kept exclusively for the use of members. Service fees were fixed at 50 cents each for cows, amount thus derived to go toward the expense of keeping, parties keeping the bulls to keep, and render a correct account to the secretary, each to collect his own account. Mr. Dart, Mr. Daneill and Mr. Hogg, purchased in February a fine large grade bull for the Fort, for the sum of forty four dollars, and made arrangements with Mr. Francis Fulton to keep the animal till the 1st of September for the sum of one dollar per week. The committee in charge of the Ayrshire found great difficulty in finding a place, but finally Mr. Elijah Dickin consented to keep the bull for the sum of sixty dollars for one year, and as this was the only quarters that could be found there was no choice. The committee in charge of the boar concluded to exchange and obtained a grade Suffolk, paying five dollars boot. The arrangements for keeping seem to have been faulty, the animal not having been kept in proper condition, and a charge made on the funds of \$4.50, while in previous years this part of our stock has always been self-sustaining.

September 10th, a special meeting of the officers was held. It was resolved that W. J. Pollock sell the grade bull at the Fort, to the best advantage he can, to be paid a commission; he was also empowered to sell the grade bull "Tam O'Shanter," provided he could find a market for him. The Secretary was instructed to enter for the Exhibition at Truro the thoroughbred Ayrshire bull "Young Prince of Wales," and the committee having the bull in charge to make arrangements to have the bull taken to and brought from the Exhibition. The bull was accordingly entered and exhibited, and awarded the 1st prize of \$5.00. Expenses incurred, entrance fee \$2.00, to Mr. Dickie for freight, time and expense, \$2.53, total, \$4.53. W. J. Pollock disposed of the grade bull "Francis Fulton," for the sum of \$36.00. Charges for commission, \$2.00, for freight to Halifax, \$1.00.—The charges for keeping the three bulls amounted to the sum of \$133. Total earnings for service fees \$73.00, so that a heavy charge falls on the funds of the society, this charge would be much less if all the members of the Society, would patronize as they should the stock animals, and further we have been under the necessity of keeping three bulls, owing to the bridge at R. G. Pollock's which has just been rebuilt, having been down during the past season; when this

bridge is up, one bull will do the work for which two have been required this summer.

The bulls have all been kept in good condition. The grade bull "Tam O'Shanter," has been in the society for service for four seasons, and has always given excellent satisfaction, and a great deal of very fine stock has been raised in the neighborhood from this bull. The thoroughbred Ayrshire "Young Prince of Wales," which we have had for three seasons, is now giving full and complete satisfaction to those who wish to breed Ayrshire cattle. A year or two some farmers were disposed to grumble, because the Ayrshire calves were smaller and seemed inferior to those got by the other bull. Now they point with pride to the same calves, grown to be the finest and handsomest yearlings in the flock.

Annual meeting held Dec. 2, 1873, in the lower school house, W. H. Hogg, President, in the chair. Statement of the affairs of the Society and report of the business done during the year given by the Secretary.

The following named officers were elected to office for the ensuing year: President, W. H. Hogg; Vice-President, E. C. Banks; Directors, James Fisher, Walter Daniell, R. J. Pollock, Alex. L. Archibald, and John McCollough. It was resolved that the grade bull, "Tam O'Shanter," be sold at public auction without restriction, and also the Society boar under the restriction that the purchaser shall keep the boar for service within the limits of the Society till next April, at a service fee for members of 50 cents.

Our financial condition not seeming to warrant a large donation it was resolved that the sum of twenty dollars be voted to the Provincial Exhibition of 1874. It having been decided that the Ayrshire bull should be kept another year it was resolved that a meeting of the officers be held on Wednesday evening, Dec. 10th, at the upper school house.

By the Treasurer's report it will be seen that there was a

Balance on last year's account of.....	\$ 30 34
Total expenditure for present year.....	200 75
receipts.....	192 32

Balance due Treasurer.....	\$ 38 77
----------------------------	----------

W. H. HOGG, President.

W. W. PICKINGS, Secretary.

Lower Stewiacke, Dec., 1873.

Lower Stewiacke Agricultural Society, in account with W. W. Pickings, Treasurer.

By Provincial grant, 1872.....	\$ 30 82
" Cash per members.....	46 00
" Earnings of Bull at F. Fulton's.....	37 50
" " " " W. Daniell's.....	13 50
" " " " E. Dickie's.....	22 50
" " " " Boar.....	1 00
" Prize for Y. P. Wales.....	5 00
" Sale of Grade Bul.....	36 00

\$192 32