

cattle show, as every farmer is, to some extent, a fruit grower.

Those of the farmers who visited that exhibition must have been struck with the quantity, quality, and variety of apples, especially of the first exhibited there, and it is firmly believed that a finer display of apples never took place in Nova Scotia on any occasion,—a display which justly merited the eulogies of foreigners and our own fruit growers.

Fruit growing is fast becoming an important interest in this country, and it behoves every farmer who attempts to cultivate fruit to make himself somewhat acquainted with the best sorts, habits and growth of different varieties of apples, the diseases of them, and the insects which destroy and damage the fruit.

The old adage applies with much force to fruit cultivation—"What is worth doing is worth doing well."

We are happy to be able to say that while in many parts of Nova Scotia, and in some portions of our county, there was a partial failure of the apple crop, that in this section, although not a full average crop, there was a fair one and of a decidedly superior quality, and reaching prices hitherto unknown with us. The more the apple is cultivated the more it becomes a source of food for the human family, and it is one of the most wholesome of all fruits.

In reference to the various crops of the season we beg to report as follows:—Hay is a little below the average of good seasons, but it is of excellent quality, and has seldom been secured in better condition. This crop, to the farmers of King's county, must always be looked upon with importance, in consequence of the long and unceasing interest taken in the growth and fattening of neat cattle. The prudent farmer will always set apart sufficient grounds for this crop, and above all others will use that care and skill in securing it, which its importance demands.

Wheat is very far below an average crop, and, in fact, by the small quantity sowed by the farmers, may be said to be no crop at all in proportion to its importance as human food. More faithful trials might have been made with winter wheat, and some sorts which are said to resist the weevil in Canada and the United States, to a great extent. An agricultural district, like King's Co., should produce more bread.

Rye, hardly an average crop, especially the spring sown, winter rye being much the best.

Oats, early sown proving, although a light crop, yet of good quality; while the late sown, in most instances, was not only a small yield, but of light weight.

Barley, good, but little sown. We would recommend the much larger cultivation of the crop, with oats especially, for hog and horse feed.—This is a pretty certain crop, affords a large amount of nutriment, and does not require the highest cultivated land.

Indian corn was more than the average crop, and with some persons exceedingly well filled and a good yield. We are of the opinion that with care in planting, and the selection of good seeds of the earlier sorts, there is no difficulty in raising a fair crop of corn in a large majority of the seasons. With the present high prices abroad, this subject is worthy the attention of the farmers of this valley.

Potatoes being the principal cultivated crop in this section of the country, too much cannot be said upon the subject, and without this report going into the merits of the question how far the farmers may be justified in devoting so much of their lands to this crop, the mode of cultivation, the sorts of potatoes, how cultivated, and other points connected therewith, we will just say, that from recent information, a check will be given to the exportation of potatoes to the U. States, in consequence of the existing trade regulations being about to be terminated. It becomes a matter of importance, then, what crop can be substituted at present, to a certain extent, for the potato in King's county? As regards the yield, we believe it will be an average crop,

and we are gratified to be able to report them well secured and comparatively free from disease.

Turnips are a light yield and of a very indifferent quality, which, we think, largely owing to the very dry season.

I beg to say that we have examined the several bills and accounts presented to the society, and find them as far as we know to be correct, and are gratified to know that up to this meeting the income of the society for the past year when collected, will quite meet the expenditure as will be shown by the report of the Secretary and Treasurer.

The two bulls belonging to the society are in fair condition for the season of the year.

The duties of the Secretary for the year have been arduous, involving considerable time and trouble, and we would recommend that the sum of fifteen dollars be given to him as a remuneration for his services, and think the society are largely indebted to that gentleman for the efficient and faithful manner in which he has performed his duties.

W. E. E. Dickey, Lower Canard, has been elected Secretary, in room of Dr. Hamilton, who has retired, but still takes an active interest in the society.

ROBT. W. STARR, *Chairman*.  
LEANDER EATON,  
JONATHAN RAND, } *Council*.  
J. T. NEWCOMB,

Cornwallis, December, 1865.

#### KING'S COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

From the report it appears that the society has had an addition of twelve members during the past year, and its affairs are in a flourishing condition, except a low state of funds which was caused by a grant of \$80 to an Agricultural Exhibition. Number of members, 53.

The society took during the year some 40 copies of the Albany Cultivator, which have been extensively read, and which have diffused a vast amount of useful information, also ten copies of the "Journal of Agriculture," which are highly prized by its members. There have been visible improvements made in agriculture in this district since agricultural papers have been circulated; lands are better tilled, better fenced, stock much improved and better kept, fruit trees extensively planted and well cared for.

The society purchased a very superior bull from Cumberland County in the spring, and sold one which has been kept for three years, and intend to purchase one in his stead next spring; its stock now consists of one bull, two boar pigs, one Canadian ram, and one purchased at the sale of those imported from New Brunswick, last year; it also owns a corn shelter, a seed sower, a sub-soil plough, and a large roller, all for the use of its members.

The society expended \$80.00 towards the Exhibition held in Woolville, in October, which was well attended; a list of prizes have already been published. This sum, with the ordinary expenses of the society, and keeping its stock, has brought the society a little in debt to the treasurer.

The society did not hold its annual ploughing match this year, there not being any funds for that purpose.

With respect to the crops of the past season, the hay crop was not so abundant as last year, but was housed in excellent condition, the surplus of the last year's crop will fully supply the deficiency. But little wheat was sown in this district, and that sown in May was mostly destroyed by the weevil; a few fields sown in June partially escaped that destructive insect. A large breadth of land was planted with potatoes, crop good but not so abundant as last year, especially on dry soils, the tubers are excellent in quality and are keeping well in the cellars; large quantities are being shipped to the United States at remunerative prices. The usual breadth

was sown with oats, but the yield is below an average, and the straw short. A small breadth was planted with Indian corn and the crop good. Of rye and barley but little was sown here; the latter was a small crop. The vegetable crops were short, especially turnips and carrots.

The fruit crop was a partial failure; the crop of apples was very light, and also pears, but few plums, and cherries almost a total failure.

The principal crop cultivated by the farmers here is potatoes, and consequently they have to plant their lands for several years in succession; the soil is replenished with compost and marsh mud. Agricultural Exhibitions are doing much to stimulate the farmers here. Improvements are visible in every part of the district.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year at the annual meeting; viz:—

*President*, Stephen Gould; *Vice-President*, Leonard Newcomb; *2nd Vice-President*, Amos Black; *Secretary and Treasurer*, George Hamilton; *Assistant*, Thomas Tuse. *Directors*: William Kent, Edward P. Borden, William Falkner, George E. Cox.

*RECEIPTS*:—Balance in hand 1864, £22 14s. 7d.; bull, pigs, ram, &c., sold, and for services, £28 5s. 6d.; dues from members, £12 10s.; provincial grant, £16 15s.; total £79 14s. 9d. *Payments*:—bull purchased £12 10s.; amount for prizes, £20; boar pig, £2 14s. 6d.; do. £2 15s. 6d.; keep of animals, £36 4s. 2d.; working expenses, £5 15s. 10d.; balance due to Treasurer, December, 1865, 5s. 3d.

Lower Horton, Jan. 3rd, 1866.

#### AYLESFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

As the Aylesford Agricultural Society has been so lately organized, the report will not date far back; in November we tried to procure a ram but it being so late in the fall we could not get one to be of any benefit this year; our funds are therefore all in hand, but the Society has decided that the funds in hand would be better applied in the importation of Stock than in Shows, and they hope the Central Board will give their approval of such an appropriation.

The following are the names of the persons chosen for office for the year 1866:—*President*, Archibald Walker; *Vice-President*, Alexander Jacques; *Secretary*, John Foster; *Treasurer*, William Rhodes. *Directors*, George Foster, James Pierce, Edward Armstrong, Thos. Outhet, James P. Roach.

#### RULES OF THE AYLESFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

1st.—This Society shall be called the "Aylesford Agricultural Society." Its object shall be to promote the interest of farmers generally and this district particularly.

2nd.—The business of this Society shall be conducted by a committee consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and not more than five directors; any five of whom shall be a quorum to transact business.

3rd.—It shall be the business of the committee to carry all resolutions passed at any general meeting into effect.

4th.—There shall be one meeting of the society held annually on the first Tuesday in December, and special meetings shall be called when the business of the society require it.

5th.—Office bearers for the coming year shall be chosen annually by ballot at the meeting in December.

6th.—Any person may become a member of this society by paying one dollar to the treasurer annually; none shall be considered a member until this paid.

7th.—These rules may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a majority of the members present.

8th.—All property belonging to this society shall at all times be held and owned by the existing members.

ARCHIBALD WALKER, *President*.  
JOHN FOSTER, *Secretary*.