

this the present Association's building, which I believe is valued at about \$20,000, could be either sold or rented, and the annual interest on the proceeds of the sale, or the annual rent, could be appropriated for special prizes in the agricultural or the industrial arts. Will you have the goodness to give to the forgoing your careful consideration, and to bring it before the notice of the Council at its next meeting, which will commence to-morrow—and let me know if any action is taken in regard to it.

"Your obedient servant,

"JOHN CARLING,

"Commissioner.

"To the President of the Council of the Association of Agriculture and Arts for Ontario. Toronto, Ontario."

The foregoing official communication elicited from Hon. D. Christie, some very angry and undignified remarks which it were waste of space to insert here. Quite naturally some discussion followed, in the course of which personalities were freely indulged in. Others beside the President thought they saw in Mr. Carling's letter, a disposition to take the affairs of the Association under government management. We shall not just now discuss this point, but take occasion to drop the remark in passing, that it is idle to expect retrenchment or improvement in the affairs of the Board while under the present auspices; and if the government wish to make any alteration in the existing management, they had better do it by Legislation. Some reforms have already been effected in that way, and it is the only method likely to work.

The discussion closed with a resolution to lay the subject over until next meeting of the Board.

POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

A communication from this Society, asking for a grant of \$100 per annum from the Agricultural Association, was, at the suggestion of Mr. Rykert, allowed to stand over for consideration at the next meeting.

IMPORTATION OF CATTLE.

The Secretary submitted the following memorial to the Senate for the approval of the Board:

To the Honourable, the Senate of the Dominion of Canada, in Parliament Assembled:

The Petition of the Council at the Agricultural and Arts Association of the Province of Ontario,

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

That great benefit has heretofore resulted to the Agricultural interests of Canada, from the importation from Great Britain and foreign countries, of animals of superior breeds, for the purpose of improving the existing breeds of the country, and that the general prosperity of the country has been thereby promoted.

That there is much risk and expense involved in the importing of such superior animals, and that therefore it is highly desirable that such importation should not be burdened with any additional cost

which can be avoided; but that on the contrary, it should be encouraged by a liberal policy on the part of the Government.

That the existing Customs duty of \$15 per head on horses, and \$10 per head on horned cattle, \$1 per head on sheep, and \$2 per head on swine, tends to discourage the importation of superior animals for breeding purposes, and thereby retards the progress of one of the most important interests of Agriculture, without being of any corresponding advantage to the public revenue.

Your petitioners therefore pray, that such duties may be remitted in so far as they relate to animals of superior breeds imported for breeding purposes.

And your petitioners, &c., &c.

The memorial was adopted without discussion.

Some further business of an unimportant nature was then disposed off, and the meeting adjourned till the 1st of June next.

THE MONTREAL HERALD ON FREE GRANTS AND HOMESTEADS.

The Montreal Herald is not pleased with the appointment of the Ontario Government of a Commissioner whose duty it is to point out to the people of England the advantages offered by Canada to intending emigrants, and in its anxiety to say ill-natured things of Mr. White, has made a most remarkable discovery. Its issue of the 2nd April contains the following:

"OUR EMIGRATION AGENTS IN EUROPE.—According to the proverb, there was an island of the ancient world whose inhabitants, without exception, had a remarkably poor character in respect to veracity. We hope that the character of Canadians in this respect will not be judged by the representative which the Province of Ontario has sent to England; but certainly it is a little astounding to read that Mr. White would make such a statement as the following even at Kendal, when there are so many hundreds of persons in England who must know that what he said was wholly false.

Mr. White was right enough to show the advantages of Canada as a place for settlement; but we fear that at all events society will not be among the blessings expected, if a man who will publicly affirm that the American government does not give free grants to settlers, when it is notorious that our free grant system is copied from theirs, is the best man who can be picked out for an important mission, Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald had better look after either his agent or the reputation of his province. Mr. White is reported to have said:

"And this reminded him of a very popular error which he found prevailing in England on the subject of the American homestead laws. He (Mr. White) had met many gentlemen who had rather confused notions of the nature of the American homestead laws; who imagined that these laws meant the grant of a homestead to actual settlers, when, in reality, they simply meant the protection of the homestead after it had been acquired and paid for up to a certain valuation. The distinction ought not to be overlooked; and it was important to know that there was not in the United States, from one