

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY, 1866.

No. 11.

CONTENTS:

	PAGE.		PAGE.
Remarks on the Season.....	97	DIGNY COUNTY—Digny Central Agricultural Society—Claro Agricultural Society.....	101
Notice to Secretaries.....	97	GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY—Glenelg Agricultural Society.....	101
Abstract of Reports of Agricultural Societies.....	97	HALIFAX COUNTY—Western Halifax, and Dartmouth Agricultural Societies.....	102
ANNAPOLIS COUNTY—Eastern Annapolis Society—Bridgetown Agricultural Society.....	97	HANTS COUNTY—Noel, Newport, and Windsor Agricul'tral Societies.....	102
ANTIGONISH COUNTY—Antigonish Agricultural Society.....	98	INVERNESS COUNTY—North-East Margaree, Mabou, Port Hood, and South-West Margaree Agricultural Societies.....	102
CAPE BRETON COUNTY—North Sydney, Sydney, and Boularderie Agricultural Societies.....	98	KINGS COUNTY—Union of East Cornwallis, Kings County and Aylesford Agricultural Societies.....	103
COLCHESTER COUNTY—Tatamagouche, Shubenacadie and Upper Lunenburg Societies.....	99		
CUMBERLAND COUNTY—Wallace, Parrsboro, Amherst, Minudie, and Barronsfield Societies.....	100		

REMARKS ON THE SEASON.

Halifax, 12th January, 1866.

The Secretaries of several Societies have been so dilatory in sending in their Annual Reports that the publication of the present number has been delayed beyond the accustomed time. Yet it is highly gratifying that so many satisfactory reports have been received. From the terms of these reports it is evident that the farmers of the Province are becoming more fully alive than heretofore to the importance of agricultural improvement, both as regards the culture of the soil and the raising of stock.

The winter promises so far to be a severe one, but at the same time suitable and profitable for work in the woods. Last season our most severe weather in Halifax county was immediately before Christmas, when the thermometer stood a few degrees below zero for two days. But this season the cold period has occurred during the first and second weeks of January. With the thermometer descended below zero on 5th Jan'y, descending on the following day from 6° to 15° below zero. On the morning of the 7th, it was still 13° below zero, rose in the afternoon to 10° stood during the whole of the following day at 8° below; on the morning of the 9th, had risen to 3 above zero, in the evening to 13°, morning of the 10th to 15° and on the evening of that day to 15° above zero. The long continuance of severe weather has proved destructive to potatoes and other roots in cellars, in many cases. The lakes are now coated with a thick pavement of ice, and the ice-crop is being actively reaped at Rocky Lake, where a new Ice House of great size is in course of erection. The cradle hills in the woods are smoothed over by the snow, and the lumbermen have entered with spirit upon their winter labours.

In England much is being said and done about the Rinderpest, which unfortunately still continues its ravages. The Royal Agricultural Society of England has resolved to hold no Exhibition of Cattle until 1867. The Smithfield Club Cattle Show just held, has been very successful, although some of the finest animals in England were prevented from being shown by rules of the club with reference to Rinderpest.

The Royal Horticultural Society held its International Show of Fruit and Vegetables from 9th to 16th December. It must be highly gratifying to our friends in Cornwallis and Annapolis to learn that in the Foreign Department of the Exhibition the Gold Medal of the Society offered for the best representative collection of Fruit and Vegetables from any of the Colonies, was awarded to the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, for what is described in the Report as "a large and fine collection of Apples; and a few Pears, the latter, however, not in good condition. The apples are for the most part large and fine, though scarcely equal to those shown from the same Colony on former occasions. Besides many local varieties, Baldwin, Aesopus Spitzenberg, Northern Spy, Ribston Pippin, Blenheim Pippin, Emperor Alexander, Gloria Mundi, Rhode Island Greening, Gravenstein and Dutch Codlin are large and fine. We also noticed the old Golden Pippin, King apple, a fine-looking variety, red on the sunny-side; Black's Red; Blue Pearmain; Black Detroit, Pomme d'Api and Margaret Pippin."

A gold medal is likewise awarded to the Horticultural Society of Copenhagen for a collection of Danish apples, including many of the finest English sorts, together with some showy apples, such as Pigeon Rouge, Nonnetty, a long-shaped variety mottled with red, Princess Alexandra, a new Danish apple, with a clear, yellow skin, &c.

NOTICE TO THE SECRETARIES AND OTHER OFFICERS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

All Societies desiring to participate in the government grant for 1866 will be required to send in to the Secretary of the Board, not later than 1st September 1866, a certificate of payment of the annual subscriptions for the year, duly certified by the oath of the Secretary of the Society, in terms of the Act.

Societies neglecting to comply, must necessarily be excluded from participation in the grant for the year.

ABSTRACT OF REPORTS, &c., OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES FOR THE PAST YEAR.

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

EASTERN ANNAPOPLIS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

In presenting their report for the past year, the officers and directors of the Eastern Annapolis Agricultural Society have to regret the little which has been done, in comparison to what might have been done had larger means been placed at their disposal; but in this fine part of the county of Annapolis, where almost every resident is engaged in agricultural pursuits, and where it might reasonably be supposed that more or less interest would be shewn in its improvement, there has been found great difficulty in obtaining the requisite number of subscribers to entitle the society to their portion of the provincial grant for the present year. Let us hope that in future each individual member will use his utmost exertions among his friends and neighbors that we may yet have to boast of being, if not the best at least one of the best agricultural so-