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Omniū rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturā melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero: de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.

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CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Committee Room, Provincial Library, }
January 15th, 1878. }

The Executive Committee met this morning at 11 o'clock. Present:—Colonel Laurie, *President*; David Matheson, Esq., Pictou; Israel Longworth, Esq., Truro; W. E. Starratt, Esq., Paradise; Professor Lawson, *Secretary*.

In reply to the President, the Secretary reported that the only formal application received for the Provincial Exhibition of 1878 was that of the Colchester Committee, laid before the Board on the 4th of October last. He stated that there was likewise a letter of enquiry from Geo. Whitman, Esq., Annapolis Royal, but no definite offer had as yet been received from Annapolis county.

Mr. Starratt stated that recently much interest had been excited in Annapolis, and energetic steps had been taken by several prominent gentlemen in the county, with a view to securing the Exhibition for 1878 for Annapolis Royal, to which there was communication both by rail and water; that it was intended

to erect suitable Exhibition buildings, that a joint stock scheme had been proposed, and a meeting would be held on Monday, 21st inst., to consider the whole matter; he hoped that the committee of the Board would defer their decision till a future meeting, in order to give time for the necessary preliminary arrangements in Annapolis county.

Several members expressed regret that Annapolis had not taken earlier action in this matter.

The Secretary read from the Minutes the resolution passed by the Board on the 4th October, and printed in the *Journal of Agriculture* for November, as follows:

Resolved, That in consequence of the necessity of giving early information to the public respecting the arrangements for the Provincial Exhibition, and in order to afford ample time for the careful preparation of the prize list, and the erection of necessary Exhibition buildings, the Board require all applications from Local Committees, Societies, or other bodies willing to undertake the arrangement of next year's Exhibition (1878) to be sent to the Secretary of the Board not later than 31st December, 1877."

The committee considered fully the arguments presented by Col. Starratt, but nevertheless felt it to be their duty to

carry out the views of the Board as expressed in the above resolution requiring all offers to be lodged not later than 31st December, and to decide without unnecessary delay upon the county for the approaching exhibition. It had been a constant complaint that the prize lists for provincial exhibitions were not issued in time to enable intending competitors to make necessary preparations in the way of purchasing cattle and seeds, cultivation and feeding, and the object of the Board's resolution was put an end to this evil.

Mr. Longworth moved, Mr. Matheson seconded, and the committee resolved, that the delegation from Colchester be received.

Major Blair and Principal Calkin, of Truro, were accordingly introduced as representatives of the Colchester Exhibition Committee, to renew and support their application of the 4th of October. They guaranteed a prize list with agricultural prizes equal in value to that of the Kentville prize list of 1877, and with a probable additional prize list for manufactures. The committee were likewise prepared to expend upward of \$2000 in improvements upon the Exhibition grounds and buildings. Since the Provincial Exhibition held at Truro in 1876,