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CONTENTS:

PAGE	PAGE
Editorial—Remarks on Annual Reports of Agricultural Societies—	Union Agri. Society of Digby..... 716
Improvement of Farm Animals—Farmers' Clubs proposed for	Weymouth Agri. Society..... 716
Nova Scotia—Potato Diggers—New Potatoes in Guysboro'—	Yarmouth County Agri. Society..... 716
Levy of Duties on Plough-Castings—Sundew as a fly-trap—Fer-	Yarmouth Township Agri. Society..... 717
tilization of Cereals and Timothy..... 713 and 714	Digby Central Agri. Society..... 717
Meeting of Representatives in Digby..... 714	Tatamagouche Agri. Society..... 718
Meeting of Representatives in Cumberland..... 715	Mahone Bay Agri. Society..... 719
Meeting of Representatives in Annapolis..... 715	Gairloch Agri. Society, Co. Pictou..... 719
Meeting of Representatives in Colchester..... 715	Halifax County Agri. Society..... 719
Representation of Yarmouth..... 715	MISCELLANEOUS:
REPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES:	Propagation of Plants by Seeds..... 719
Milford Haven Agri. Society, Co. Guysboro'..... 715	Butter in Sacks..... 720
Boulanderie Agri. Society..... 715	ADVERTISEMENTS..... 730

Halifax, January 20th, 1872.

We this month publish a continuation of the Annual Reports of the Agricultural Societies throughout the Province. A large number of these documents still remain to be printed in our next and future numbers; but it may not be amiss to refer briefly to some of the more noticeable points of the Reports already before our readers.

It will be evident to any one who reads these Reports that Improvement of Farm Animals is certainly the subject which rises above all others in importance in the minds of our energetic farmers. Those persons who can appreciate the feeling in this respect which exists now, and contrast it with the apathy and ignorance of seven or eight years ago, will be sensible of the valuable services rendered to the Province by the Central Board of Agriculture and its large family of County Societies. In those days a grade animal was counted as good as a thorough bred; now none of our Societies will use a grade on any terms if a thorough-bred can be obtained.

Then a few hundred dollars was thought to be a "fancy price" for a Bull, however good he might be, and no buyer could be obtained at such a price; now our farmers flock to the sales of stock and do not look at the price but at the animal and the produce which is to be the result of the purchase. Then imported animals were thought to be of no use unless they could be turned out into the woods to shift for themselves; now they are carefully fed and tended so that the fullest benefit may be realized. In short the steady improvement of stock has been accompanied by a growing feeling of interest on the part of our farmers, and by a corresponding improvement in the mode of treatment of all our farm animals; the results we see in the produce brought into our markets and in the increased comfort and intelligence of the farmers themselves. We doubt not but that there is at the present time growing up in the Province a race of young farmers who will rapidly distance their fathers in skill and enterprise, and the value of such a

result cannot well be over-estimated in an industrial community. That much still remains to be done is clearly indicated in these Reports. The Maxwells Society in Pictou County "after considerable time spent, and trouble involved" obtained a bull raised from stock imported by the Board, and although a grade, he gave great satisfaction, but the demand for another "of superior breed" is much felt. The Windsor Society reports: "No Government stock has been purchased by the Society, as it could not be procured." The Paradise Society has imported an Ayshire Bull from the State of Maine, also a Heifer of the same breed, besides purchasing a Short Horn, in King's County. At last meeting of the Amherst Society it was agreed to expend the funds in improvement of Stock; a similar resolution was passed by the North Sydney Society. The Middle River of Victoria Society finds great benefit from the Chester Pigs purchased from the Board's importation of 1870. This Society also reports upon an Alderney Bull purchased in the fall of

1868. This is the animal which was so much admired at the Provincial Exhibition of 1868, and with which Joseph J. Northup, Esq., took the first prize. Mr. Northup sold the Bull to the Middle River Society, and Mr. McLennan, the Secretary, now reports:—"The animals raised from the Alderney Bull are specimens of rare beauty, so that within the bounds of this Society yearling bulls and heifers can now be seen that would do credit to any Agricultural Society." The Sheep raised from the Ram purchased at the same time are also highly spoken of. The Halifax County Society has a balance in hand of upwards of \$300.00, a large portion of which they are desirous of investing in Stock so soon as an importation shall take place, in fact the Milford Section of the Society threaten to discontinue their subscriptions if Stock cannot be found. The Mahone Bay Society report well of the White Chester Pigs, and the Members of the Society are increasing in numbers. The Yarmouth Society complain that they have lost a year by the want of an importation of Stock last season. They passed a vote in February 1871, but could take no further action, and the Treasurer's account was consequently diminished, although the Society is in a flourishing and healthy condition, as is indeed shown by the fact that there is available for 1872, a sum of \$1279.81. The Secretary says: "Our importations of Stock have been invariably successful in effecting improvement," although the Society's funds have to pay for it in the first instance. The Digby Central Society imported a bull last Spring from New Brunswick, and another is now required. An Exhibition was held by this Society on 11th October, when there were more entries of live Stock than at any previous Exhibition. "Most of the cattle were very fine, thus showing the great improvement from the imported Stock. The sheep were quite inferior, not as good as last year, which speaks to every farmer that a better breed is required." The Weymouth Society is the only one in the Province, as far as we can judge, that has been unfortunate in its live Stock to a discouraging extent.

Alfred C. Thomas, Esq., in his report of the Windsor Society, calls attention to the want of any general means of personal communication among our farmers.

In England and elsewhere, "Farmers' Clubs," for the discussion of agricultural subjects, are to be everywhere found, and although the main intellectual fare at these entertainments is the substantial information supplied by the farmers themselves, yet great political magnates like Gladstone and Disraeli account it a privilege to throw in a little spice of political wit or wisdom, as the occasion may suggest. Stars of the first magnitude of English nobility grace these rural meetings. Buccleugh sits down at the Club Dinner with Mechi the strop-maker and a batch of burly farmers, and all feel better when they rise up again. If our Societies were to organize similar Clubs, we doubt not much benefit would flow from them, benefit to themselves and to the country at large.

The Parrsboro' Society is in correspondence with parties in the States and Ontario on the subject of potato diggers.

The Milford Haven Society, Co. Guysboro', feeling the necessity of improving their Seed Potatoes, imported five barrels of the best kinds from the States at a cost of \$45, and distributed them among the members. They have given entire satisfaction; "in consequence we look forward to an improvement in this most important crop, which has been fast wasting away."

The Milford Haven Society calls attention to a matter that will, no doubt, be taken up by the Board of Agriculture at its first meeting. It appears that the Society is in the habit, for reasons fully stated in the Report, of importing plough-castings, and that, although ploughs are on the free list, yet the Custom House authorities levy a duty upon the plough-castings.

Mrs. Treat of Vineland, New Jersey, finds (*Am. Jour. Sc.*, Dec.) that the *SUNDEW* (*Drosera longifolia*) is an effective fly-trap. On some of the plants in her window almost every leaf held a common house-fly prisoner until it died, and it did not take the leaf very long to fold completely round its victim. Professor Gray observes that in our common Sundew (*D. rotundifolia*) it is only the gland-tipped bristles that bend inward and hold the insect fast, while they probably suck the juice out of him. The folding of the leaf itself around the fly is a new fact; the blade incurves from apex to base in the manner of its veneration.

During last summer, Dr. Boswell-Syme investigated the FERTILIZATION OF CEREALS, and, in the London Journal of Botany for December, points out the remarkable fact that in Wheat and Barley the stigmas receive the pollen from the anthers before the latter are

protruded, and the exerted anthers he found to be always empty. In the Oat most of the protruded anthers are empty, but occasionally anthers with pollen are to be found after protrusion, and stigmas exposed at the sides of the florets, which are not found in Wheat and Barley. We may add that from observations made last summer, we believe a phenomenon similar to that observed in Wheat by Dr. B-S., takes place in Timothy (*Phleum pratense*). The rule of our best farmers is to begin cutting their Timothy between the first and second bloom. Now we believe that the great and rapid (almost sudden) elongation of the filaments takes place after fertilization, at least all the exerted anthers examined last summer (not very many were found to be empty. We invite attention to the subject, and shall extend our own observations during the forthcoming season, the facts mentioned having been merely noticed incidentally in the course of another investigation.

MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES IN DIGBY.

At a meeting of Representatives from the different Agricultural Societies in the County of Digby, held at St. Mary's Bay this 2nd day of January, 1872, for the purpose of electing a member to represent the said County at the Central Board of Agriculture, for the Province of Nova Scotia. Present, as representatives from the following Societies:—Digby Society, John Dakin, Esq.; St. Mary's Bay do., not represented; Weymouth, do., Wm. H. Dahlgreen; Clare, do., Anselm M. Comeau. J. S. M. Jones was appointed Secretary, *pro tem*. Moved by Mr. Comeau, and seconded by Mr. Dahlgreen, that John Dakin, Esq., be the Representative for the County. He, not objecting, was chosen.

J. S. M. JONES, Secretary.

ST. MARY'S BAY, D. C., Jan. 2, 1872.

MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES IN CUMBERLAND.

AMHERST, January 3, 1872.

A meeting of the Representatives elected by the Agricultural Societies of the County of Cumberland, for the purpose of electing a member for the Central Board, was held at the Court House, this day. Mr. J. D. Dixon, Representative from the Parrsboro Society, was elected Chairman. Mr. Gilbert Seaman, Representative from Minudie, was elected Secretary.

Hiram Black, Esq., Representative from the Amherst Society, was selected by ballot as the Delegate to the Central Board of Agriculture, for the County, for the present year.

The Societies represented were—Amherst, Minudie and Parrshoro'.

A note was received from the Hon. Alex. MacFarlane, of Wallace Society, regretting his inability to attend.

It was understood that no other Agricultural Society was under organization in this County at the present time.

J. D. DICKSON, Chairman.
GILBERT SEAMAN, Sec'y.

MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES IN ANNAPOLIS.

PARADISE, Jan. 4, 1872.

Enclosed please find certificate, or memorandum, of the election of George Whitman, Esq., as the Representative for this County in the Central Board of Agriculture. Messrs. George Whitman, Charles Whitman and myself were the Representatives who met, representing the following Societies, viz: West Annapolis, Bridgeown and Paradise, when, as before intimated, we elected Geo. Whitman, Esq.

A. LONGLEY.

BRIDGETOWN, Jan. 3, 1872.

According to previous arrangement Representatives from three of the Agricultural Societies in the County met at Bridgetown on the above named date, for the purpose of electing a member to represent the County in the Central Board of Agriculture, in accordance with the Act of Assembly of last session, entitled an Act to amend Chapter 96 of the Revised Statutes, "Of the Encouragement of Agriculture," the choice falling upon George Whitman, Esq., whose name is hereby inscribed as the Representative for Annapolis County.

A. LONGLEY.
Secretary of Meeting.

REPRESENTATION OF YARMOUTH

Yarmouth, 13th January, 1872.

Only two days ago, happening to meet my brother in town, I asked him if he had received his appointment to the Central Board, to which he replied that he had done nothing in the matter. Having notified the Representatives of the several societies, it seemed to me that it belonged to them to meet and conclude the matter; however, they did not so understand it, and I have this morning sent an express ten miles to get signature of Township Representative to enclosed document, which, I suppose, is sufficient.

The Public Agricultural Society. I am informed, has been abandoned

CHAS. E. BROWN.

Yarmouth, January 13th, 1872.

We, the undersigned Representatives of the several Agricultural Societies in Yarmouth, concur in the nomination of

George S. Brown as Member of the Central Board for said County.

JAS. CROSBY, for Township Ag. Socy.
Geo. S. BROWN, for Co. Ag. Socy.

MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES IN COLCHESTER.

At a meeting of Representatives from the different Agricultural Societies in the County of Colchester, held in Truro, this tenth day of January, A. D. 1872, for the purpose of electing a member to represent the said County at the Central Board of Agriculture for the Province of Nova Scotia.—Present as representatives from the following Societies:—

Tatmagouche—James Clarke.
Sterling—William Creighton.
Onslow—Israel Longworth.
Lower Stewiacke—William H. Hogge.
Shubensadie—Colonel J. W. Lawrie.

Colonel J. W. Lawrie was appointed Chairman, and Israel Longworth Secretary of the Committee.

On ballot being taken, it was decided that Israel Longworth be the representative from the County to the Central Board of Agriculture.

J. WINBURN LAWRIE,
Chairman.
ISRAEL LONGWORTH,
Secretary.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

MILFORD HAVEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In drawing up their annual report, this Society are happy to congratulate the Board on the agricultural prospects of this county as compared with the past few years. All the crops, with the exception of potatoes, have been more than an average, though the deficiency in the potato crop has been considerable, probably twenty-five per cent. under an average. Wheat has been decidedly better than the past few years, though not sown to the extent its importance demands. The hay crop is probably fifty per cent better than last year. Oats have yielded better crop than last year and of superior quality. Buckwheat is much better than the past two years. The market for beef, butter, &c., has been very good the past year. The Society, feeling the necessity of improving their seed potatoes and placing an improved seed in the hands of every one of its members, imported five barrels of the most improved seed from the United States, at a cost of about forty-five dollars, and gave them out to each member of the Society as a free gift to induce their culture and promote a more lively interest in spreading the seed throughout the county, the growth of

which has given entire satisfaction, in consequence of which we look forward for an improvement in that most important crop, which has been fast wasting away. The Society likewise imported some smaller seeds, consisting of beans, peas, beets, carrots, turnips, tomatoes and other small seeds; also, a quantity of grass seed, which has all been sold to the members at twenty-five per cent discount on cost and charges. This Society has been in the custom of importing castings from the United States for improved ploughs. This year they imported but a small lot, which was given to the members at a discount of thirty-five per cent on costs and charges; this enables the members to get their ploughs at a very moderate cost, as the plough was either fitted up by the farmer himself, or otherwise by his neighbouring carpenter, which in turn gave him employment. This system, in view of this Society, was preferable to the importation of the whole implement from the United States, as in many cases the farmer himself could, during the long winter, fit up his own plough. But we were met with a Customs Duty of fifteen per cent. on the Invoice of the different pieces of castings required for the plough, which was never exacted from us before though the implement in its entirety is free of duty, yet the Customs office claim duty for the different pieces of which it is composed. This Society feel that this is a hardship which the Central Board could influence the Government in getting removed.

First, We want the American Casting, because it is preferable to our own casting, one of them wearing out two of ours.

Secondly, We want the casting because the Society can place in the hands of each of its members a plough of an improved pattern for one-third the cost of the entire plough, putting the freight and charges for importation of the entire article in the pocket of the Agriculturist, while it places an improved plough in his hands and employment for his neighbouring mechanic, who can fit it up equally as well and at a less cost than the American.

We want the castings duty free, because the entire plough is duty free, and for the same considerations. We would respectfully urge these views on the Central Board, that it might use its influence with the Government for a remedy for the benefit of the societies of this Province generally.

The certificate of the names of the subscribers, with the amounts of their subscriptions to this Society, required by law, has been forwarded to enable the Society to draw the annual grant for the past year. During the short time since the formation of this Society, we believe it has done important service in the county for the improvement

of agriculture. Its members have steadily increased. It now numbers fifty-even members. It has stimulated an improvement in the implements as well as a more improved seed and breed in the county. Annexed is a statement of account of Expenditure during the year, which, in consequence of the death of our late lamented Treasurer, has been thrown together into one account, showing a balance in favour of the Society of \$152.94, which sum has now been voted at this annual meeting to be appropriated in the introduction of a good breed of Pigs and some superior seed wheat and Oats. This Society has nominated Mr. Geo. Cameron as their delegate or representative to choose a representative for the County for the formation of a Central Board. The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:—*Pres.*, Thomas McDonald; *Vice Pres.*, James McDonald; *Sec'y*, John A. Steele; *Treas.*, Colin Chisholm; *Directors*, Thomas Cleary, James L. Whitman, Thomas McKeough, James Hall, Andrew Leet.

Dr.	
To paid for Grass Seeds.....	\$ 37 00
Paid Ames Co. Bill for Plough Castings...	32 37
Paid Customs Duties on Castings, \$4 60,	
Freight and Dif. Currency, \$3.03,...	7 63½
Paid L. Rogers Bill for Potatoes & small	
Seeds.....	62 53
Incidental Expenses of management	38 38
\$107 91	
Cr.	
By Cash balance due per acct. '70 \$	18 48
57 Subscriptions.....	57 00
Provincial Grant.	106 00
Cash per Receipts.....	58 27 249 75
Cash Balance.....	71 84
Promissory notes due Society.....	81 10
Balance.	\$152 94

JOHN B. SIMPSON, *President*.
WILLIAM TORY, *Secretary*.

December 26th, 1871.

BOULARDERIE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

LITTLE BRAS D'OR, Dec. 18, 1871.

The annual meeting was held on 5th December. The following office-bearers were elected:—*Pres.*, Henry McKinnon; *Vice Pres.*, Alex. Moore, Esq.; *Sec'y*, William McKay; *Treas.*, John Ross, M. P. P.; *Directors*, Hugh McKinnon, Solomon Knock, Charles Cordiner, John Moffat, Murdoch McLean. John Ross, M. P., elected delegate to Central Board. A number of members neglected to pay in their subscription before the list of members was sent in. They were under the impression that it would do to pay at the Annual meeting. The case was put before the meeting, and it was unanimously carried that they would be admitted as full members, which makes a total of 72 members for the Society.

The Bull Sir Halbert, purchased by the Society last year, had his leg accidentally broken last summer, and conse-

quently had to be killed, which was a great loss to the Society. The other bull, Ontario Farmer, was sold under restriction, and to be kept for the use of the Society for two years.

The Society submits the following observations as to the state of crops in this locality:—The hay crop turned out this year more than an average crop. Wheat, barley and oats, an average crop and of good quality. The turnip crop turned out an average crop; but we have to announce that the potato crop is almost a total failure. It will not exceed a third of last year's crop, owing to the blight having struck very early in August.

Receipts, \$250.99; Expenditure, \$120; Balance, \$130.99.

W. MCKAY, *Sec'y*.

UNION AGRICULTURAL SOC'Y. OF DIGBY.

St. MARY'S BAY, 20th Dec., 1871.

The annual meeting of the Union Agricultural Society was held on the 5th inst., as the law directs. The following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, William H. Haines; *Vice-Pres.*, Joseph Lent; *Sec'y*, Joseph S. McNeil; *Treas.*, George Saxton, Jr.; *Directors*, William H. John, Robt. W. Marshall, Bernard McNeil, Stephen Young and Asa Porter, Jr.

William H. John was elected a Representative to meet with Representatives of other Societies of the County, for the purpose of electing a Representative to the Central Board.

Receipts and disbursements were as follows:—Cash received, \$135.75; Expenditure, \$120.92; Balance, \$14.85.

J. S. McNEIL, *Sec'y*.

WEYMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WEYMOUTH, January 2nd, 1872.

The annual meeting of the Weymouth Agricultural Society was held at "Temperance Hall," on Tuesday, the 5th Dec.

The following officers were elected:—*Pres.*, A. D. Hoyt, Esq.; *Vice-Pres.*, W. H. Dahlgreen; *Sec'y*, J. S. M. Jones; *Treas.*, S. Jones, Esq. *Directors*, Jeremiah Dahlgreen, Jacob Wymau, Ephraim Brooks, A. C. Gates, George Taylor.

Mr. Wm. H. Dahlgreen was elected to represent the Weymouth Society, to decide the representation at the Central Board of Agriculture for the County of Digby.

The Report of the Secretary was read and accepted.

I am happy to say that the Society, for the last two years, has been in good working order, and has given general satisfaction. We were unfortunate in

former years in getting stock that did not give general satisfaction, and caused much complaint in the Society, consequently, for the last two years, we have not imported stock, but turned our attention to seeds and Superphosphate of lime. This last year we got the Cumberland Phosphate, and considered it far superior to that known as the St. John Phosphate. I am in hopes this year the Society will again try importing stock, as we are very much in want of a good breed of cattle and sheep.

The crops generally in this County were good. Hay was over the average. Much of it spoiled in curing, owing to the heavy rains.

J. S. M. JONES, *Sec'y*.

YARMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

REPORT.

The Treasurer's account of the County Agricultural Society for the year 1871, is herewith submitted, showing—

Receipts from all sources.....	\$1546 57
Expenditures.....	\$1096 70
Cash on hand.....	449 81
	1546 57 -
Cash on hand.....	\$ 449 81

OTHER ASSETS FOR 1872.

Government Grant for 1871, say.....	180 00
Subscriptions for 1872, say.....	500 00
Admittance to Exhibition	150 00

Available in 1872.....\$1270 81

provided there be no greater advance, to ensure which only zeal and industry are needed.

Our record for Agricultural papers stands well, but should number one for every member of the Society; indeed it should be a condition of the grant from Government that at least one Agricultural paper be taken by every member of a society.

The season for haymaking was so unfavorable, although the very time for machinery, that there was less disposition than should be shown to invest money in improved haying implements. The few introduced into different parts of the County will, no doubt, lead to larger importations hereafter.

Owing to the suspension of the operations of the Board of Agriculture, in consequence of the Amendment to the Act on Agriculture, passed at the last session of the Legislature, there has been no opportunity of buying stock this fall from a promised importation from Ontario. In the March Journal it was intimated that such stock would be imported as was needed in the various sections of the Province to meet local wants. In consequence of this intimation, no effort has been made to carry out a vote passed at the quarterly meeting in February to procure a lot of sheep, not anticipating that the Board of Agriculture would

virtually abrogate their functions for the year. [It is not correct to say that the Board "abrogated their functions for the year." They were legislated out of office, were told that they could not act as a Board, could not borrow money to make importations or deal with any public funds, and were therefore compelled to relinquish any importation for the year.—Ed. J. A.] Action has at length been taken for the formation of a new Board, and it will be a part of the business of today to elect a Member of the Society as a Representative.

With this explanation of the diminution of Treasurer's account, as compared with 1870, the Society may be fairly rated as in a healthy and flourishing condition. The list of members includes every settlement in the County, and will certainly be larger in 1872 than in any previous year. That the Exhibition in October was a success, is attested by Mr. Swain's photograph, which is also satisfactory evidence that we have reached our limit of expansion, and that ampler accommodation is imperative.

Our importations of Stock has been invariably successful in effecting improvement, and however discouraging our sales of expensive animals may be, the only course is to persevere, content to submit to immediate loss in the certainty of a rapid advance in value, through a constantly increasing demand for superior cattle for the market and the dairy.

At the quarterly meeting in February, members should attend with memoranda for anything required in Seed Fruit Trees, Stock, Machinery, &c., for the year. Our financial condition will then be established, and funds can be distributed.

The Apple Trees imported as Root Grafts in 1869, and sold at \$1.00 per hundred, have done remarkably well; wherever properly cultivated they will average, according to variety, from four to six feet in height, and some varieties will bear fruit next year. The plum trees have also done well. Pears were a failure.

It remains with the Members of the Society to distribute the coming year by contributing each for himself his share all through the year towards further progress by considering and advocating the most useful employment of the funds, and by attending regularly and punctually at the meetings.

An annual Exhibition is essential to continued success. Interest in the Society is so chiefly maintained, and it would be unwise to forego for a single year this measure and comparison of improvement. For the Committee,

CHARLES E. BROWN.

Annual meeting. Vice-President in the Chair. The day being stormy, a small attendance.

Minutes of quarterly meeting, Treasurer's account, and annual report adopted and passed.

Subscription list signed by thirty-six (36) members, amounting to one hundred and sixty-two dollars (\$162.)

Officers elected—Charles E. Brown, *President*; Dennis C. Weston, *Vice-President*; L. E. Baker, *Secretary and Treasurer*; Benj. Killam, J. W. Moody, Charles W. Smith, A. C. Robbins, Henry Burrill, *Managing Committee*; George S. Brown, *Representative for Central Board*.

CHAS. E. BROWN, *Sec. pro tem.*
Yarmouth, Dec. 5th, 1871.

YARMOUTH TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

I beg to submit the report of the annual meeting of the Yarmouth Township Agricultural Society, together with financial statement for the past year.

Meeting was held on Tuesday, Dec. 25th, in accordance with Act. Vice President, R. K. Rose, in the chair. Reports of Secretary and Treasurer presented and passed. Officers for ensuing year were elected as follows:—*Pres.*, John Patten; *Vice-Pres.*, Robt. K. Rose; *Treas.*, G. Washington Sanders; *Sec'y*, James Crosby. *Directors*, Wm. Murdhy, Stephen Churchill, Charles Cahan, Jr., John McCormack, Lemuel Crosby. Premiums awarded at the Society's Exhibition in October were then paid to all persons.—The Secretary was appointed, in compliance with amended Act, the Society's Representative to meet with representatives from other societies of the County, to elect a member to the Agricultural Board.

JAMES CROSBY, *Sec'y.*

FINANCIAL REPORT.

1871.	Dr.	
To Cash fees of Membership from 80 Members		\$ 80 00
Earnings of Bulls		67 00
Cash from Sale of Bulls		81 00
		<hr/>
	Cr.	\$228 00
By Cash balance on Ayrshire Bull paid S. Churchill		\$ 9 46
Wintering Bull		20 00
Keeping Bulls, Summer		30 00
Paid for Premiums		102 50
Advertising		3 75
Postage, Rent, Stationery, &c		2 37
		<hr/>
Balance on hand		168 07
		59 93
		<hr/>
		\$228 00

DIGBY CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In reporting to you our proceedings during the past year, we beg leave to remind you that at the close of the last year the two bulls belonging to the Society were sold at public auction, which

left the Society without any bulls for the present season,

At a meeting held on the 15th of April last it was decided to purchase a pure bred bull for the Society, and one hundred and twelve dollars was appropriated for that purpose. The Society appointed Messrs. John Dakin and John Walsh, who proceeded to New Brunswick, where they obtained a very fine animal, two years old, for seventy dollars and fifty-three cents, including expenses.

The Society made arrangements with Mr. Emry Turnbull to keep the bull for one year, for forty dollars, under certain restrictions.

It will be necessary for our successors in office to consider the propriety of getting another bull, as the distance is so great (about 14 miles) that one will not be sufficient.

Owing to a Society being organized at St. Mary's Bay last spring, our Society has been deprived of several members, therefore our Society at present only numbers fifty-three members (being five less than last year), who subscribed and paid sixty dollars.

The following are their names, and the amount subscribed and paid by each:—

William T. Turnbull \$1, Francis Rice \$1, Alexander Turnbull \$1, Robert J. Turnbull \$1, James H. Roop \$1, James W. Poole \$2, John Dakin \$2, Charles T. Potter \$1, Benjamin Hardy \$1, Charles E. Ware \$1, James H. Marshall \$2, John Nichols \$2, Charles S. Cosett \$1, William Aymar, J. P., \$2, William O'Dell \$1, Marr Porter \$1, Edward G. Woodman \$1, John D. Bacon \$1, James E. Cosett \$1, William M. Jones \$1 Wm. Edward Dunn \$1, John Welsh, J. P., \$1, James Lambertson \$1, John Abbott \$2, Mas C. Roop \$1, Albert Peck \$1, Jesse K. Warne \$1, William Hunt £2, Abraham Spurr \$1, Charles Bell \$1, Charles Hineman \$1, Josiah Purdy \$1, Jeremiah Potter \$1, Benjamin Hunt \$1, Caleb Sulis \$1, Richard Morgan \$1, Benjamin Rice \$1, Edward H. Nichols \$1, Rev. John Ambrose \$1, George Henderson, J. P., \$1, William H. Taylor, J. P., \$1, Elisha Payson \$1, John J. Franklin \$1, Alfred Rice \$1, George Cosett \$1, Albert Purdy \$1, Nelson Miller \$1, Abraham Nichols \$1, James A. Nichols \$1, Solomon Marshall \$1, Lauchlan McKay, J. P., \$1, George H. Hardy \$1, Thomas Hill \$1.

At a meeting of the Officers and Directors, held on the 29th April last to take into consideration and adopt some means to fill up the Society and place it in a position to draw the Government grant, it was resolved that in the opinion of the Officers and Directors present, that the only way to fill up the Society was to have an Exhibition. It was therefore decided to hold an Exhibition on Wednesday, the 11th day of October, which was

done, and prizes were awarded as follows:—

Best pair Steers, 3 years old, John Dakin,	\$2.50
2nd " " " R. J. Turnbull,	2.00
Best pair Steers, 2 years old, Alex. Turnbull,	2.00
2nd " " " John Dakin,	1.50
Best pair Steers, 1 year old, Alex. Turnbull,	1.50
2nd " " " Jas. W. Poole,	1.25
Best Heifer, 2 years old, James H. Roop,	1.00
2nd " " " R. J. Turnbull,	0.55
Best Heifer, 1 year old, George H. Hardy,	0.75
2nd " " " Chas. Hineman,	0.50
Best Bull Calf, Benjamin Hardy	1.00
2nd " " " Not awarded,	0.75
Best pair Steer Calves, R. J. Turnbull,	1.00
2nd " " " Not awarded,	0.75
Best Heifer Calf, Alex. Turnbull,	1.00
2nd " " " John J. Franklin,	0.75
Best Ram Lamb, Solomon Marshall,	0.75
2nd " " " John Nichols,	0.60
3rd " " " Not awarded,	0.50
Best Ewe Lamb, John Nichols,	0.75
2nd " " " John Nichols,	0.60
2nd " " " John J. Franklin	0.50

In this Class there was a larger number of entries than at any previous Exhibition. Most of the cattle were very fine, thus showing the great improvement by the Imported Stock.

The sheep were quite inferior; not as good as last year, which speaks to every farmer that a better breed is required.

CLASS 2.

Best ½ bush. Wheat, Benjamin Hardy,	\$0.75
2nd " " " Not awarded,	0.60
3rd " " " " " "	0.50
Best ½ bush Barley, William Aymar,	0.70
2nd " " " Charles E. Warne,	0.60
3rd " " " Caleb Sulis	0.50
Best ½ bush. Oats, Charles E. Warne,	0.40
2nd " " " William Aymar,	0.30
3rd " " " James H. Marshall,	0.25
Best ½ bush Smooth Buckwheat, Wm. Aymar,	0.50
2nd " " " Chas. E. Warne,	0.40
3rd " " " R. J. Turnbull,	0.30
Best ½ bush Rough Buckwheat, Benj. Hardy,	0.50
2nd " " " R. J. Turnbull,	0.40
3rd " " " John Nichols,	0.30
Best ½ bush Timothy Seed, Abraham Nichols,	0.50
2nd " " " Abraham Nichols,	0.40
Best peck Beans, William M. Jones,	0.30
2nd " " " Charles E. Warne,	0.25
3rd " " " James W. Poole,	0.20
Best peck Pease, James H. Marshall,	0.30
2nd " " " John Dakin,	0.25
3rd " " " Charles T. Potter,	0.20
Best peck Onions, Benjamin Hardy,	0.30
2nd " " " Solomon Marshall,	0.25
Best 12 ears Indian Corn, Benjamin Hardy,	0.30
2nd " " " William O'Dell,	0.25
3rd " " " James W. Poole,	0.20
Best peck Parsnips, Lauchlan McKay,	0.25
2nd " " " Not awarded,	0.20
Best ½ bush. Yellow Carrots, Wm. Aymar,	0.30
2nd " " " Lauchlan McKay,	0.25
3rd " " " John Dakin,	0.20
Best ½ bush. White Carrots, Jas. W. Poole,	0.30
2nd " " " John Dakin,	0.25
3rd " " " Not awarded,	0.20
Best ½ bush. Garden Beets, Chas. T. Potter,	0.30
2nd " " " Jas. W. Poole,	0.25
3rd " " " Lauch. McKay,	0.20
Best ½ bush Mangel Wurtzel, Jas. A. Nichols,	0.30
2nd " " " Chas. E. Warne,	0.25
3rd " " " William O'Dell,	0.20
Best ½ bush. Swedish Turnips, J. A. Nichols,	0.25
2nd " " " Chas. E. Warne,	0.20
3rd " " " Lauch. McKay,	0.15
Best ½ bush White Turnips, Abraham Nichols,	0.25
2nd " " " Caleb Sulis,	0.20
3rd " " " Not awarded,	0.15
Best ½ pound Hops, Jesse K. Warne,	0.25
2nd " " " William M. Jones,	0.20
Best ½ bush Potatoes, Early blues, G. H. Hardy,	0.25
2nd " " " E. G. Woodman,	0.20

Best ½ bush Potatoes, Early Rose, Benj. Hardy,	0.25
2nd " " " John Dakin,	0.20
Best ½ bush Potatoes, Carters, Benj. Hardy,	0.25
2nd " " " E. G. Woodman,	0.20
Best ½ bush Potatoes, Pogies, Benj. Hardy,	0.25
2nd " " " E. G. Woodman,	0.20
Best Three Pumpkins, Benj. Hardy,	0.25
2nd " " " James W. Poole,	0.20
3rd " " " Abraham Nichols,	0.15
Best Three Squashes, James W. Poole,	0.25
2nd " " " John Abbott,	0.20
3rd " " " Lauchlan McKay,	0.15
Best 6 heads Cabbage, Solomon Marshall,	0.50
2nd " " " Solomon Marshall,	0.40
3rd " " " Robt. J. Turnbull,	0.30
Best dozen Apples, Jesse K. Warne,	0.30
2nd " " " John Dakin,	0.25
3rd " " " Benjamin Hardy,	0.20
4th " " " John Nichols,	0.15
5th " " " William Aymar,	0.15
6th " " " Abraham Nichols,	0.15
Best dozen Pears, Abraham Nichols,	0.25
2nd " " " Jesse K. Warne,	0.20
3rd " " " Jesse K. Warne,	0.15
Best dozen Quinces, Charles Hineman,	0.25
2nd " " " Benjamin Hardy,	0.20
3rd " " " Jesse K. Warne,	0.15
Best peck Crab Apples, Jesse K. Warne,	0.25
2nd " " " Jesse K. Warne,	0.20
Best peck Plums, Benjamin Hardy,	0.25
2nd " " " Geo. B. Hardy,	0.20
Best six bunches Grapes, Solomon Marshall,	0.25
2nd " " " William Aymar,	0.20

In this department there were not as many entries as last year, as several of the members did not attend. Perhaps they thought the day would be unfavorable, or their neighbor's articles were better than theirs, and therefore did not attend; but it is to be regretted that there should be any falling off, and more so on the day of the Exhibition, for it requires all to attend on that day, as it makes the Exhibition more interesting.

CLASS 3.

Best firkin Butter, not less 10 lbs, B. Hardy,	\$0.75
2nd " " " W. M. Jones,	0.60
3rd " " " C. E. Warne,	0.50
Best sample Butter, in rolls, W. M. Jones,	0.50
2nd " " " Benj. Hardy,	0.40
3rd " " " R. J. Turnbull,	0.35
Best Cheese, R. J. Turnbull,	0.50
2nd " " " R. J. Turnbull,	0.45
3rd " " " Not awarded,	0.40
Best 10 yds Cloth, all wool, Men's wear,	1.00
Mrs. James W. Poole,	1.00
2nd do, do, do, Mrs. C. E. Warne,	0.75
Best 10 yds Cloth, cotton and wool, Men's wear,	1.00
Mrs. E. G. Woodman,	1.00
2nd do, do, do, Mrs. R. J. Turnbull,	0.75
Best 10 yds Cloth, all wool, Women's wear,	1.00
Mrs. James H. Marshall,	1.00
2nd do do, do, Not awarded,	0.75
Best 10 yds Cloth, cotton and wool, Women's wear, Mrs. James W. Poole,	1.00
2nd do, do, do, Mrs. E. G. Woodman,	0.75
Best 10 yds Twilled Flannel, all wool, Not awarded	0.50
2nd do, do, do, Not awarded,	0.40
Best 10 yds Twilled Flannel, cotton and wool, Mrs. C. E. Warne,	0.50
2nd do, do, do, Mrs. C. E. Warne,	0.40
Best 10 yds Linen Cloth, Mrs. J. H. Marshall,	1.00
2nd " " " Not awarded,	0.75
Best pound Flax, Mrs. J. H. Marshall,	0.25
2nd " " " Not awarded,	0.20
Best Wool Mat, Mrs. R. J. Turnbull,	1.00
2nd " " " Mrs. C. T. Potter,	0.50
3rd " " " Mrs. R. J. Turnbull,	0.30
Best pair Men's Socks, Mrs. C. E. Warne,	0.20
2nd " " " Mrs. R. J. Turnbull,	0.15
Best pair Women's Stockings, Mrs. C. E. Warne,	0.25
2nd do, do, Mrs. C. E. Warne,	0.20

In this department most of the articles were good. Many of them were in advance of last year, or of any previous Exhibition.

The Cloth was made of the best materials, and neatly done.

The Butter was very nice indeed, which shows the interest taken by the ladies in their department.

As a whole the Exhibition was a success.

We have also to inform you of the receipts and disbursements of the Society during the year:—

Cash in the hands of Treasurer at Annual Meeting, 1870,	\$28 20½
Cash by Government Grant, 1870,	78.00
" by Members for 1871,	60.00
" by Sale of Boards,	0.00
	\$172 80½
Cash paid for Bull and expenses,	\$70.53½
" " Printing & Postage	4.10
" " Fitting up ground for Exhibition,	22.30
" " Prizes awarded,	60.05
" " Secretary's Salary & Stationery,	8 00
	105.73½

In hands of Treasurer..... \$7.06

Respecting the crops we would beg to report:—Hay good—above an average. Wheat sown early was good, but later sown was a light crop Barley a fair crop. Oats, better than last year. Indian Corn but little planted. Buckwheat a light yield in most places. Potatoes a light crop—very much injured by blight. Turnips a poor crop. Other roots a light yield. Apples in some orchards good, in other indifferent. Cherries a good yield. Gooseberries and Currants very much injured by worms, nearly stripped of their foliage in the early part of the season.

5th DECEMBER, 1871.

The following are the officers elected for the present year:—Pres., John Dakin; Vice-Pres., Benjamin Hardy; Sec'y. & Treas., William Aymar; Directors, John Welsh, James H. Marshall, Robert J. Turnbull, William O'Dell, Charles T. Potter.

WM. AYMAR, Secretary.

TATAMAGOUCHE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TATAMAGOUCHE, Dec. 9, 1871.

The annual meeting of the Tatamagouche Agricultural Society was held in Mr. Clarke's shop, on the 5th inst., but owing to the smallness of the meeting it was decided to hold an adjourned meeting for the transaction of business, which was held on the 16th, when the following persons were elected officers for the coming year:—Pres., E. D. Roach, M. D.; Vice-Pres., James Clarke; Treas., John Clark; Sec'y., W. A. Patterson; Directors, Geo. Clark, John Bonyman, David Fraser, Geo. McLanders and Alexander Matheson.

The Society then elected James Clark Representative, to represent them at the meeting of Representatives of the different Societies in the County, to elect one to be a member of the Central Board.

Enclosed find copy of the Treas. acct. Balance in hand, \$6.29½.

W. A. PATTERSON, Sec'y.

MAHONE BAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The following was accidentally omitted in printing the report of the Mahone Bay Agricultural Society last month:—

The following motion was passed at our annual meeting: Moved by L. Knaut, Esq., seconded by Mr. William Strum, that Benjamin Zwickler, Esq., be a Representative to represent our Society at the Central Board of Agriculture. The motion was put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

H. SCHNARE, Sec'y.

GAIRLOCH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

GAIRLOCH, PICTOU, Dec. 27, 1871.

I overlooked to forward you the names of the office-bearers of the Gaيرloch Agricultural Society for years 1871-72. The meeting was held at Mill Brook in the School Room, on the 5th Dec., and the following persons were elected:—*Pres.*, John Gordon; *Vice-Pres.*, Kenneth Ross; *Treas.*, Wm. McDonald; *Asst. Treas.*, John R. McDonald; *Sec'y.*, Revd. Neal Brodie; *Directors*, John McKay, Neil Sutherland, Donald McPherson, Robert G. McLeod, Wm. McLeod.

The Vice-President to represent the Society at the meeting of the representatives to elect a member of the Central Board, in accordance with the amended Act relating to agriculture.

The Society resolved to import British clover seed, and also American.

The election has been returned to me as done, and Mr. Matheson, Pictou, appointed for this County.

N. BRODIE, Sec'y.

HALIFAX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The following is the List of Members of the County Society, as made up at the Annual Meeting, December, 1871. Any requisite corrections or additions will be made by the Treasurer, W. C. Silver, Esq., if parties will furnish him with the necessary information:—Dr. Lewis, H. P. Black, J. Duffus, G. Troop, J. M. Geldert, J. A. Grant, A. Saunders, Hon. W. A. Henry, H. Yeomans, W. J. Veith, W. C. Silver, Prof. Lawson, C. W. Anderson, Joseph J. Northup, Ed. Smith, R.

A. Brohm, T. Woodill, C. D. Hunter, H. G. Laurillard, W. Humphray, W. Anderson, G. Crosskill, J. B. Smithers, G. Blacklock, W. Kandick, Robt. Taylor, Robt. Urquhart, Dr. Avery, D. Sullivan, C. Blackadar, James Hunter, Alex. McLeod, P. Moughan, D. H. Starr, W. L. Black, W. J. Stairs, Alpin Grant, C. M. Almon, E. J. Lordly, W. A. McLeod, J. McCulloch, J. T. Wickwire, H. L. Yeomans, H. Curry, G. H. Madill, W. Wardrop, S. Keys, B. Bond, W. Phillips, J. J. Blackburn, James Wardrop, G. L. Colton, Jos. Gilbert, John Wardrop, G. Ross, D. McDonald, T. Keys, A. E. Kenty, Jus. McDonald, Jus. Simpson, R. K. Phillips, Isaac Logan, G. Keys, P. McDonald, Wm. McDowling, R. Logan, J. McKay, D. McKeen, W. McKeen, William Lambels, A. Young, A. Woodworth, D. McDonald, Samuel Ross, J. Ross, D. Fudge, A. McDonald, B. Green, Dr. McLean, J. Carr, W. Anand, J. Hunter, T. Logan, James McJossly, T. Carrol, Isaac Isnor, J. Starr, A. G. Jones, Robt. Morrow, John Doull, Alex. Forsyth, T. E. Kenny, J. F. Kenny, J. Stairs, W. S. Woodill, John Duffus, W. Richardson, A. K. McKinlay, J. Parker, jr., Charles Hamilton, Jus. Hutton, Col. Laurie, W. Stevens, Four Milo House, W. Stevens, jr., Bedford Station, Parker Ross, E. W. Chipman, Allison Smith, A. Bligh, Geo. Esson, J. H. Anderson, W. C. Anderson, W. Esson.

Miscellaneous.

PROPAGATION OF PLANTS BY SEEDS.

Extract from "Practical Floriculture."

The propagation of plants, of all kinds, by seeds, is a matter in which instructions can be given only to a certain extent. Long experience alone can furnish the necessary knowledge for the full understanding of the proper temperature and humidity essential for the successful germination of the different varieties. It may be laid down as a safe rule, however, that for the hardier varieties, a low or medium temperature is required, say from 45° to 60°, and for the tender species, a temperature from 75° to 90°.

If Pausy seed be sown in July or August, where the temperature in the shade averages 80°, no matter how moist the soil is kept, if germination takes place at all it will be of so feeble a kind that the seedlings will not continue a healthy existence; but if the same seed were sown in September or October, with an average temperature of say 60° in the shade, a quick and healthy germination would be the result. The same rule applies to Cinerarias, Calceolarias, Auriculas, Primulas, and all other plants of this half-hardy nature. English, Scotch, and

Irish gardeners, before they have had time for experience in this country, are apt to fall into the common error of sowing all these seeds too soon. Though it is proper to sow these seeds in July and August in England, with us in this section, it must be delayed to September or October, and in warm latitudes still later, or failure is almost certain to follow. On the other hand, if we attempt to germinate Portulacacæ, Balsams, Amaranths, Zinnias, or other plants of tropical origin, in the medium temperature of 50°, they will either remain dormant until a higher temperature occurs, or perish. Ignorance of, or inattention to, these conditions, is far oftener the cause of failure than want of vitality in seeds.

Whether seeds are sown in the open border, in the window garden of the parlor, in the hot-bed, or green-house, the same conditions should be followed, as far as practicable. In the open border there is not always a choice of soil, but if soil is to be prepared, let it be of a light nature; leaf mould from the woods, and well-pulverized muck from the swamps are excellent to sift on as a covering; or, where it is obtainable, the mould formed by decayed refuse hops is of great value as a covering for seeds. We have employed this exclusively as a covering for seeds of all kinds for many years, with results which have been vastly superior to those we had when we did not use it.

It must be borne in mind that, at first, seeds do not so much need a fertile soil as they do one having the necessary mechanical condition; this is found exactly in the light, moisture-retaining nature of hop-mould. We can give no better rule than the old one of covering seeds to about their own depth with mould, although something depends on the weight of the material with which they are covered. One-fourth of an inch in depth of hop-mould or leaf-mould would be no more than equivalent to half that depth of ordinary loam; hence the advantage in using it, as it gives the seed a moist, springy covering, through which the tiny germ can freely push.

We know it is a practice very common with amateurs, and many gardeners, when starting seeds in hot-bed or green-house, to use flower-pots in their operations; they are generally two-thirds filled with potsherds, overlaying which is an inch or two of soil, and on this the seed is sown. Any continuation of dry weather necessitates almost daily watering of the flower-pots; this bakes or hardens the surface, while a day's inattention to them dries the soil, while it is in this condition, so as to injure the vitality of the seeds; hence very unsatisfactory results follow this practice too often.

For many years we have entirely discarded the use of earthen flower-pots or

pans for the purpose of sowing seeds, and use shallow boxes instead. These we prepare by cutting the common-sized soap-box in three pieces, each one of a depth of about two inches. These boxes are filled with the prepared soil to the depth of 1½ inch, which is gently and evenly pressed, so as to give an entirely level surface; the seeds are then sown, and a light covering, from 1-16 to ¼ part of an inch, according to size or strength of seed, is sifted over them, through a sieve having a mesh only 1-10 part of an inch in diameter. The covering is gently pressed, to prevent the air penetrating the loose soil and drying up the seeds; watering, which it is well to avoid as much as possible, is thus rendered less necessary. Be careful, however, not to let them suffer for moisture, as in the weak condition of seedlings, most plants are quickly injured by neglect of this kind, and, even with all possible care, we experience serious losses. Many varieties will "damp off," as we term it, just as the first rough leaves are being formed; this, however, is not the result of excessive moisture, as it occurs just as quickly in a dry temperature as a moist one. It is evidently caused by the same insidious spider-web-like substance that is known among gardeners as the "fungus of the cutting bench," and is evidently one of the minute fungi of which we have so many representatives. The best preventive of this disease, as it is sometimes called, is, just as soon as the seedling plants can be handled, to take them from the seed-boxes, and prick them out in boxes of similar mould, from ½ to 2 inches apart, according to the variety. This is a much better method than potting them off in flower-pots, as it not only saves time and room, but they always do better. In the flower-pots they are liable to be dried up, and the tender roots of the seedling plant thereby quickly destroyed.

BUTTER IN SACKS.

The dairymen of Washington Territory, for want of tubs and jars, have adopted a method of putting up and keeping butter which, though novel, presents some features that are worthy the attention of those having butter packed for family use or the retail trade. The packing is thus described:—

All butter is packed in muslin sacks, made in such form that the package, when complete, is a cylinder three or four inches in diameter and from half a foot to a foot in length. The butter goes from the churn, as soon as worked over, into the cylindrical bags, made of fine bleached muslin. The packages are then put into large casks containing strong brine with a slight admixture of saltpetre, and by means of weights kept always below the surface. The cloth

intogument always protects the butter from any impurities that chance to come in contact with the package, and being always buried in brine that protects it from the action of the air, and it has been ascertained by trial that butter put up this way will keep sweet longer than in any other way.

Besides, it is found easier and cheaper for the manufacturer than to pack either in jars or firkins. And for the retailer, there is no telling the advantage on the score of safety and convenience. These rolls of butter can lie upon his counter as safe from injury, from dust or other contact, as bars of lead; can be rolled up for his customer in a sheet of paper with as much propriety as a bundle of matches. If the consumer, when he gets home, discovers specks of dust upon the outside of the sack, he can throw it into a pail of pure cold water and take it out clean and white. As he uses the butter from day to day, with a sharp knife he cuts it off from the end of the roll in slices of thickness suited to his want, and peels off the cloth from the end of the slice, leaving it in tidy form to place upon the table.—*Rural New-Yorker.*

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