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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.

VOL. IV.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL, 1881.

No. 15.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Ten Copies of this Journal are sent, Postage Prépaid, to every Agricultural Society in the Province, in payment of which a reduced charge of \$4 is deducted annually from each Society's Grant. Societies requiring their copies addressed separately to individual Members will be charged \$5. Any greater number of Copies to one address may be obtained at the reduced rate. The Annual Subscription for a Single Copy is Fifty Cents, payable strictly in advance. Subscribers wishing to have the "Journal" mailed regularly should send their address, accompanied by fifty cents, to A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax.

HALIFAX, 10th April, 1881.

Warrants have been sent to Secretaries of Agricultural Societies throughout the Province for the respective amounts of their grants for 1880, as per list published in the annual report to the Legislature. Copies of the annual report of the Central Board of Agriculture will be mailed to Secretaries, as usual, in course of a few days.

PROFESSOR LAWSON, will lecture on "Rotation of Crops and Use of Natural and Artificial Manures," to the New Glasgow Agricultural Society, on Tuesday, 19th April.

The losses in cattle in Nebraska this winter have been enormous. At the opening of winter there were estimated to be half a million head upon the Nebraska ranches, worth an average of \$15 per head, or \$7,500,000 in all.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF NOVA SCOTIA, FOR YEAR 1880.

Hon. S. H. Holmes, Provincial Secretary:

SIR,—We have the honor to submit to you, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislature, a Report of the Proceedings of the Central Board of Agriculture for the year 1880, together with the Treasurer's Accounts and relative vouchers, which have been duly examined. We also submit an Abstract of the Annual Reports of Agricultural Societies throughout the Province, embracing a statement of their operations during the year, and the Lists of Prizes awarded at the Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition held at Kentville, and the Cape Breton Island Exhibition held at Baddeck.

The Returns of Societies have been carefully examined by the Executive Committee of the Board, and found to be upon the whole satisfactory. During the previous year several of the Societies had

expended large portions of their funds in the purchase of seeds and implements, keep of grade bulls, &c., which the Board did not consider legitimate expenditure. It is satisfactory to be able to state that the stringent measures adopted by the Board, and alluded to in their previous Report, have had the desired effect, and there is now an almost uniform willingness on the part of Societies to administer their funds strictly for the improvement of Agriculture, and in accordance with the spirit as well as the letter of the Act for Encouragement of Agriculture.

Under these circumstances it is especially gratifying to find that the number and strength of Societies continue to increase, there being this year 83 Societies, with a membership of 4679, and attested subscription lists showing the aggregate amount actually paid by members within the year to be \$551.75. The aggregate amount of Government Grants for the year is \$6548.00, a decrease on last year's amount of \$146.00.

The Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly recommended, last

Session, the reduction of the grants to \$350 to each County, expressing a hope, however, that the full sum would be given to Societies if possible. The Act provides that the distribution of grants to Societies shall be made on the basis of \$400 to each County, and no amendment was brought in to effect the change suggested.

In these circumstances the Board applied to the Honorable the Attorney-General, who gave as his opinion that the Report of the Committee had not the effect of controlling or amending the Statutes, but is merely an expression of the views of the House of Assembly; that it is desirable the Central Board should carry out these views as far as practicable, and a bill will probably be introduced embodying them at the present Session of the Legislature. Considering that many of the Societies had incurred heavy liabilities by purchasing valuable animals, in several cases at the instigation of the Board, before the terms of the Committee's Report became known, the Board felt it to be their duty to ask the Government to allow, for the present year, a sum sufficient to appropriate grants to Societies on the scale of \$400 to each County as formerly.

The Assembly's Committee also recommended the reduction of the annual grant to the Board to \$1500, and the reduction of the salary of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board to \$700 per annum. The Board, having appointed their officer for the year and fixed his salary at \$1200, could not give immediate effect to this recommendation, but his term of office has now expired, with that of the Board for 1880, and it will be for the new Board to make such arrangements for the future as shall be satisfactory to the Government and the Legislature. It is hoped, however, that provision will be made for the proper discharge of the extensive and varied duties which have hitherto devolved upon the Secretary and Treasurer.

The Provincial Exhibition of 1880 was held at Kentville. Several improvements were made on the buildings and in the general arrangements, suggested by the experience of former years. The list of prizes appended to this Report affords full information relative to the nature and extent of the Exhibition. It is not necessary here to do more than remark that a comparison of this Exhibition with its predecessors affords unmistakable evidence that agricultural improvement in the Province is proceeding at a yearly increasing rate of speed, that the breeds of cattle are at once rapidly improving in quality and increasing in numbers, that special manures are being more extensively employed, improved machinery introduced, and the growth of roots and

grain extended. There is every indication that a large number of our farmers are preparing, as actively as the capital at their command will allow, to profit by the new and insatiable English market that has been opened for animal produce. The show of fruit was especially remarkable. It is believed that no larger or finer exhibit of apples had ever before appeared at any Exhibition.

The Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly having recommended a special grant for an Exhibition in the Island of Cape Breton, the Government made provision for the same, and requested the Board to undertake the general control of the arrangements necessary to carry it out. The Agricultural Societies of the Island entered heartily into the scheme, contributed to the prize fund, and assisted in other ways. The Exhibition was held in the month of October, 1880, at Baddeck, where land had been purchased and a suitable Exhibition Building had been erected. It is gratifying to the Board that, notwithstanding the many difficulties necessarily attendant upon a first Exhibition, they are able to report, in unqualified terms, that the Island Exhibition was successful, and that, in the number and quality of exhibits, it greatly exceeded the anticipations of the people themselves as well as strangers who visited the Island. The show of live stock embraced a considerable number of thoroughbred Ayrshire and Devon cattle, the condition of which gave evidence of generous and careful treatment. The roots and vegetables demonstrated at once the fertility of the soil, and the suitability of the climate for such crops, whilst the grains indicated an increased attention to this important department of agriculture. The extensive show of apples, plums, grapes, tomatoes, indian corn, squashes, etc., showed that, whilst the season is later in Cape Breton than in the western parts of Nova Scotia, yet the mild weather being more prolonged, there is sufficient time before the autumn frosts begin to ripen any crop that can be grown successfully in other parts of the Maritime Provinces. The display of butter was very extensive, the quality of many of the samples was excellent, and the cleanliness and taste shown in arranging the exhibits in this department might be profitably imitated by even the exhibitors at the Royal Agricultural Society's shows in England.

With the view of following up effectively the start given by the success of the first Cape Breton Exhibition, one of the Societies—that of Christmas Island—has recommended a change in the mode of appropriating Exhibition grants in the future. It is suggested that, instead of holding Provincial Exhibitions annually, they should be held every

second year only, and in each intervening year there should be six local District Exhibitions, one in each of the six Districts or groups of Counties into which the Province is divided by the Agricultural Act,—the Exhibition grant of \$4000 to be apportioned equally among the several counties, and each Exhibition to be held at such a place in the district as shall be determined by the vote of the Societies, subject to approval of the Central Board. The Board not having met since the report containing these suggestions was received, have not had an opportunity to give them full consideration, and consequently commend them to the attention of their successors in office, and the Legislature.

In obedience to the recommendation of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, the Board made an importation from England of six thorough-bred Short-Horn Durham bulls, one cow and two heifers of the same breed. These were imported in November in the steamship *Brooklyn*, and reached Halifax in safety and in a condition of perfect health. The regulations for cattle importation, however, required that they should remain in quarantine for ninety days. This period having elapsed, and the animals being still healthy, they have been released, and arrangements have been made for their sale at Halifax on Thursday, 24th March. Whilst in quarantine, the three females each dropped a calf, so that there are now seven males and five females to be disposed of.

By order of the Board of Agriculture.

DAVID MATHESON,
Vice-President,

GEORGE LAWSON,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Statement showing the number and strength of Societies in the respective Counties of the Province, for 1881.

COUNTIES.	Number of Societies.	Number of Members.	Total amount of Annual Subscriptions.	Total amount of Gr. in aid.
Annapolis ...	7	347	\$402 00	\$400 00
Antigonish ...	3	242	273 75	400 00
Cape Breton ...	5	306	306 00	400 00
Colchester ...	9	415	422 00	400 00
Cumberland ...	7	413	463 00	400 00
Digby ...	3	151	161 00	322 00
Guy'sborough ...	2	111	117 00	234 00
Halifax ...	4	201	202 00	400 00
Hants ...	6	242	347 00	400 00
Inverness ...	6	313	319 00	400 00
Kings ...	6	312	565 50	400 00
Lunenburg ...	4	264	206 50	400 00
Pictou ...	6	453	569 50	400 00
Queen's ...	4	226	230 00	400 00
Richmond ...	2	82	82 00	164 00
Shelburne ...	2	114	114 00	228 00
Victoria ...	4	201	203 00	400 00
Yarmouth ...	3	354	563 40	400 00
	83	4697	\$5551 75	\$6548 00

Comparative Statement showing the number and strength of Societies in each year, from 1864 to 1880, inclusive.

YEAR.	Number of Societies.	Number of Members.	Amount of Subscriptions.	Grants in aid.
1st yr. 1864...	37	1744	\$1859 00	\$3010 00
" 1865...	48	2197	2334 00	3314 00
" 1866...	52	2543	6850 00	3566 00
" 1867...	58	2833	3051 50	3444 50
" 1868...	45	2246	2519 75	3232 50
" 1869...	43	2209	2540 50	3001 00
" 1870...	49	5752	3046 00	3372 00
" 1871...	57	3245	3672 80	3543 00
" 1872...	60	3597	4004 50	3901 00
" 1873...	41	3586	3929 00	5785 00
" 1874...	64	3971	4495 03	6839 00
" 1875...	66	4140	4767 75	5790 50
" 1876...	75	4150	5633 00	6255 00
" 1877...	74	4114	4860 00	6592 50
" 1878...	77	4130	4860 82	6478 00
" 1879...	79	4327	4829 50	6394 00
" 1880...	83	4697	5551 75	6549 00

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

PROVINCE BUILDING,
March 22, 1881.

Present—Honorable H. F. McDougall, David Matheson, Pictou; Charles E. Brown, Yarmouth; John Ross, New Glasgow; Israel Longworth, Truro; Colonel W. E. Starratt, Paradise; Professor Lawson.

Mr. Matheson read from the *Royal Gazette* of 23rd February proclamation of appointments to the Central Board of Agriculture for 1881, in terms of the Act, and in accordance with the nominations of agricultural societies in the several districts.

The members of the Board expressed regret at the absence of Col. Laurie, the former President, who had gone to South Africa to engage in active military service, and who was not expected to return in time this season to resume the duties on the Board which in former years he so ably discharged.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Hon. Mr. McDougall, and passed unanimously, that David Matheson, Pictou, be elected President of the Board for the present year.

Moved by Mr. Ross, seconded by Hon. Mr. McDougall, and passed unanimously, that Charles E. Brown, Yarmouth, be elected Vice-President.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross, and passed unanimously, that Professor Lawson be re-elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Board.

Arrangements were made for a meeting on Wednesday morning with the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly; also to receive a deputation

from City Council, or their committee, at 3 p. m., Wednesday, in relation to the Dominion and Provincial Exhibition.

Ordered, that the imported cattle advertised to be sold on Thursday, be on exhibition at the cattle sheds, Richmond, daily, from 10 a. m., till 4 p. m., but that visitors be not admitted at other times.

PROVINCE BUILDING,
March 23, 1881.

Present—David Matheson, President; C. E. Brown, Vice-Pres.; Hon. H. F. McDougall, Israel Longworth, John Ross, Colonel Starratt, Professor Lawson, Secretary.

Of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly there were present—Colonel Blair, Chairman; Messrs. McGillivray, Morrison, Spence, Ford, LeBlanc, Shaffner and Bell.

The President of the Board expressed his satisfaction at this opportunity of conference with the Agricultural Committee of the House. The Board had but one desire, to advance the agricultural interests of the Province. The Annual Report recently presented gave a statement of the work done during the year, and members of the Board now present would be glad to afford any explanations or further information required. As for the future work of the Board, that was a matter in the hands of the committee.

Colonel Blair, Chairman of the Committee, stated that he had last year represented to the Board facts and views pressed upon the committee by their constituents, and the action they had taken. He had incurred undeserved odium in this matter, and felt that he could yield to no one in singleness of purpose in endeavoring, in every way in his power, to advance the interests of our Agriculturists. He explained the objects of the recommendations made by the Committee in their report last year, which was, unfortunately, too late in being presented to allow of any definite action. He thought the Board had done perfectly right in continuing to carry out the provisions of the Act as it existed, rather than attempt to follow the recommendations of the Committee, which had not the force of law.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. McGillivray and other gentlemen, and Mr. Ford called special attention to the present arrangement of the Counties of the Province into agricultural districts, which he thought could be improved upon; but, as the hour arrived when members had an engagement in the House of Assembly, the Conference was brought to a close, to be resumed at 7.30 p. m.

The Board then proceeded with ordinary business.

The rules and bye-laws of Le Moine Agricultural Society were presented and considered clause by clause. Rule 5,

clause 3rd, relating to fines, was deleted. To rule 15, relating to changes of rules, were added the words: "But shall not take effect till approved by the Board of Agriculture." In other respects the code was approved.

A letter of explanation having been read from the Secretary of the Millford Haven Agricultural Society, it was moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Colonel Starratt, and passed, that the Millford Haven Society be allowed the usual rateable grant this year on amended list now before the Board, and that the Secretary of the Board apply to the Hon. Provincial Secretary for the additional amount necessary to pay the same, viz., \$80.

The Secretary was instructed, in sending warrant for grant to Parrsborough Society to direct the Society to cease giving premiums on compost, covered sheds for manure, grains and roots raised, &c., and to recommend the Society to devote their funds to the purchase of thoroughbred live stock.

3 p. m.

Present—David Matheson, President; Messrs. Brown, Longworth, Starratt, Ross, Lawson.

Colonel Starratt represented the present state of affairs in the Caledonia's Society, Queens County, which, being satisfactory, he moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, that the grant to the Society be paid. Passed.

The prize list of the proposed Dominion and Provincial Exhibition was submitted and partially examined, Mr. A. K. Mackinlay, Alderman Spellman, Mr. C. W. Anderson, and Mr. D. Henry Starr having been named as a committee to act for the City Council's Committee in conferring with the Board.

7.30 p. m.

Present—All the members of the Board as before; also all members of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly.

After some remarks by Col. Blair and Mr. Longworth, the President stated that the Secretary of the Board would explain to the Committee the nature of his work in connection with it, which the Board felt was necessary in order to remove misapprehensions that evidently prevailed.

Professor Lawson explained very fully his connection with the Board during the last sixteen years, and the nature of the work performed by him, and expressed his willingness, in view of the straitened circumstances of the Province, and the reductions that had been made in other departments to continue to perform the duties as heretofore for \$1000 per annum. But, if the Committee thought it better to make some other arrangement, there need be no hesitation in doing so. Having had the working details of the Board

so long in hand, he would feel it specially imperative upon him to give every assistance in his power to facilitate any change which the Committee might desire to carry out.

Mr. McGillivray addressed the meeting, and spoke of the great importance of agriculture in his county, Antigonish. He called attention specially to the subdivision of the Province into districts, and urged that the suggestion made as to the modification of these should be carried out. He called for explanation as to delays in recording pedigrees. The explanation given was that applicants had refused to comply with the rules.

Mr. Spence stated that from representations made to him in the country, it was evidently necessary that members of the House should examine carefully the operations of the Board. The statement of the Secretary would enable members to explain several matters respecting which dissatisfaction existed.

Mr. Ford thought that the expense of the Board might be reduced by reducing the work. He knew there was dissatisfaction in the country with the Board as a machine that was expensive. But the objections to it were not always clear and well grounded. He had asked one of his complaining constituents to place his complaints in writing, which he had done, but, for the credit of his county, he would not take the letter out of his pocket.

Mr. Morrison thought re-adjustment of Districts for Representation and District Exhibitions would be a proper course. The Province could be divided into five districts. This system, he felt confident, was the true one for ensuring the steady progress of the Province at large, especially of the outlying districts that could not possibly benefit in any direct or practicable manner, or at least to any reasonable extent in the advantages of Provincial Exhibitions, the advantages of which must be necessarily confined, to a large extent, to the districts in which they were held. By alternating District with Provincial Exhibitions every interest would be secured practically, to as large an extent as could be expected of any system.

Mr. Schaffner spoke of the system of Herd Prizes as objectionable, because it gave a double advantage to rich men who could maintain and exhibit Herds and take prizes for them as well as for the individual animals.

Mr. Longworth offered some explanatory and suggestive observations.

Mr. Spence and Mr. Ford again spoke; also Mr. LeBlanc, Arichat. It was remarked that in the accounts there was a discrepancy in the travelling expenses of Members. This was explained as arising from two causes, one being that some Members had to come to meetings much

greater distances than others, whilst on the other hand, members of the Executive Committee had occasionally to meet at Halifax, when the other members of the Board did not attend.

Mr. Brown thought that the Committee of the House should pause before doing anything to hamper the operations of the Board, which depended more than might be thought upon an efficient Secretary, upon whom much responsible labour rested on account of the distance from the city of most of the Representative members of the Board.

Colonel Blair referred to agriculture, education and mining as the three important questions of this Province. As to the district exhibitions, he suggested a change should be delayed till the opinions of the districts could be definitely ascertained. He hoped the financial condition of the country would enable the grants to agriculture to be increased rather than diminished.

Mr. Bell was of opinion that the expenses of the Board were too great, especially the Secretary's salary.

Mr. Starratt made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the improving agriculturists of the Province, many of whom had made great efforts and sacrifices to introduce and improve the live stock of the country. It was for the advantage of the country at large that everything possible should be done to advance the agricultural interest at the present time, and, as the youngest member of the Board, he hoped the Committee would strengthen the hands of the Board and enable it to accomplish greater benefits than had yet been attained.

After expressions of satisfaction at the results of the conference the meeting adjourned.

PROVINCE BUILDING,

March 24, 1881.

The sale of short-horn stock having been advertized to take place at Richmond at noon, a morning meeting was not held, but the members of the Board attended the sale, the total proceeds of which amounted to \$2,585. The cost of the animals in England, freight and expenses up to the time of landing at Halifax, amounted to \$2,641.20. The loss thus appears as \$56.20; but to this amount have to be added the expenses of keep in quarantine for three months, railway freights to and from the quarantine station, advertizing and other expenses of sale. The Board have reason to be well satisfied with the results of this sale, by means of which twelve thorough-bred animals of a very high class have been permanently added to the stock of the Province at comparatively small cost to the public.

7.30 p. m.

Present—David Matheson, President; Hon. H. F. McDougall, Christmas Island; Colonel Starratt, Paradise; John Ross, New Glasgow; Professor Lawson, Secretary.

The Board met in conference with a sub-committee from the City Council's Prize List Committee, viz.: Alderman Spelman, and Messrs. A. K. Mackinlay and A. Stephen, Jr.

The prize list of the proposed Dominion and Provincial Exhibition was considered in detail.

Moved by Mr. Starratt, that separate prizes be offered for calves, male and female, under six months, and over six months and under twelve. Passed.

Moved by Hon. Mr. McDougall, seconded by Colonel Starratt, and passed, that separate prizes be offered for two year old heifers, dry, and two year old heifers, in milk.

Also resolved, that herd prizes, 1st, \$50, 2nd, \$40, should be offered for each of the following breeds of thorough-bred stock, viz.: Short-horn Durhams, Herefords, Holsteins, Ayrshires, Devons, Guernseys, Jerseys and Angus, such prizes only to be awarded if the animals in competition shall be deemed worthy. It was subsequently arranged (on motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Starratt,) that a herd shall consist of one bull, not less than a year old, and five females, four of which must be in milk or in calf, and the fifth may be in milk or in calf, or a yearling. (The object of this last provision is to exclude infertile heifers.)

Also—That a full list of prizes be filled in for Angus cattle to correspond with the others.

Recommended that, in the department of Plants and Flowers, provision be made in the prize list, either by an enlarged prize list or by special classification, for sufficient openings for the different classes of exhibitors, so as to encourage as extensive a competition as possible.

Also—That special prizes should be offered for the best collection of apples from a county—25 of such prizes, of \$6 each, to be awarded at the direction of the judges, but not more than one prize to the same county or the same exhibitor.

Also—That additional prizes be offered for dairy butter. The details of preparing the list referred to the Hon. Mr. McDougall.

[At a subsequent meeting of the Prize List Committee appointed by the City Council all the above recommendations were adopted, except the separate prizes for calves under six months.]

PROVINCE BUILDING,

March 25, 1881.

Present—David Matheson, President; C. E. Brown, Vice-President; I. Longworth, Truro; John Ross, New Glasgow; Col. Starratt, Paradise; Prof. Lawson, Secretary.

Colonel Blair, Chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, attended, and explained the views of the Committee, in reference to various matters brought before them.

A letter from Mr. McRobert, Truro, having been read at a previous meeting, wherein it was suggested that a bonus might be offered for the importation into the Province of a trotting stallion, for which a favorable opportunity offered, the Board, not having funds at disposal for this purpose, referred it to the Agricultural Committee. Mr. Blair reported that the Committee had considered the matter, but were doubtful whether they could recommend the necessary appropriation.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, and passed:

Whereas, It is important that some uniform compulsory regulations should be in force in Nova Scotia against animals of a vicious nature going at large;

And whereas, It is important first to ascertain, before applying to the Legislature to adopt such a measure, what are the existing regulations in the several municipalities of the Province in the premises; also, what necessity exists for such regulations.

Resolved, First: That the Secretary of the Board be directed to apply to the Clerk of each municipality of the Province for a copy of the regulations in force therein, so far as affects vicious animals going at large;

Resolved, Second: That the Secretary of each Agricultural Society in the Province be also applied to to furnish the Board, through their Secretary, with the particulars of all serious and fatal accidents that have been occasioned within the bounds of their respective societies during the last two years by such animals being allowed to go at large.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Brown, and passed:

That the committee be requested to exclude all advertisements from the exhibition prize list except at the end.

It was also suggested that care should be taken to have the prize list neatly printed on a superior quality of paper.

The question as to offering a prize for improved fishway, being considered, it was thought to belong to the class of extras, and was accordingly entered as an extra under the head of fisheries.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Longworth, and

Resolved, That the Board suggest to the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly the propriety of recommending an importation of young Polled Angus cattle, say from four to eight months old to consist of five males and fifteen females, of not too high price, for sale during Exhibition week.

The Secretary was directed meantime to make the necessary enquiries as to when, from whom, and at what prices suitable animals could be obtained.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Longworth and passed:

That a fee of fifty cents be charged for registry of cattle, and of twenty-five cents for recording transfers, proceeds to be credited to the Board funds (the actual cost in postage, blanks and stationery often amounting to an equivalent to these charges).

Moved by Colonel Starratt, seconded by Mr. Ross:

That the printing of the Board, including that of the *Journal of Agriculture*, be done by tender and contract through the Queen's Printer, the *Journal*, as heretofore, to be edited by the Secretary of the Board. Passed.

On motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Brown, the following resolution was passed:

The members of the Board having subscribed a special prize fund for the purpose, desire to offer at the Exhibition of 1881 a prize of \$25 for the best historical account of the rise and progress of agriculture in Nova Scotia; a second prize of \$15, and a third of \$10. The successful essays to become the property of the Board on payment of the respective prizes, and to be printed in the *Journal of Agriculture*. All essays to be submitted not later than 1st September. Intending competitors are requested to send their essays to Professor Lawson, Secretary of the Board; each essay to bear a motto, and to be accompanied by a sealed envelope bearing outside the same motto, and containing within the name and address of the author.

The Board then adjourned.

S p. m.

Business resumed. Same members present.

Resolved, That the President, Vice-President and Secretary be a committee to examine essays and decide prizes.

Resolved, That Mr. Matheson, President, and Messrs. Longworth and Starratt be elected as Executive Committee of the Board for the present year.

The regulations of the forthcoming Exhibition, which are not yet completed, were referred for consideration to the Executive Committee, with full power to approve of them, and also to deal with any matters that may arise in connection with Exhibition arrangements.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Col. Starratt, and passed:

That the annual returns of Agricultural Societies, with reports and attested subscription lists, be forwarded by the Societies in each district to the member of the Board for that district, for examination, audit, and transmission to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture; all such documents to be delivered annually, not later than the third Tuesday of December, to the member of the Board for the district, who will forward them to the Secretary of the Central Board.

This proposed change was recommended to the Agricultural Committee with a view to being sanctioned by any necessary legislation.

The following additional prizes for butter were submitted and sanctioned:

Five firkins butter, of not less weight, each firkin, than 40 lbs. net, dairy manufacture, prepared by any farmer or trader for market or shipment—1st prize, \$20; 2nd, \$15; 3rd, \$10; 4th, \$5.

The time recommended by the Prize List Committee, and approved by the Board of Agriculture, for the combined Dominion and Provincial Exhibition, is the last week of September, commencing on Monday, 26th September, the public opening on Tuesday, 27th, and the closing on Friday, 30th September.

COMMERCIAL POULTRY
FARMING.

The following is from the *Morning Chronicle*—

"It is only quite recently that attention has been directed to the above most important branch of industry. Our farmers, large and small, with but few exceptions, have hitherto looked upon the poultry yard as quite a secondary matter in farming operations, as an item that "never pays." I very much question even now, whether any person will find it otherwise until all old notions are laid aside and our people are willing to admit that we have not only not arrived at perfection in the matter, but have a great deal to learn. The most difficult part is to unlearn all we have learnt and begin in a new school. The old plan of poultry raising will not do to-day if we are desirous of having a share in the large export trade in poultry that is opening up in Canada.

A letter from Colonel Laurie to the Secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture, received lately, provides food for serious thought. While he states much to encourage, we must admit that if what he states is essential to success, there must be at once a complete change in the *breeding, raising and preparing* of poultry for that particular market.

Colonel Laurie says: "Now as to poultry we must learn to have it properly drawn and trussed: *head* and feet should be left on, feathers being left around the head and part of the way down the neck, a piece of charcoal, however small, put inside, will help to preserve them. * * * Our chickens are very much admired, being pronounced to be turkeys. With care this trade can be developed to any extent."

In March, 1880, Surrey and Sussex fowls were sold as high as 7s., pullets 8s., turkeys 9s. 9d., geese 6s. 5d., ducks

3s. 6d. and capons from 9s. to 10s. sterling each. These prices are from the *Mark Lane Express* and *London Field*.

There is no country in the world better adapted for the hatching and raising of poultry than Nova Scotia. This being so, the next important point is the *kind of fowls to breed from* and those that *mature the quickest*. There is a good deal of difference of opinion in this matter, but the experience of some of our oldest breeders of fancy poultry would be well to be ascertained. The selection of thorough-bred stock to improve what is already on hand is necessary, and there is plenty of it in the Province. Stock being selected and the fowls being raised and in fit order for market, the *killing* of the bird is also of great importance as well as *trussing* and *dressing*. I would here suggest that if those in charge of the School of Cookery would have the subject of *trussing* and *dressing* poultry for the table made a matter for instruction they would confer a great benefit on all classes. If consumers would persistently object to purchase poultry not properly *trussed* and *dressed* we should have our poultry offered for sale in the markets in a very different state.—JAMES PENNINGTON."

A GENTLEMAN who takes a warm interest in our Provincial Exhibitions has sent us the following from the "Boston Budget." The taste for cats has been immensely developed of late years in France and England, and the great French Angora cats, with long soft hair, are certainly beauties to be admired; but in Halifax we are rather behind the age in the feline fancy. Still, if we are to make room for dogs, there is no reason why the few cats should not have a place.

NEW YORK, March 18. Burnell's Museum is more attractive than ever since its opening at the corner of Broadway and Ninth street, with a grand cat show that is in progress there at the present time. This is said to be the first show of cats ever held in New York, but will probably not be the last, so many persons showing an interest in this effort. There are only about seventy-five cats in the exhibition, but each is worthy of notice. On entering the building a low, deep wail from feline throats greets the ear. It is a solo, duo, trio, quartette, all combined, that is most afflictive to the visitor. Each cat, or nearly every one, has a box with an open net-work front, with some straw in the bottom for a bed, and a cup of bread and milk for food. Over each box is the name of the cat, and its owner's name, as well as the kind of cat, followed by remarks. Only two or three are for sale, and the prices for

these are \$35, \$40 and \$75. A pure white pussy with blue eyes is named "The Lady of Shallott." She is a beauty and seemingly very happy in caring for her single, coal-black kitten. Another is called "Nellie Bly," a tortoise shell cat, that is remarkable for "shutting her eyes when she goes to sleep." Several huge Angora cats attract much attention. One weighing twenty-two pounds named "Captain Tom" looks amiable, but is said to be vicious. "Lucy," another Angora, is remarkably large, has grey and white hair a finger long, and blue eyes. A monstrous black cat with green eyes is a travelled pet; was born in Jerusalem and has been round the world three times. Another cat came from Africa and spends his time in proclaiming his home-sickness. Over one box is written, "This cat understands French"; so the lady visitors exercise their American French for the benefit of pussy. Altogether, it is an exhibition that is unique in its way, and quite worth the admission fee of twenty-five cents.

TRICHINOSIS.

THE following particulars may further interest those who have already had their attention attracted, and arouse the notice of the indifferent, to what has become a very serious consideration to the pork-eating portion of the community.

In the first place it may be mentioned that the now celebrated trichina (pronounced tric-in-a, with the accent on the first syllable, and the second vowel short) is said to have been described by Professor Owen in 1832. As many as 700,000 have been counted in a pound of human flesh; and Dr. Spencer Cobbold stated in 1873 that "an unfortunate foreigner who was killed in the streets of London," part of whose flesh he had happened to examine, "must have entertained 1,000,000,000 of these guests." One might have supposed that this individual would have succumbed to the difficulty of entertaining such a company, but it appears he had survived, probably with a weakened frame, to meet death in some other form—doubtless having endured untold agonies while the small army were steadily marching on, from the alimentary canal, where they were hatched, to the surface of his body, there to take up their permanent abode, and at last find a grave in the only part where they can be at rest—the muscles.

For we are told by the same authority "that it seems to be the prerogative of Nature, in all cases where wandering parasites get into the human territory, that they live there for a certain time only, the length varying with different species, and sooner or later they perish

by the process called calcareous degeneration; they become converted into little particles of lime, and thus the cure is effected.

It is a mistake to suppose, as some people do, that this parasite is the result of disease; it certainly produces disease in any human subject unfortunate enough to eat trichinised pork, as no one can have their intestines, their flesh, and their tissues, even their very heart, pierced and riddled by these creatures without suffering intensely; but the first host of the trichina, the pig, is very slightly inconvenienced by their presence; and a perfectly healthy animal is quite as likely to swallow the ova of any parasite as an unhealthy one.

The prevalence of trichina in American pork must be due in a great measure to the careless way the pigs are fed—allowing them to roam about, picking up their living among sewage filth; for a properly housed, regularly fed animal would escape the chance of becoming infested by the small capsuled worms, which in the pig do not exceed the length of 1-25th of an inch, while the adult trichina in the human subject attains a considerably larger size.

There is a record of an outbreak of trichinosis in Cumberland in 1873, and quite lately the attention of the House of Lords was called by Lord The-lor to a rumour of it on board a training ship lying off Purfleet. An inquiry was instituted by the Local Government Board, at the instance of the Home Secretary, and resulted in the outbreak being attributed to the use of American pork. To avoid such danger, it is simply necessary, as we have already been told, to have the food well cooked. No partial cooking will suffice. Boiled pork is more dangerous than fried ham or bacon, which, being cooked in slices, is exposed to the action of the heat; while, though heat at the boiling point is more than sufficient to destroy trichina, it takes a long time for a joint to become heated to 212° in the inside. Again, through the hardening of the meat in the salting, it is more difficult to destroy the parasite in salt pork than in fresh; but a heat of 160° is said by Cobbold to be sufficient, if prolonged, to kill trichina even through their protective capsules.

The natural history of this little flesh worm may be summed up in very few words, as it only takes the short period of three weeks for its full development, from the time it enters the human subject till it sets up its tabernacle in his muscles, after which its career may be said to be practically closed, unless its host becomes the victim of cannibalism, in which case the cannibal would, in his turn, be trichinised.

We learn from scientific observation, that so long as the Trichina spiralis remains with its "intermediary host the pig," it does not get beyond the larval stage of development; but once it reaches the alimentary canal of the human subject its growth is so rapid that in forty-eight hours it has attained maturity and forthwith commences to deposit its ova; in six days more these are hatched, and the little embryos directly start on their journey through the walls of the canal, stopping at nothing except bones till they reach the muscles. While this wonderful migration is going on the unfortunate sufferer fancies himself the victim of gout or rheumatism, or some very peculiar variety of fever, while the cause of his disorder is the wounds inflicted by these merciless little wretches, sometimes so severe and numerous as to be followed by death.

In view of the great prevalence of trichinosis in the pig herds of America, and the large importation of American pork into this country, the time, we think, has now arrived when some effectual means should be adopted in order to save the country from a painful and loathsome affliction. France and other continental nations have promptly and wisely forbidden further traffic in this article, and there is every reason to believe that the bacon factors of the United States will now seek to press it on our market at a price which must command a sale among a certain class of the trading community. Under these circumstances it is important to consider our present system of meat inspection, and to determine what amount of protection and security it affords to the people of this country against this pest-laden viand. It is generally admitted by those who are competent to judge that the inspection of meat as pursued in Great Britain—one of the most clumsy, inefficient, and disjointed services to be found in any European State. In the richest and largest meat eating country in Europe it is sad to think that the suitability of flesh as food for man should be left to the discretion of policemen and others of equally limited intelligence. By this system, or want of system, public health stands exposed to the most alarming dangers, and diseases and death are literally invited to our dwellings. When we remember that the bane of American pork consists of an organism so minute as to be hardly visible to the unaided eye, and requiring for its detection the experience of a practical microscopist; moreover, that it may pervade every inch of the muscular system of its victims, and in certain cases evade the most searching investigation—we may fairly conclude that the people of this country cannot long disregard the example which France has set them. France, even with her well-organized

system of inspection, and her staff of experts, clearly recognises the difficulty of dealing with the question otherwise than by excluding American pork from our shores, and having regard to the minuteness and prolific nature of the parasite involved, there cannot be much doubt as to the wisdom of the step she has taken. It is not altogether the direct influence of trichinised flesh of American pigs on man which constitutes the evil of its use.

The parasitic range of the entozoon in question is a wide one. It infects many of those creatures who stand in close domestic relation with man, and which, besides furnishing him food, are also food for each other. Thus dogs, pigs, cats, calves, rabbits, rats, mice, guinea pigs, and other creatures may receive and propagate the parasite, and it is much to be feared that should this prolific and pestiferous entozoon once become colonized among us, a wide-spread and enduring parazootic will result. The question of meat inspection is one of the most important and urgent matters relating to public health, and until a duly qualified service is established, the people of this country have just right of complaint.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

MR. FITCHETT of the firm of Dickey, Buckley & Fitchett, arrived at Amherst a few days ago from England with the returns on a heavy shipment of cattle made in January. He has furnished us with a statement of the expenses per head of this shipment:—

Freight to Halifax.....	£ 0 7 6
Ocean freight.....	5 10 0
Selling expenses.....	0 16 0
Cost of feed on board.....	1 0 0
Insurance.....	2 0 0
Buying expenses.....	0 5 0
	£ 8 8 0
The average sale was.....	15 16 0
Balance.....	£ 7 7 6

Mr. Fitchett says that the firm met a loss of from \$10 to \$15 per head, which they, however, in a great measure retrieved by the profits on the produce he took over. This is not encouraging, and this firm state they will not at present make any more ventures, as the last one was made under what appeared to be peculiarly favorable circumstances.

Messrs. John Swan & Sons, of Edinburgh, in a circular forecasting the present season's market, state:—

"The Canadian season beginning about the middle of May, is compelling our farmers to get quit of their winter fed stock earlier than they used to do, whilst it is also forcing the graziers to hold their grass fed cattle longer than they used to do. Thus no one can predict whether supplies are likely to be shorter or prices better in one season

than in another. We know that freights for next year have already been taken at extreme rates for the earlier shipments. The probability is, prices may be higher during June and July than at any other time, and may warrant high rates of freight. The certainty is, however, that autumn shipments must always come to heavily supplied markets here, as, of course, our home stock must at given periods come to market. The quality of Canadian grass fed cattle, later in the season, is such that they cannot stand these high rates of freight, and being off grass, slide considerably in condition on the way over. We would not recommend you to base your calculations upon extreme prices for fat cattle at any time in 1881, either in England or Scotland. We have an abundant root crop all over, and we calculate there are at least twenty per cent. more cattle feeding in this country this year than last. Of course, the trade of the country generally is rather better, which will increase consumption, yet our belief is that we shall not have prices so high as last year."—*Maritime Farmer.*

THE ENGLISH MARKETS.

The following quotations are from the London *Agricultural Gazette* of March 28th:—

Liverpool, March 26.

There has been a falling off in the demand for wheat during the past week. On Tuesday holders asked a slight advance, but this they were unable to obtain, and on Friday prices gave way 1d. per cental in sympathy with the decline in New York quoted that day.

Flour, not having advanced in proportion to wheat, is not lower, but demand continues small.

Indian corn in the early part of the week advanced to 5s. 8½d. for old and 5s. 6½d. for new mixed; but in view of large shipments and only a limited inquiry, this improvement has since been lost, and the article closes very quiet today at 5s. 8d. for old and 5s. 5½d. for new American Round remains quiet at about last week's rates—viz., 5s. 6½d. to 5s. 8½d. per cental.

Beans, although still in small supply, are not in active demand, and holders have reduced their prices 1d. per cental without leading to much business. Egyptian Saida, 7s. 3d. to 7s. 4d. per 100 lb.

Peas slow, and 1d. per cental lower to sell. Canadian 6s. 9d. to 7s. 10d. per 100 lb.

Oats also were slow, but in the absence of business prices were not notably lower.

Oatmeal dull, and values are only sustained by extreme scarcity.

March 28. (By telegraph)—Wheat and maize quiet at barely Saturday's prices.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

Monday, March 28.—We have a very short supply of English beasts, but large of foreign. The total number is considerably smaller than last week, and trade is more cheerful, although it is difficult to obtain higher prices. A fair clearance is expected.

The number of sheep is larger. Those shorn are preferred to those in the wool, the prices of the latter are not so good in proportion.

Choice calves and lambs are scarce and much wanted.

Our foreign supply consists of 600 beasts. From Scotland there are 210 beasts, Ireland 100, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex 1200, and midland and home counties 300.

Per stone of 8 lb.		s.d. s.d.		s.d. s.d.	
Best Scots, Here-	4 0to5 4	Best Longwools.	6 4to6 8	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 0
forls, &c.	4 8-5 0	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 0	Ewes & 2d quality	5 8-6 4
Best Short-horns.	4 8-5 0	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 0	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 4
2d quality beasts.	4 0-4 6	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 0	Lambs	8 0-9 0
Best Down and	6 8-7 0	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 0	Calves	6 0-6 8
Half-breeds	6 8-7 0	Do. Shorn	5 8-6 0	Pigs	...
Do. Shorn	6 0-6 4				

Beasts, 2410, Sheep and Lambs, 9339, Calves, 30.

LIVEPOOL CATTLE MARKET.

March 28. (By telegraph).—There were 1004 cattle and 3811 sheep at market to-day. A quiet trade for all descriptions of stock at about late prices—viz., beef, 6d. to 8d.; mutton, 8d. to 10d. American supplies—902 cattle, 504 sheep; 4493 quarters of beef, 1202 carcasses mutton, and 950 pigs.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET.

Monday, March 28.—There was a slight improvement in the trade last week, prices were firm. Beef about previous quotations, mutton and pork advanced about 4d. per stone. American beef and pork were very plentiful. The pigs, through the reported disease, for which there is not much credit, were sold at extremely low prices. The market cleared out.

Per stone of 8 lb. by the carcass.		s.d. s.d.		s.d. s.d.	
Beef	4 0to5 0	Mutton	4 8to6 4		
American ditto	3 0-3 10	Pork	4 4-5 4		
Australian ditto	3 4-4 0	American ditto	2 4-3 0		

Best Aylesbury Fresh Butter... 17s. per doz. lb.
Second do. 12s.
JAS. BAKER, 256 West End, Central Market, Smithfield.

FOR SALE.

Thorough-bred Short Horn Bull "BRIGHAM YOUNG," No. 61, calved April 7th, 1881. By referring to the August JOURNAL for 1880, you can see full Pedigree.

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T. B. JACQUES,
Church Street, Cornwallis.
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W. E. STARRATT,
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Paradise, Annapolis County.

BREEDER of thorough-bred **AYRSHIRE** CATTLE from Imported Stock. Some extra young Bulls for sale.

TERMS MADE TO SUIT PURCHASERS.

FOR SALE—Ayrshire Bull "LEOPOLD," 12 months old, a very choice animal, length 5 feet 6 inches, girth 5 feet 1 inch.

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WANTED TO PURCHASE

BY the **WAUGH'S RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**, a Thorough-bred **DURHAM BULL**, from twelve to eighteen months old.

Any person having such for sale will please correspond with the subscriber, stating price, &c., &c.

D. NELSON,
Sec'y to Society.
Feb. 22, 1881. } mch 1

SEED POTATOES FOR SALE.

A FEW barrels of new varieties of potatoes consisting of Matchless, Pride of America, Silver Skins, and a few barrels of Beauty of Hebron. The yield for 1880 was—Matchless, 180 lbs. from 1 lb.; Pride of America, 147 lbs. do.; Silver Skins, 130 lbs. do.; Beauty of Hebron, 130 lbs. do. Price of the first three varieties, per bushel, \$3.00; barrel, \$6.00. Beauty of Hebron, bushel, \$2.00; barrel, \$4.00.
CHARLES W. SMITH,
Sandbeach, Yarmouth, N. S.

January 20th, 1881.

J. B. FRASER,
SHEBENACADIE, COLCHESTER CO., N. S.,
BREEDER OF

Short Horn Cattle, Shropshire Sheep and Ellesmere Pigs,

all from imported English Stock. Winner of the First Prize at Provincial Exhibition in Halifax in 1879; also at Kentville in 1880, for best Herd of Short Horns.

Several **BULLS** for sale on reasonable terms, all first-class animals with certified Pedigree. Also some young **PIGS**, about 2 months old, **BOARS** and **SOWS**, Pure Ellesmere. dec

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Aunan, SCOTLAND.
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Mr. R. JUDKINS,
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Finsbury Park,
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TWO very fine Ayrshire Bulls, fourteen and fifteen months old. Two or three superior Yearling Heifers, all from imported stock, and registered in the Nova Scotia Register. Terms made to suit.

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AYRSHIRE COW "LILLY 2ND," in calv

AYRSHIRE HEIFER "LILLY 5TH," in calf.

AYRSHIRE HEIFER CALF "LILLY 6TH," 9 months old.

AYRSHIRE BULL "WALLACE 3RD," 2 years old in March.

AYRSHIRE BULL CALF "LORD DUFFERIN 2ND," 9 months old.

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A FEW HEAD GRADE JERSEY.

HENRY BURRELL, Sen'r.

Yarmouth, N. S., Dec. 15, 1880. jan 1

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