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HALIFAX, 11th Dec., 1872.

From enquiries recently made by officers of Agricultural Societies, we fear that a misunderstanding exists in some districts as to the amount of grant to which the Counties will be entitled this year. The Act for Encouragement of Agriculture limits the grant to each County to \$240, which sum is rateably divided among the Societies of the County in proportion to the amount of subscriptions of Members attested as actually paid within the year. In March last, the Board passed a Resolution recommending that, if the annual grant for the Province were increased to \$10,000, the proportion for the Societies of each County should be increased to \$400. The Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly unanimously recommended that the wishes of the Central Board should be carried out; but the Committee's Report, although presented by Mr. Allison on the 6th April, was not adopted by the Legislature till 17th April, the day immediately preceding that on which the House was prorogued, when it

was too late to bring forward a Bill to give effect to the Resolution. There is, therefore, but one course left for the Board, namely, to distribute the customary grant of \$4,000, in the proportion of \$240 to each County, as provided by the existing Act.

At the October Meeting of the Board, application was made to the Members of the Government then in the City; and, whilst they felt that they could not undertake the responsibility of increasing the grants this year, yet they recommended that the matter should be brought before the Legislature during the ensuing Session, in order that the Resolution of the Agricultural Committee might be considered by the House.

The Annual Report of the American Commissioner of Agriculture has been received. He says that a single year's experience convinces him of the importance of the Department as an executive branch of the Government, for there is none other whose relations to the whole

people of the country are so intimate or so constant. Its operations and uses are so naturally connected with the diversified pursuits of practical life, that they cannot fail to greatly aid and give a right direction to the farmer, the gardener, the merchant, and the miner, in all those points of interest which concentrated knowledge is enabled to impart to those whose means of information are limited to the narrow sphere of their individual operations. "When we call to remembrance the large proportion of the world's inhabitants who depend upon agricultural pursuits for their support in life, it gives us encouragement to believe that the work we do reaches further and strikes deeper into the interests of mankind than any other that comes within the scope of human effort. It behooves the Government, therefore, to be foremost in teaching those lessons of progressive, practical, and scientific agriculture, in accordance with the measure of the great opportunities which we possess to learn them as they occur. The whole people of the earth are dependent for