

premium be offered in the prize list for any new varieties of wheat produced by such experiments as those of Mr. Arnold. In other words, they did nothing at all. Supervision, under the circumstances, is an impertinence and a farce, while the offer of a trumpety \$4 prize for so great a boon to the country as the production of a new variety of wheat, is childish trifling. The least that could have been done at all, in keeping with the importance of the matter, would have been to appoint a Committee to report on these wheats, and to negotiate with Mr. Arnold for their purchase, in order that the whole country may get the benefit of these experiments. We cannot expect people to spend time and money in patriotic endeavours to improve our agriculture without their getting some recompense for it. Mr. Arnold is a most intelligent and worthy man, but he is not wealthy, and cannot afford to make the country a present of the fruits of his patient toil and outlay of time and money. What a ridiculous affair it is to offer such a man, after due "supervision" by an Executive Committee, the bare chance of carrying off a prize of \$4 at some future Provincial Exhibition! In thus giving the go-by to a most important practical matter, the Council have lost a fine opportunity of atoning somewhat for past shortcomings, and proving that they have aspirations toward public usefulness. Why didn't they resolve to retrench "Petty Cash," "Travelling Expenses," "Hotel Bills," "Liquors and Cigars," and appropriate one or two hundred dollars toward the improvement of seed wheat? They may depend upon it that the country won't stand dignified official trifling much longer, but will begin to ask what the Council costs, what it does for the interests of agriculture, and whether it is really worth the expense of its maintenance.

A GOOD SEED HOUSE.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. C. & A. Sharpe, seed merchants, Guelph, Ont., which will be found in our advertising department. This firm is connected with one of the most extensive and respectable seed growing establishments in England, and has now in stock a large and choice assortment of imported turnip, mangel, carrot, and other varieties of seeds for the requirements

of agriculturists. As a specialty, we may particularize their celebrated "Sharpe's Improved Swede," which, after several years of the most careful cultivation upon the seed farms of Messrs. H. & F. Sharpe, Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire, England, has proved itself to be one of the most productive and hardy of the purple-top varieties of Swedish turnips.

We may also mention that they have in stock the best collection of grasses, clovers, and trefoils that we have seen in any establishment in Canada, including those varieties peculiarly adapted to the climate of this country for laying down permanent meadow and pasture, which is a branch of agriculture we regret to see so much neglected. No farm can be considered to be well managed without its having a good large proportion of permanent meadow and pasturage, which soon proves itself to be the most profitable and least expensive part of the farm, if only the proper seeds are selected for the seeding down. Those who wish to experiment upon ten or twenty acres of land for this purpose may apply with all confidence to Messrs. C. & A. Sharpe, of Guelph, for the names and varieties of clovers and grass seeds most suitable for this branch of agriculture.

COUNCIL OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND ARTS ASSOCIATION.

This body has held two meetings since our last issue, one at Toronto, March 17th, and the other at London, March 31st. Its doings may be very briefly summed up. It was resolved again to award the Prince of Wales prize for the best herd of Short-Horns, to offer a \$30 prize for the best herd of cattle in each of the other classes, to expunge the class of Angus cattle from the list; to re-enact the sheep rules of last year; to offer a prize of \$50 and a diploma for the best general collection of fruit, and some arrangements were made with the Local Committee about extra accommodation for the forthcoming exhibition. The Local Committee consists of Messrs. J. Johnson, (Sunnyside), Chairman; W. McBride, Secretary, and Mr. Graydon, Treasurer.

The Monthly Financial statement, which appears in our advertising department, will repay attentive perusal. Our readers will especially note the fact, that not a cent of balance has as yet been handed over by the late Treasurer to his successor in office.