

Barriefield, near Kingston, Dec. 1850.

*To the President, Vice President, and Directors of the Agricultural Society in the County of*

GENTLEMEN,—

In the last Session of the Provincial Parliament the Legislature passed an Act Cap. 73, for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture in this Province, said Board to consist of ten members, three of whom are appointed as by Law set forth in the 2nd and 3rd Sections of said Act. The 4th Section provides the manner of electing the other seven members, viz., the Directors of each County Agricultural Society in Upper Canada, shall at their first regular meeting, next after the annual meeting of the Society, elect seven persons residing in the vicinity of, or at convenient distances from the City of Toronto, &c.,—a return of such Election to be made within one week thereafter to the Provincial Secretary, who shall in the month of June next, after he shall have received six County Lists, cause to be made a full List to be called the "Board List," &c. From these quotations it is evident that the intention and spirit of the Law clearly means, that the election is to be made by the new County Directors that shall be chosen at the annual meeting for 1851. Therefore after the routine business of the past year shall have been gone through at the annual meeting, and the new Directors for the ensuing year chosen, it may then be considered a regular meeting of the new Board; and to save time it is suggested to be perfectly in order amongst other business before the meeting adjourn, that the Directors of the County Society, may then and there, go into the election of members of the Agricultural Board, and to make returns thereof accordingly.

With regard to the names of persons to be elected, "residing in the vicinity of, or at convenient distances from the City of Toronto," it may so happen that Directors of County Agricultural Societies at a distance, have not an opportunity of knowing a sufficient number of fit persons residing in the locality mentioned to fill up the Board.—To remedy this difficulty, the Secretary has been instructed to forward you the names of several gentlemen for your consideration, from whom the number required by Law might be chosen;—of course every County Society have it in their power to select such other persons, residing in that vicinity, as in their judgment may be deemed most advantageous to the Country. This point being settled and a

Board of Agriculture once formed, with a Professorship attached thereto; the Institution may hereafter be so moulded and shaped into a system of working, that will prove exceedingly beneficial to the growing community of this fine Province.

The members of the Board of Agriculture will also compose the Council of the Agricultural Association, with power to act in all matters concerning its affairs during the recess of the regular meetings; and the Presidents of the several County Agricultural Societies will hereafter be the Directors of the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada. This augurs well, and opens to the friends of agriculture a broad field of usefulness in carrying forward the prosperity of our Agricultural Association, which has increased in magnitude since its commencement far beyond the most sanguine expectations of its numerous supporters.

The last year's Exhibition at Niagara went off highly satisfactory with all demands liquidated, leaving the Association in a flourishing condition; when the several Societies have paid in the sums promised for 1850 there will be a respectable balance in hand. With this balance, until a permanent grant be made by the Government to the Association, it must depend for its main support on the liberality of the members of the County and Township Societies; and I have full confidence that the annual subscriptions from that source will fully justify the expectations of the Canadian Public; and to prevent any disappointment or difficulty in arranging the Scale of Premiums at the annual meeting, it is recommended that your Society vote their subscriptions to the Association, at the same time when the election of the members of the Agricultural Board is made.

The annual meeting of the Agricultural Association, will be holden in the City of Toronto, on the second Tuesday in June next; and now that we shall have a regular, organised Board of Directors in the Presidents of all the County Societies from every section of the country, we confidentially trust as that season of the year will be very convenient for travelling, that a full attendance will be present to give their assistance in preparing a higher scale of suitable premiums, and transacting other public business connected with holding the next exhibition at Brockville, where it has been voted to take place on the 17th, 18th, and 19th September, 1851.

These national Exhibitions offer a powerful impetus to the progress of agricultural and mechanical improvements; the Provincial Society from its extended means offers higher premiums than County Societies can afford, thereby bringing together the best animals and articles of