

**MEGANTIC NO. 2 AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

THE income of the Society for the year 1865 was \$515; the disbursements being as follows:

Prizes paid at fall show.....\$224  
Amount paid for a ram..... 57

Other general expenses left \$36 in hand. The directors, in their report, recommend larger prizes for the ploughing match, so as to bring more competition. The show of cattle and sheep was most satisfactory. The grain, owing to the very fine season for harvesting, was very beautiful, and of excellent quality. In order to infuse fresh blood into the stock of sheep in the county, the directors have wisely purchased a first rate pure bred Leicester Ram, every member having the privilege of getting two ewes put to him. We are glad to observe that all have availed themselves of the op-

portunity, and have no doubt that the stock will be greatly improved by the change. The directors have, moreover, ordered four bushels of flax seed to be imported through the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture—members of the Society being entitled to an equal share of the seed gratis, provided they are willing to give it a fair trial.

**QUEBEC CITY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

THE income of the Society for the year 1865 amounts to \$673 from various sources, including subscriptions of 67 members, and service rendered by the imported stallion Canwell to the amount of \$300. The keeping of this stallion entails most of the expenditure of the Society; the balance of the revenue remains in the hands of the secretary, to the amount of \$232.

**EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.**

**ORNAMENTS OF THE FARMERY.**

A country home should be without poultry—a general collection of sorts, not of any particular fancy breed. Nearly every animal, if it had to be purchased at a high figure, and imported at that, would be considered highly ornamental. Some specimens, however common, are really ornamental upon lawn, walk, garden, or farmyard. Gail Hamilton expresses our notions upon the poultry question. She says:

“Where is there a more magnificent bird than the Rooster? What a lofty air! What a spirited pose of the head! Note his elaborately scalloped comb, stately step-pings, the lithe, quick, graceful motions of his arching neck. Mark his brilliant plumage, smooth and lustrous as satin, soft as floss silk. What necklace of a duchess ever surpassed in beauty the circle of feathers which he wears, layer shooting over layer, up and down, hither and thither, an amber waterfall, swift and soundless as the light, but never disturbing the matchless order of his array? What plume from African deserts can rival the rich hues, the graceful curves, and the palm-like erectness of his tail? All his colors are tropical in depth and intensity. With every quick motion the tints change as in a prism, and

each tint is more splendid than the last; green more beautiful than any green, except that of a duck's neck; brown infiltrated with gold, and ranging through the whole gamut of its possibilities. I am not sure that this last is correct in point of expression, but is correct in point of sense, as any one who ever saw a red rooster will bear witness.

“Hens are not intrinsically handsome, but they abundantly prove the truth of the old adage, ‘Handsome is that handsome does.’ Lord Kaimes describes one kind of beauty as that founded on the relations of objects. And I am sure that the relation of a hen to a dozen fair, white, pure eggs, and the relations of those eggs to puddings and custards, and the twenty-five cents which they can have for the asking, make even an ungainly hen, like many heroines in novels, ‘not beautiful but very interesting.’ ‘Twenty thousand dollars,’ said a connoisseur in such matters, ‘is a handsome feature in any lady's face.’ And the ‘cut-cut-ca-D-A-H-cut’ of a hen whose word is as good as her bond for an egg a day, is a handsome feature in any bird's coat.”

The usefulness of poultry is not appreciated, because unfed birds will do a little mischief sometimes. They are great insect destroyers.—*N. Y. Tribune.*