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ABSTRACT OF REPORTS, &c., OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

(Continued from page 104.)

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

UPPER STEWIACKE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Upper Stewiacke, Jan'y, 1866.

The annual meeting of the Upper Stewiacke Agricultural Society, was held according to law, on the 5th December, in the Town Hall, the president in the chair.

The following is a list of our officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, William Fulton; *Vice-President*, Hugh Dunlap; *Secretary*, James S. Tupper; *Treas.*, D. McGill Johnson; *Directors*, Samuel A. Creelman, Alex. Ellis, Barry Hamilton, Samuel F. Creelman and Francis Cox.

Receipts of year 1865.

Cash in Treas hands at beginning of 1865	\$99 63
Rec'd of outstanding debts	78 87
From 42 members, at \$1 each	42 00
Provincial Grant	54 00
Notes of hand for sale of sheep	165 00
	\$439 50

Disbursements.

May 1865. Paid for two bulls	\$128 00
Expenses in connection with do.	15 00
Paid for 38 sheep in P.E.I.	210 75
Interest on money	2 81
Ten copies <i>Journal of Agricul.</i>	5 00
Other expenses	4 00

\$366 06

Balance	\$73 44
Outstanding debts	26 00
Total amount	\$99 44

We have purchased two bulls for the use of the society for the past year; one of them is a very fine animal and we expect that our stock will be materially improved. We have them still on hand, and it will take one-half of our surplus funds to feed them through the winter.

We have also purchased twenty-eight ram lambs, three ewe lambs, and seven other rams of one and two years, in P. E. Island, and sold them to members of the society on three months credit.—The largest number of the lambs are fine animals, being chiefly of the Leicester breed. I have received an account of the weight of three of the lambs, on the 1st of December,—the first weighing 120 lbs.,

the second 105 lbs., and the third 95 lbs; these were not the best, but perhaps a little above an average.

BARRY HAMILTON, *Pres.*
JAMES S. TUPPER, *Sec'y.*

STIRLING AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

New Annan, Jan. 2, 1866.

The annual meeting of this society was held on the 5th day of December, when the officers and directors gave in their report with an account of the receipts and expenses of the society during the year. The same having been approved of by the meeting, they proceeded to the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year:—*President*, William Geddes; *Vice-President*, David Wilson; *Secretary*, William Creighton; *Treasurer*, ———.

To meet the increasing wants of the society, they have this year imported from P.E. Island four ram lambs of the Leicester and South Down breeds, and with those belonging to the society we expected to have had one in each of the eight sections in which the society is divided, but unfortunately one of those imported last year died.

This society has also purchased a boar of the Berkshire breed, a very good

animal, and have sold him to one of the members, to serve the society one season.

To meet the arrangements of the Board, the society has disposed of the agricultural implements on hand from last year, by public auction, which resulted in a small loss to the society.

The society held its annual exhibition on the 18th of October, the sum of eighty dollars having been voted as premiums on live stock, agricultural productions, and domestic manufactures. Very creditable specimens were exhibited in the various departments, and it was, upon the whole, the best show we have had yet.

Amt. of receipts from last year	-	\$76 67
Provincial grant	-	91 00
Subscriptions of members	-	43 00

\$210 67

Amount of expenditure	-	162 05
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Balance on hand	-	\$48 62
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WM. P. GEDDES, *Pres.*
WM. CREIGHTON, *Sec'y.*

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

MINUDIE AND BARRONSFIELD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Bye-Laws of the "Minudie and Barronsfield Agricultural Society," passed Jan. 27, 1866.

Art. 1.—This Society shall be called the Minudie and Barronsfield Agricultural Society.

Art. 2.—The objects of this society shall be,—to promote the introduction of improved stock, seeds, roots, improved implements, methods of culture, drainage, orchards, cultivation and improvement of farm buildings, and domestic manufactures; to hold shows and exhibitions, award premiums, and to diffuse information concerning agriculture and horticulture, in such a manner as the society shall determine.

Art. 3.—Any person who shall have signed the constitution, and shall have paid two dollars, shall be considered a member.

Art. 4.—The Secretary, with the consent of the President, may allow persons not considered as farmers to become members, upon the payment of one dollar and signing the constitution.

Art. 5.—The annual payment of one dollar constitutes membership.

Art. 6.—There shall be an annual election of officers on the first Tuesday of December in each year.

Art. 7.—It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meeting of the society and its officers, to preserve order, and enforce a strict compliance with the rules of the society.

Art. 8.—It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to discharge the duties of the President in his absence.

Art. 9.—In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the members of the society shall elect a presiding officer, *pro tem.*

Art. 10.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a correct record of all proceedings of the society and of the board of officers, conduct the necessary correspondence, and to draw all orders on the treasury that the board of officers may direct, and the President countersign.

Art. 11.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect all monies due the society, pay out of the funds so collected all orders drawn on him by the Secretary, and, at the expiration of his term of office, render to his successor a true record of all monies received and paid.

Art. 12.—The officers and directors shall form a board for transacting all business of the society, and shall, in addition to the ordinary duties of management, present, at the annual meeting in December, a report of the proceedings of the society during the year; in which shall be stated the names of the members, the amount paid by each; the names of all parties to whom premiums were awarded, with the name of the animal, article, or thing in respect of which the same was granted, together with such remarks upon the agriculture of the county as they may be enabled to offer; as also a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the society during the year, which report and statement, if approved by the meeting, shall be entered in the journals, and a true copy thereof shall be sent to the Central Board, within one month thereafter.

Art. 13.—Vacancies occurring at any time through death, removal, or other causes, may be filled by the board of officers at any regular meeting.

Art. 14.—The society at any regular meeting may make, alter, or repeal any bye-laws and rules for the management of the society, which shall, within one month thereafter, be forwarded to the Secretary of the Central Board for its approval.

Art. 15.—The board of officers shall hold meetings, pursuant to adjournment, on any written notice from the Secretary, which shall be given one week before the day appointed, and at any such meeting five shall form a quorum.

Art. 16.—The board of officers, by the direction of the society, may, in connection with the board of officers of other agricultural societies, make any necessary arrangements for holding shows for the exhibition of agricultural and horticultural produce, farm stock, and articles of domestic manufacture, at such time and place as they shall deem most expedient.

Art. 17.—The board of officers, by direction of the society, may expend the funds, together with the provincial grant, in the importation of stock, or in any other way they may think most advantageous in promoting the objects of the

society,—provided notice thereof has been given the Board of Agriculture, and its approval of such appropriation first obtained.

GILBERT SEAMAN, *Sec'y.*

[This society numbers 47 members, from whom the sum of \$74 50 has been collected, and certified under oath, as required by law.]

HALIFAX COUNTY.

EASTERN MUSQUODOBOIT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

An exhibition was held in November, 1865, when the following prizes were awarded:—Imported bull, John Geddes, \$12; do. calf, George H. Parker, \$12; sow pig, Stutely Horton, \$2; boar do. James Reynolds, \$2; bull calf, home raised, George H. Parker, junr., \$2; heifer, do. do. Samuel Henry, \$2; ewe lamb, do. Alex. Parker, \$2; ram lamb, do. Archibald G. Fisher, \$2; do. do. imported, James Henry, \$2, ewe, do. do. Robert Henry, \$2; wheat, George H. Parker, jr., 1st prize, \$2; do. Samuel Hutchinson, 2nd prize, \$1.50; oats, George Parker, 1st prize, \$2; do. John Parker, 2nd prize, \$1.50; barley, Matthew Archibald, \$2; turnips, Alexander Parker, \$2; cloth, grey twill, George H. Parker, senr., \$2; do. women's dress Mrs. R. Henry, \$2.

STATE OF THE CROPS IN 1865.

Wheat was almost a failure in consequence of the ravages of the weevil. Oats early sown were very good in quality, but light in quantity; the greater quantity however, were not sown till late, hence there is a great diminution in the quantity raised. Buckwheat was a very good crop. Barley, but a small breadth sown, grain rather light. Hay an abundant crop greater than has been raised for many years. Turnips, except in some few instances, very light crop, owing to a great drought in the latter part of July and August.

Receipts.

April 4th, 1865. Balance in Treasurer's hands	- - - -	\$85 54
Aug. 17, received for 2 bulls sale	- - - -	45 00
Sep. 17, for two boars	- - - -	17 00
Annual fees of forty-two members	- - - -	42 00

Total	- - - -	\$187 54
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Disbursements.

For Clover Seed, freight on do	-	\$41 00
Six copies of Journal	- - -	3 00
Expense of working society	- - -	2 90
Purchase of Sheep	- - -	49 00
In prizes	- - - -	55 00
Expense attending exhibition	-	1 50

Total	- - - -	\$152 40
	- - - -	\$187 54

Balance in Treasurer's hands, \$35 14

Assets of Society at the end of 1865.

Balance in Treasurer's hands	-	\$35 14
Provincial grant undrawn	-	33 00
Sale of Sheep	-	32 15
Total	-	\$100 29

JOHN PARKER, *President.*
JAMES KENT, *Secretary.*

HANTS COUNTY.

HARDWOODLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*Nine Mile River, Douglas,
January 12, 1866.*

At a meeting held in Hardwoodland for the purpose of forming an agricultural society, there was a pretty good attendance, and all seemed anxious to form themselves into a society for the promotion of agriculture. There was present about twenty-five persons, who all signed; and although the country is thinly settled there is no doubt forty persons will join.

JAMES GRAHAM.

[Dr. Moore, and other officers of the Albert Institute, will recognize in Mr. Graham one of their old pupils.—*Ed.*]

FENWICK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NOEL.

Noel, 16th January, 1866.

I beg to inform you that at a meeting held on the 1st day of January, a society called the Fenwick Agricultural Society of Noel was formed, officers and directors were appointed, and subscriptions obtained, amounting to \$58, from 58 members; we will probably obtain a few more. I send you with this a copy of subscription, names of members, &c., and hope if anything more is needed to secure our rights to a share of the government allowance as set forth in Cap. 96 of the Revised Statutes, you will be kind enough to inform me without delay, and also at what time we may expect to get the Provincial grant, &c.; we shall probably apply for the approbation of the Central Board, to apply part of our funds in the purchase of stock, &c.

President, William Ferguson; Vice-President, George Densmore, Secretary, J. J. O'Brien; Treasurer, Thos. Hunter.

LUNENBURG COUNTY.

MAHONE BAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Mahone Bay, Dec. 22, 1865.

On the twenty-fifth of last March the society was organized, fifty-four members were enrolled and paid their subscription—five shillings each.

With part of that amount they pur-

chased a bull, which, including expenses, cost the society £11 7 7½.

The crops of barley, oats, hay and potatoes, were about the average.

The society intend purchasing seeds and improved stock in the spring.

The officers elected for the present year are:—*President, Benjamin Zwicker; Vice-President, Alex. Lane, M.D.; Secretary, George Duncan; Treasurer, Joseph Zwicker.*

GEORGE DUNCAN, *Secretary.*

PICTOU COUNTY.

PICTOU AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

The Committee of the Pictou Agricultural Society at the close of their term of office, beg leave to present the following report:—

Your society has now completed the twenty-ninth year of its existence, and the first year under the recent Act of the Province, entitled, "Of the Encouragement of Agriculture."

Your society would express their gratitude to the Board of Agriculture for the deep interest manifested by them in the general agricultural interests of the Province, by the importation of improved breeds of horses, cattle, and sheep, and also of wheat and potatoes, and particularly for what of the latter they have sent to this society. Although they regret that owing to the peculiar blight, prevalent in many parts of the district, the wheat, while sown in two different localities, may be said to have been completely destroyed, both kinds of potatoes have yielded a good return, and promise to be a valuable addition to the esculents of the country.

Your society numbers fifty members.

According to the Treasurer's account the society had in funds at the commencement of the past year, the sum of \$10, and the receipts from members for the year have been \$52.75; the Provincial allowance has not yet been received, but from this source we expect the sum of \$60, which will make a total of \$122.75.*

In accordance with a resolution of the society, passed at a meeting held on the 22nd of September last, there has been neither exhibition nor ploughing match, in connection with the society during the year,—the whole of the funds having been devoted to the purchase of stock.

In January last a young Berkshire was purchased by the society at a cost of \$10.50, and at the sale of the sheep brought from Canada by the Board of Agriculture, which took place at Acadia

* The Provincial Grant was not received when the Report was read before the society, and we were not aware before its reception that it would amount to \$62.

Farm in November last, one Leicester ewe and two Leicester ram lambs, and one Cotswold ewe, and one Cotswold ram lamb were purchased at a cost of \$193, and this, with other necessary expenses, swell the expenditure of the year to the amount of \$211.50, being in excess of the receipts in the sum of \$87.25.

Your committee would beg leave to state, that this would in ordinary circumstances appear an extravagant over-expenditure of the funds of the society; they did, under existing circumstances, what they believed to be expedient and justifiable. They believed that no kind of stock was more appreciated nor more eagerly sought after, not only by members of the society, but by the farmers of the district generally, and as the sheep purchased were of the kinds generally approved, but also superior specimens of these kinds, your committee felt that they were not only conducing to the general interests of the community, but that they would thereby largely increase the roll of members of the society, and also, that by purchasing both ewes and rams of pure breeds, they would so increase the stock of pure blooded sheep in the district as in a short time to have not only a sufficient supply for ourselves, but also have to spare for other localities.

The property of the society in stock, therefore, consists of the five sheep referred to,—the two rams imported from P. E. Island in 1863, and the Berkshire boar, all of which are distributed within the limits of the society to be taken care of during the winter.

Your committee would also report that crops of the last season, within the bounds of the society are somewhat under the average. Hay and potatoes may be said to approach nearer to that standard. The wheat and oats, owing to the extreme drouth of the season and a blight which struck them, are nearly fifty per cent under an average. Turnips and carrots have also suffered from the drouth, while barley and pease seem to have fully come up to an average.

Your committee would congratulate the society on the almost entire disappearance of the weevil from the wheat, and the blight from the potatoes, as there has been less of either for the past year than for many previous; and what the potato may have been short in quantity, has been more than made up in the superior quality for domestic use.

Your committee would express the regret that the visiting of the farms during the past season, recommended by their predecessors, has not been carried out. The Secretary of the Agricultural Board was expected to visit the county during the summer, and the committee arranged that on his arrival they would spend a day or two for that purpose, with the expectation that he would be induced to ac-

company them; but when he arrived it was in autumn, the crops were all housed, except the potatoes, and his engagements were such as to prevent the carrying out of the arrangement; but they would urge their successors not to lose sight of the scheme, but to endeavor to prosecute it during the ensuing season, as they believe much benefit would accrue from a proper system of visitation of farms being carried out.

Your committee would congratulate the society on the improvements in the markets, manifested during the past season for all kinds of agricultural produce and the cash system pursued in payment, prices for every article being in advance of what they have been heretofore, and this they would hail as the dawn of brighter days for the agriculturists of Pictou, than they have ever heretofore enjoyed.

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:—*President*, D. Matheson; *Vice-President*, John McKenzie; *Secretary*, J. D. McDonald; *Treasurer*, James Ives. *Directors*: Adam Gordon, Donald Fraser, William Rubly, Robt. McLean and Adam McKean.

All which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID MATHESON, *President*.
J. D. McDONALD, *Secretary*.

MAXWELTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The M. A. Society met in accordance with the Act, on the first Tuesday of December, when the following report was read and adopted by the meeting. In a former report sent in on August 28th, the proceedings of the society were brought down to that date. From that date to the close of the year, we now send you a copy of the report read at the meeting:

In September last a member of the society proceeded to P. E. Island and purchased a number of rams, at a cost of £24 2s. 1d.; the expense connected with their purchase will be seen in the annual account. But owing to the number of societies in the different counties of the province who had purchased rams previous to our society, the rams purchased by us were not of so superior a quality as we expected, and having still a part of our funds in hand we agreed to purchase one of the rams imported from Britain last summer,—and a gentleman in Halifax having kindly consented to attend the sale and act for us, we instructed him to go as high as £15, but as all the rams went above that amount, we failed in procuring one. We then appointed the President of the society to attend the sale of Canadian rams in Pictou, which he did, and purchased for us one of these, an animal superior to any of the kind ever

brought to the county of Pictou, at a cost of £5 10s. In looking at the stock of pigs kept by the majority, if not by all the farmers in our section of the county, we considered that they were a very inferior breed, and that there was ample room for improvement, and having still a balance of our funds in hand, we resolved to purchase a superior boar the first opportunity that offered; and a gentleman having informed us that a superior Berkshire boar could be purchased in Halifax, on reasonable terms, we engaged the services of that gentleman to purchase said animal, and have him sent to us by rail and express, to New Glasgow, to a person instructed to take charge of him.—And in conclusion would beg leave to say, that in transacting the business of the society, we have studied its best interest, by being as economical as possible under the circumstances in which we were placed, and also in the selection of the animals purchased, which, we trust, will give general satisfaction.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, James McKay; *Vice-Pres.*, Jno. Thomson; *Sec'y*, Jas. W. Patten; *Treas.*, Colin McKenzie; *Directors*, Alex. McPhee, J. D. Murray, James Patten, John McDonald, George McDonald.

Expenditure.

To amount expended in purchasing bull	-	£10	0	0
Expense in purchasing, &c.	-	1	5	0
Purchasing rams in P.E.I.	-	24	2	1
Freight and charges	-	5	18	9
Paid for Canadian ram	-	5	10	0
Freight and expenses	-	1	2	9
Agricultural Journals	-	1	5	0
Contingencies	-	0	18	9
		£50	2	4

Receipts.

Subscriptions of members	£10	0	0	
Provincial grant	-	18	5	0
Subscription of members	-	12	0	0
Provincial grant	-	15	0	0
Realized by service of bull	-	0	7	6
		£55	17	6
Balance in hand, Dec. 1865,		5	15	2

JAMES W. PATTEN, *Sec'y*.

MERIGOMISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the M.A. Society was held in the school-house, Dec. 5th, 1865. The report showed that the number of members for the past year was forty-seven, and that the amount allotted from the provincial grant, for the encouragement of agriculture, was \$63. The sum of \$77 of the funds of the society was expended in the purchase of sheep.

Cotswold Ewe	-	-	\$55	00
Leicester Ram	-	-	22	00
Expenses attending said sheep	-	-	8	08
Stationery	-	-	0	80
			\$65	88

We intended expending the balance in hand in the purchase of hogs, but were disappointed.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—*Pres.*, Robt. Brown; *Vice-Pres.*, Ronald McVicar; *Sec'y and Treas.*, David Mitchell; *Directors*, Duncan McIntosh, Andrew P. Miller, Robt. S. Copeland, Angus McDonald, William Sutherland.

ROBERT BROWN, *Pres.*
DAVID MITCHELL, *Sec'y*.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

CALEDONIA AND KEMPT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Kempt, 23rd December, 1865.

At the annual meeting of the Caledonia and Kempt Agricultural Society held on the first Tuesday in December, the following statement was submitted—that agreeable to a resolution passed at the organization of this society, the subscription was increased to \$55, and the Treasurer's certificate for that amount, with other proceedings of the society, was forwarded to the Central Board of Agriculture for their approval; that the Board has been pleased to recognize our society, and granted us the sum of \$110, which with the above subscription makes the sum of \$165, now in the hands of the Treasurer for the use of this society.

As the season was so far advanced before our society was organized, and after waiting to know whether we would be acknowledged by the Board of Agriculture, there has not been time to act respecting the expenditure of the money, it being so near the time for the annual meeting it was thought best to submit to the whole society to decide upon.

We would also beg leave to recommend that the funds now in hand be expended in the purchase of pure stock.

The following persons were chosen for officers for the ensuing year:—*President*, Milton Douglas; *Vice-President*, Charles Cushing; *Secretary*, Edward P. Freeman; *Treasurer*, George Freeman. *Directors*: Thomas Keillor, James F. More, Michael Scott, James Douglas, John Lacy.

That this meeting consider it best to wait until the quarterly meeting in March before making any purchase, and in the meantime to try and ascertain where we can obtain such animals as we require.

SHELburne COUNTY.

BARRINGTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Barrington Agricultural Society was held in the Court house on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1865, the president in the chair. The committee submitted their report, which was adopted by the society.

Your committee beg to report that they forwarded the declaration, with the other requisite papers, to the Central Board of Agriculture, for the purpose of lawfully coming under the Act and obtaining the grant, after which we succeeded in obtaining the sum of \$100, being double the amount subscribed. We also beg to report that we ordered our agent in Halifax to attend the sale of pigs and rams at Richmond Depot, but they were sold at a higher rate than we thought best to give at present.

We now give an account of the receipts and expenditures of this society.

By subscriptions from members -	\$50 00	
Provincial grant -	100 00	
		\$150 00
For six Agricultural Journals -	\$3 00	
Books for Sec'y and Treas. -	0 34	
Postage and telegrams -	0 65	
Expenses drawing grant -	1 00	
		\$4 99
Cash on hand -	145 01	
		\$150 00

Your committee would recommend that members renew their subscription for the ensuing year, and that the money so obtained, together with what is on hand, be expended early in the spring in the purchase of stock, more particularly pigs and sheep, seeds and fruit trees. We would also recommend that an agricultural exhibition be held next autumn, and small premiums awarded to deserving exhibitors.

Where can we procure seeds, Goodrich potatoes—also improved fruit trees, apples, pears and plums, those that are adapted to this province?

Our society's year begins with April; we wish to know if we pay our subscription previous to that if we can draw the grant, or at what period in the year is it due? By answering the above you will greatly oblige.

R. H. CROWLEY Sec'y.

[Application for the Goodrich potatoes should be made to some of the gentlemen who obtained them last year, and whose names have been given in the *Agricultural Journal*. Mr. Sidney Shaw, and several other gentlemen in Cornwallis, have good apple trees for sale, that may be depended upon as true to name and well suited to

the province. There is a good selection of plums in the Horticultural Gardens, Halifax, where also we presume pears may be obtained. The Board is desirous that societies should be in a position to draw their grants as early in the season as possible, but no grants can be drawn until authorized by the Board at the semi-annual meeting in October; any delay beyond that date that has hitherto occurred in distributing grants, has been caused entirely by the dilatoriness of societies in sending in the requisite returns. —Ed.]

VICTORIA COUNTY.

ST. ANN'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the society was held on Tuesday the 5th December. The annual report of the officers and directors was read and adopted. The treasurer's accounts were found correct. All the office-bearers for last year were re-elected for the present year, viz:—*President*, John Robertson; *Vice-President*, Luther McLeod; *Sec'y*, John Morrison; *Treas.*, McLachlin McKimmon.

The first annual meeting of the society was held in terms of the act on the first Tuesday of December last, at which meeting it was agreed to make arrangements for the purchase of two Durham young bulls, if the funds of the society should be found sufficient to cover the cost and expenses. The probable cost being ascertained and submitted to the meeting in April, it was considered advisable to abandon the idea of importing the bulls for at least one year.

Observing that so many in the society's district gave more attention to the improvement of the hook and line and other fishing gear, than to that of their farming implements, it was considered necessary to order some forks for the spring work. Something over twenty-one dollars worth of forks was purchased, and sold to members for little less than first cost. We are under the impression that in some localities where no attention has been hitherto paid to the utility of improved farming implements, their introduction by the societies would be a good step in the direction of improvement.

Six rams and three ewes, improved breeds, have been just imported from Halifax, and are ready to be sold to the members of the society.

We also believe that through the medium of these societies a decided improvement will be distinctly observable, not only in the different kinds of live stock, but in all farm returns.

In this district many of the people being more dependent upon the fisheries than upon their farms, no system is observable in their farming operations. The manure heap is left exposed to the

weather, and no attention paid to compost. But such as have turned their attention to the proper securing of stable manure and compost heaps, together with the simple rotation of a few crops, the improvement is decidedly observable.

The hay crop in general is more than average. All the small patches of wheat gave a good return. The yield of oats and barley was a good average. Owing to the blight attacking the potatoes so early in the season, the yield was nothing to what it was last year.

Abstract of Receipts and Disbursements up to 5th December, 1865.

To subscriptions for year ending	
December, 1864 - - -	\$40 00
Provincial Grant - - -	40 00
Amount of subscriptions for year ending Dec. 1865 - - -	53 00
Provincial Grant do do -	62 00
Amount of proceeds of forks sold by society - - - - -	13 55
	\$228 55
Amount of receipts -	\$228 55
<i>Expenditure.</i>	
Books, Stationery and Postages	\$8 35
Forks bought, including expenses	21 25
Sheep do. do freight do	68 90
	\$98 50

Dec. 5, 1865, bal. on hand to date \$130 05
(Sale of Sheep to be added.)

JOHN ROBERTSON, *Pres.*
JOHN MORRISON, *Sec'y.*

MIDDLE RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This society was instituted as far back as the year 1845, (although newly organized under the Act of 1864), and ever since has acted with the utmost cordiality and friendship among its members, and always endeavoured to conform to the instructions of the Hon. the Board of Agriculture, while in existence.

This report is now humbly submitted with a grateful acknowledgment for the great encouragement bestowed by the Provincial Legislature of Nova Scotia, in liberally allowing a bounty for improvements. These improvements have been greatly increased by the members of the society, and every year progressively and visibly yielding essential benefit. It would be useless to give the circumstances of these advantages in detail; but with full assurance there is no experienced agriculturist by reporting in a retrospect what has been the state of the respective farms, and what their land now is, but will readily acknowledge the improvement made. In short, farmers have greatly overcome their prejudices; and the different modes of cultivating lands at the present day supersede every old and unexperienced system.

This society has, for years past, improved the breed of cattle by the Durham and Ayrshire, and sheep by the Leicester; and this season they have imported two very fine rams of the Cotswold sheep, and one Berkshire boar pig from the stock of H. E. Decie, Esq., of Annapolis county, which will make a considerable improvement in the breed of sheep and pigs.

We now give the state of the crops:
Hay.—This crop turned out well, yielding about two-thirds over the growth of last year, and saved in good condition.—This article commands a high price owing to the quantity consumed in the different coalmines of Cape Breton.

Oats.—This crop turned out well, and far above the average of last year, both in quantity and quality.

Barley.—This crop yielded well, something like one-third over the average of last year.

Wheat.—Owing to the ravages of the fly the crop had to be abandoned in this locality, and large quantities of barley sowed instead.

Potatoes.—This crop being early affected by the blight, consequently did not come to the usual growth, averaging six bushels to the one planted, and keeps well in the cellars since housed.

Exports.—640 head of cattle, 720 sheep, 1700 tubs of butter for the Newfoundland market, besides a large quantity of beef, pork and butter, to the Halifax market.

<i>State of the Society's Funds.</i>	
To balance in Treasurer's hands,	
in 1864 - - - - -	\$120 00
Subscription of members, 1865 -	80 00
Government bounty for 1865 -	80 00
	<hr/>
	\$280 00
By paid Allan McLean, bounty	
for 3 bears killed, at \$2 each -	\$6 00
J. G. McLeod, do. - - - - -	2 50
For 2 rams Cotswold sheep - -	40 00
Freight and expenses on do. from	
Annapolis to Middle River -	40 85
One Berkshire boar pig - - -	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$101 35
	280 00
	<hr/>
	\$178 65
Deduct for incidental expenses	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$166 65
Add nett proceeds of sales of two	
rams and one pig - - - - -	61 20
	<hr/>
	\$237 85

Balance in Treasurer's hands.
 JOHN McLELLAN, Sec'y.
 Dec. 26, 1865.

BADDECK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At an annual meeting of the Baddeck Agricultural Society held in the Court

House, in Baddeck, on the 5th day of December, 1865. William Jones, *Vice-President*, presiding, Robert A. Jones, *Secretary*.

The report of the President and Directors of said society was read and approved of by the society.

Amount of subscriptions - -	\$41 00
" in fund last annual meeting	112 00
	<hr/>
	\$153 00
" (including expenses) paid	
for Alderney Cow and Calf	57 55
	<hr/>
This amount in fund - -	\$95 45

Proceeds of sale of Cow, due 2nd	
January, from A. Taylor -	17 00
Proceeds of sale of Calf due 2nd	
January, from Franc. Arnold	17 00
Amt. of Prov. allowance not paid	49 00
	<hr/>
Total amount at disposal of soc.	\$178 45

We further beg to report that in the early part of the spring we endeavored to get breeding stock for the use of the society. After several enquiries being made, we ascertained that an Alderney bull, cow, and calf, could be purchased at Truro from one Mr. Blanchard, the former for \$16.00, and the latter for \$40.00, which we agreed to purchase, and entered into arrangements for that purpose; but after arrangements being made a swelling was noticed by the owners growing on the neck of the bull, consequently we did not purchase him, but we purchased the cow and calf at \$40.00; the expenses of them from Halifax amounted to \$17.55, making the sum mentioned in the foregoing statement of \$57.55; the cow was sold by us at auction on the second day of October last, for \$17.00, and purchased by A. Taylor, Esq., to be paid in three months from that date; the calf was also sold on the same day, and purchased by Francis Arnold for \$17.00, also payable in three months; both of which are to be kept for the use of the society for three years, as may be fully understood on reference to the minutes of a meeting of the Board held on the 4th September last; the calf is a fine promising animal, and no doubt if well cared for, will prove to be a great improvement to the breed of cattle in this district. After being disappointed in the arrangements made concerning the Alderney bull, we made several enquiries as to where the pure Durham, Alderney or Ayrshire bulls could be purchased, but failed in getting any satisfactory information, except from advertisements in the *Agricultural Journal*, and before we had time to communicate with the owners, the animals were either sold, or on enquiry being made would not suit our society. We also made enquiries for good sheep, cattle and pigs, but failed to get anything satisfactory. The advertisement for the sale of the government

sheep was not noticed by us until too late to make arrangements to purchase some of them, and even if we had time, we fear the sale was too high for us to purchase. Some of the rams sold as high as \$92.00.

We are in hopes that in the course of another year, as our funds are increasing and good breeding cattle are getting more numerous in the Province, we will have less difficulty in getting suitable cattle, sheep, and pigs for the use of our society.

We made no arrangements for cattle shows and premiums, as we were desirous to expend the funds in the purchase of cattle, &c.

We are unable to offer any remarks of importance on the agriculture of the country. Hay is an average crop. Oats a fair crop of straw, but much injured by the rust in many parts of the country. Barley a fair crop for the quantity sown. Wheat very little sown. Potatoes are much less than an average crop. Turnips a failure.

Before concluding these remarks we would earnestly urge the members to lend their assistance in promoting the interests of the society; our united efforts with the funds now at our disposal may be the means of promoting the agricultural interests of the district to great extent.

The following persons were duly elected office-bearers for the ensuing year, viz:—*President*, Alexander Taylor; *Vice-President*, William Jones; *Secretary*, Robert A. Jones; *Treasurer*, James Crowdis, *Directors*: David McCurdy, George Ingraham, James Kelly, jr., Alexander Cameron, Robert Anderson.

ROBT. A. JONES, *Secretary*.
 Baddeck, 4th December, 1865.

YARMOUTH COUNTY.

YARMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Hebron, Yarmouth, Dec. 15, '65.

The society met at 10 o'clock, A. M., on Tuesday the 5th December, Josiah Raymond, Esq., *President*, in the chair; and, after closing up the affairs of the society for the past year in a satisfactory manner, proceeded to re-organize.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:—*President*, Josiah Raymond; *Vice-Pres.*, H. Sanders; *Sec'y*, Jas. Crosby; *Treas.*, Chas. Cahan; *Directors*, Isaiah Crosby, John Trask, Henry Burrell, Nathan Butler, Hezekiah Porter.

The society's exhibition took place on Wednesday, 11th October. The stock on exhibition was superior to any exhibited at previous fairs, and articles of manufacture fully equal; the different kinds of grain were rather below former years,—grain of most kinds was a light crop this section.

Dr.	
To cash paid premiums - - -	\$87 65
Sheep imported - - - - -	74 00
Expenses on do. - - - - -	10 00
Forty-two copies <i>Ag. Journal</i> -	21 00
Advertising - - - - -	3 75
Rent, Postage, &c. - - - - -	3 90
Balance on hand - - - - -	108 29
	\$308 59
Cr.	
By cash on hand, Dec. 1864 -	\$129 73
Received fees for membership -	47 00
Sale of sheep, Oct. 30 - - -	33 80
Interest on money loaned - - -	4 06
Provincial grant - - - - -	94 00
	\$308 59

The society also has on hand one Cotswold ram, imported from Annapolis, cost \$20.

Premiums awarded, 1865.

L. Crosby, 2 yr old heifer - - -	\$1 50
Do. 4 yr old steers - - - - -	2 00
Do. cloth, two premiums - - -	2 25
Do. steer calves - - - - -	1 50
Do. mats - - - - -	1 50
Do. cheese - - - - -	0 75
Do. mitts - - - - -	0 50
H. Porter, barley - - - - -	1 50
Do. oats - - - - -	1 50
Do. 2 yr old bull - - - - -	1 50
Do. heifer calf - - - - -	1 25
J. B. Gillie, barley - - - - -	1 25
Do. apples - - - - -	0 75
Do. harrow frame - - - - -	0 50
J. Killam, barley - - - - -	1 00
Do. oats - - - - -	1 25
Do. 1 yr old heifer - - - - -	2 00
Isaiah Crosby, peas - - - - -	1 25
Do. 1 yr old heifer - - - - -	2 00
Do. butter - - - - -	0 50
Isaac Killam, turnip seed - - -	1 25
Do. buckwheat - - - - -	1 00
Do. cloth, two premiums - - -	2 25
A. Crosby, buckwheat - - - - -	1 25
Do. barley - - - - -	1 00
Do. peas - - - - -	0 75
Do. apples, two premiums - - -	1 50
Do. bull calf - - - - -	1 25
Do. heifer, 2 yr old - - - - -	2 00
Do. steers, 3 yr old - - - - -	1 00
Do. mitts - - - - -	0 40
John Rose, oats, two premiums -	2 75
Do. bull, 1 yr old - - - - -	2 00
Do. cloth - - - - -	0 75
Do. cheese - - - - -	1 00
Do. butter - - - - -	0 75
N. E. Butler, peas - - - - -	1 00
Do. sheep - - - - -	1 25
Enos Rogers, bull, 2 yr old - - -	2 00
Do. bull calf - - - - -	1 00
Do. heifer, 1 yr old - - - - -	1 00
Do. heifer calf - - - - -	1 50
Do. steers, 1 yr old - - - - -	2 00
N. Butler, bull, 1 yr old - - -	1 00
Do. steers, 11 yr old - - - - -	1 50
Do. heifer 1 yr old - - - - -	1 50
Do. mat - - - - -	0 75

John McCormack, bull calf - - -	1 50
Do. heifer calf - - - - -	1 00
Wm. Burkee, do. 2 yr old - - -	1 00
C. P. Dotey, do. 1 do. - - - - -	1 50
S. Churchill, steers, 3 yr old - -	2 00
Do. do. 1 do. - - - - -	1 00
Henry Burrell, do. 3 do. - - - -	1 50
William Murphy, milch cow - - -	2 00
Henry Sanders, do. - - - - -	1 50
Chas. Cahon, do. - - - - -	1 00
Do. sheep and lambs, 6 prem. -	6 50
Do. cheese - - - - -	0 50
John Young, pig - - - - -	1 50
Oliver Ellis do. - - - - -	1 25
Jas. Wyman do. - - - - -	1 00
John Trask, ewe lamb - - - - -	1 00
A. Walker, lamb 50c. harrow 75c. -	1 25
Enoch Porter, butter - - - - -	1 00
	\$87 65

PROPOSED EXHIBITION IN HALIFAX.

It has been suggested that the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of Halifax might unite in holding a Joint Exhibition during the fall of 1866, in the Horticultural Gardens. The matter is being talked about, but nothing has as yet been determined. No doubt something will be done, and the premium lists should be issued with as little delay as possible. Meantime intending competitors had better go to work.

THE COMING NOVELTIES OF 1866.

If coming events cast their shadows before, it is but fair that they should likewise cast their gleams of sunshine. The farmer and gardener cannot more profitably relieve the long winter evenings than by thinking over plans for the summer, the improvements that are to be made on the farm and in the garden, the experiments that are to be indulged in, the prizes that are to be competed for at the cattle show, the ploughing match and the flower fete, and the various other matters that require forethought and preparation. One of these is the careful selection of seeds, whether for the farm or garden, delay in which, is a fruitful source of disappointment and poor crops. As regards the choice of ordinary farm and garden seeds, these are so well known to every cultivator that he requires merely to exercise his own discretion and judgment. But in the new and untried crops, their character and even their very existence is too often unknown until the season is too far advanced to experiment or profit by it. It may therefore serve a good purpose if we state briefly what are the coming novelties of the ensuing season.

CEREALS.

Shirreff's Richard Wheat, raised by Mr. Shirreff, Haddington, near Edinburgh; a cross with Talavera and Shirreff's Bearded White, varieties yielding the finest flour of British grain; straw remarkably short, grain has remarkable flouring properties; not prone to blight or sprout.

Longfellow Oat. Also grown by Mr. Shirreff. Straw longer and grain finer than any sort already in cultivation in Scotland; chaff gray, grain silvery white, and adapted for milling and feeding.

Surrey White Wheat. This sort is highly recommended for poor and elevated soils, and is said to be a very fine variety of White Wheat, free from blight and rust. Waite, Barnell & Co., 181 High Holborn.

The Weevil Proof Wheat of Upper Canada. This sort has already been described in the Journal of Agriculture.

POTATOES.

French Kidney. This sort is said to be ten days earlier than the Ash-leaved Kidney, more prolific, and of excellent flavour. "It's the master of all the earlies."

Mona's Pride is a sub-variety of the Ash-leaved Kidney, and is described as "the earliest and best of the Ash-leaved varieties."

Erin's Queen Ash-leaved. This is described as very dwarf in the haulm, foliage of a dark green colour, "very early and invaluable for frames."

The Paterson Potatoes. What the late Rev. Mr. Goodrich did for the improvement of the potato in the United States, Messrs. Paterson of Dundee have been doing for it in Britain, and we are gratified to observe that their efforts have been acknowledged by the presentation to them of a silver claret jug and epergue at a public dinner, "in consideration of the great amount of labor and money they have expended during the past 40 years in endeavoring to improve and renew that most valuable of all roots, the potato," &c. The new sorts raised by Messrs. Paterson are said to be very superior, and are now advertised for sale in quantity.

NEW PEAS.

Sutton's Ringleader, (or *Carter's first crop*.) "The earliest pea in cultivation."

Carpenter's Express likewise claims to be the earliest pea known, having been gathered 7th May.

Dickson's First and Best. "The best early pea in cultivation."

Yorkshire Hero. A variety of the wrinkled marrow, 2½ feet in height, very branching and an abundant bearer, requires sowing very thin in good rich soil; it will produce from 50 to 70 well-filled pods of a delicious flavor. If testimonials are worth anything, this must be a good sort for general use.

Line-Inshire Gem is said to be superior to Yorkshire Hero, very prolific and very early.

The Essex Rival. A very superior and hardy sort.—Thomas Eley, Halstead.

Digswell Prize Endive. A curled-leaved sort, holding that happy medium between a coarse weedy kind, and varieties so endwarfed and curled as to be of very small size and very readily cut off by slight frosts.—B. S. Williams, Holloway.

FRUITS.

Raspberry Belle de Fontenay. Large, very prolific, and an abundant bearer. It is said to be quite distinct from all others in cultivation.

Milvern Hall Melon. This is a scarlet fleshed melon, said to be a valuable variety, the earliest of English melons to ripen, the freest in setting fruit, deliciously flavored, of moderate size (weighing 2½ lbs.) remarkably thin skinned and nicely ribbed.—B. S. Williams, Holloway, London.

Pitmaston Duchesse d'Angouleme Pear. This is quite a new English pear, which has been reported upon as very superior. We have already alluded to some samples exhibited at the London Horticultural Society's meeting.—T. Hewitt, Birmingham.

GARDEN FLOWERS.

Mithiola bicornis. This is a summer annual, an evening-scented stock, from the mountains of Greece. It is described as of unrivalled fragrance, "surpassing mignonette," the delicate perfume of a bed of it being perceptible at a distance of 100 yards. It is quite hardy.

Lobelia Snow-flake. A desirable bedding sort, flowers large, perfectly even, of the purest white. The stock comes true from seed.—J. & C. Lee, Hammersmith.

CLEANLINESS AND PURE AIR ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTH OF FARM ANIMALS.

An article in "The Farmer" of Nov. 1st, (an Edinburgh publication conducted with great ability and taste,) argues strongly in favor of cleanliness and pure air for cattle, on the principle that the same measures which keep human beings in health also effect the same end in the case of cattle. The Edinburgh Medical Committee of Investigation indeed reported, that while "no amount of filth will generate *Rinderpest*, it undoubtedly predisposes animals to take the disease, and tends greatly to intensify the poison, and to help to propagate it."

POULTRY SHOW—At the Birmingham Poultry Show held in December, the collection embraced two thousand and six pens of the choicest birds in the kingdom. At 4 p. m., on the first day of the show £600 had been taken at the sale office for birds claimed.

BOTANICAL OBITUARY OF 1865.

It is remarkable that during the past year botany and horticulture have lost an unusually large number of distinguished names, among whom are Sir William Hooker, the director of Kew Gardens; Sir Joseph Paxton, the architect of the exhibition building of 1851; Dr. John Lindley, Secretary of the London Horticultural society; and Lovell Reeve, F.L.S., the famous botanical publisher.

THE COTSWOLD SHEEP.

Nictaux, 15th Jan., 1866.

As the Cotswold Sheep appears very little known in the Province, I enclose you an article on the breed, published in the *Country Gentleman*. It might prove interesting to some of the subscribers if published in the Journal of Agriculture.

G. V. INCE.

"The late tests of the Wool growers' Association as to the comparative loss of different wools by thorough cleansing will have its good effect on the public. The Merino wool-growers have through the Agricultural press, by their report of enormous fleeces in the grease, made the impression on the public that the fine wool families were so much superior to the English combing wool breeds in the quantity of wool they produced as in the quality. This puts all these operations in their proper light before the wool growers of this country, and the introduction of the machinery and new forms of fabrics for want of cotton supply has enhanced the value of all coming wools in England and America, and has placed their commercial value nearly equal, pound for pound, with the ordinary felting or fine wools. The latter fact in connection with the late test must have had a great tendency to increase the flocks of Cotswolds and other combing wool breeds in America in all proper situations, viz: where the pasturage is rich and the soil strong, population most dense, and butcher's meat in most demand. Let the Merinos be consigned to cheap and thin soils and grasses, and to remote localities far away from the great centres of trade and population, where no demand exists for butcher's meat; here let them live and increase during their natural lives, producing wool alone, and they will be found in their appropriate and most profitable sphere.

The Cotswold is a highly improved animal, having in perfection all the high feeding qualities of the best short horn cattle and will make from a given amount of rich food as much return in butcher's meat as any other animal of any species. They thrive only in small flocks, and with high handling, rich food, and plenty of it. With the sheep family they occupy the same class that the short horn does with cattle—that is, the very best and cheapest machine a farmer can employ to manufacture his grain into manure. I have weighed ram lambs of this breed in August which had been yeanned in March, drawing 140lbs. each, live weight. The heaviest fleeces ever produced by this breed is by yearlings, if well kept."

THE SAHARUNPOOR RAT-TAIL RADISH—A greatly improved variety of the Rat-tail Radish (*Raphanus caudatus*) has been raised in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden, from seeds received from Mr. Bell, superintendent of the Saharunpoor Garden. The new sort has edible pods three feet long!

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

At the annual meeting of this society, Mr. Thompson, M. P., reported that the cost of the society's quarterly Journal for 1865 might be approximately stated at £1529. Prof Voelcker, the society's chemist, reported that he had made, during the past year, 316 analyses for members, and had lectured on potash deposits and on the quantities of water used for irrigation. He is engaged in the investigation of disinfectants, and in field experiments which take place in grass during hay-making and keeping in the stack. The Education Committee report as follows: the total number of candidates who have entered for the prizes of the society is 119, drawn from 17 counties of England. Of these candidates 82 are under the age of 16, of whom 74 are entered for the general junior examinations, 60 for prizes in pure mathematics, 15 in elementary mechanics, 4 in chemistry, and 1 in botany. There are 27 under the age of 18 who have entered for the general senior examination, and of these 21 are entered for prizes in pure mathematics, 2 in chemistry, 2 in zoology, 1 in botany, and 1 in geology. Those only who have passed the preliminary examination are eligible to obtain a prize in a special subject. Of candidates not exceeding 25 years of age, 13 have entered, of whom 12 compete in chemistry applied to agriculture. It is a circumstance not without its significance that the authorities of the university of Cambridge are going hand in hand with the Royal Agricultural Society in this matter.

BOTANICAL CONGRESS.—M. Alphonse DeCandolle, of Geneva, has been elected Chairman of the Botanical Congress to be held in London next summer.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Literary Communications are to be addressed to Dr. Lawson, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, Dalhousie College, Halifax. All lists of subscribers and remittances of subscriptions are to be sent to Messrs. A. & W. McKinlay, Publishers, Granville Street, Halifax.

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