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*Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero: de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.*

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HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH, 1885.

No. 55.

#### BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The Central Board of Agriculture met in one of the up-stairs library rooms in the old province building at 10 a.m., 10th March. Present: Major-General Laurie, Oakfield; Hon. Isidore LeBlanc, M. E. C., Arichat; I. Longworth, Truro; Colonel W. E. Starratt, Paradise, Ann.; C. E. Brown, Yarmouth; John McKeen, Mabou, C. B.; Prof. Lawson, Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Hon. Mr. LeBlanc, Major-General Laurie was elected president of the board for the year.

Moved by Col. Starratt, that Mr. Brown be elected vice-president, Mr. Brown declined the nomination, owing to the distance of his place of residence (Yarmouth) from Halifax, and moved that Mr. Longworth be elected vice-president, which was seconded by Hon. Mr. LeBlanc and passed unanimously,

Moved by Col. Starratt, seconded by Mr. McKeen, and passed, that Professor Lawson be appointed secretary and treasurer to the board.

On motion of Mr. McKeen, seconded by Mr. Brown, the following were appointed an executive committee: The president, vice-president, Colonel Starratt, and Hon. Mr. LeBlanc.

Mr. Brown submitted application and by-laws of a new agricultural society, to embrace the whole of Shelburne county east of Jordan River, and moved, seconded by Colonel Starratt, that the society be recognized as qualified for the ensuing

year. The by-laws having been read and considered in detail, were sanctioned.

Colonel Starratt presented an application from Messrs. E. & O. Chase for premiums on sheep imported by them.

The president and Hon. Mr. LeBlanc having been requested to confer with the chairman of the agricultural committee of the house of assembly, reported that a conference with that body had been arranged for Thursday morning at eleven o'clock.

The executive committee reported that, for reasons given, they had found it necessary to sell the Jersey bull Litchfield 15th, and, on motion of Mr. McKeen, seconded by Colonel Starratt, this action was approved of and the sale sanctioned.

The board adjourned at 1. p. m.

2.30 P. M.—Business resumed Same members present.

The secretary was directed to make application to certain societies for explanations of their accounts and operations during the past year before issuing warrants for their grants.

The secretary laid before the board copy of a bill now before the House of Commons, which he had received from the Hon. Wm. Ross, intitled: "An act respecting infectious or contagious diseases affecting animals."

The bill was read.

Moved by Mr. McKeen, seconded by Mr. Longworth, and resolved, that the Board represent to the hon. the minister of agriculture, that section 13, providing

for compulsory slaughter, be so amended that the compensation limit shall be one-third, or two-thirds, in the respective cases provided for, of the real value of the animal destroyed, to be determined by competent appraisors, otherwise the provision may entail injustice in the case of valuable horses and thoroughbred animals, (the highest compensation allowable by the act as it stands at present being \$20 and \$40, respectively.)

Moved by Col. Starratt, seconded by Mr. McKeen, and passed: That as the wording of section 10 does not appear to apply to the municipal system of Nova Scotia, where there are no reeves nor mayors, of townships, the authority given under this section to such mayors and reeves be extended to wardens of counties.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Colonel Starratt, and resolved:

The Board desire to press upon the earnest attention of the hon. minister of agriculture the urgent necessity that exists for the establishment of a quarantine station for the lower provinces, at Halifax, the principal port of call for ocean steamers from Europe; and further, in view of the great interchange of special breeds of thoroughbred cattle between western Nova Scotia and the Atlantic coast states of the Union, that a quarantine station be also established at Yarmouth, N. S., where special facilities exist at the hospital station owned by the Dominion government and known as Bunker's island.