PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

ST. JOHN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

WITH THE

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

FOR THE YEAR

1850.

SAINT JOHN:

PRINTED BY HENRY CHUBB & COMPANY,
PRINCE WILAIAM STREET.

1850.

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REPORT

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PROCEEDINGS, &c.

At the Annual Meeting of the St. John County Agricultural Society, held on the 31st October, 1850, the Treasurer submitted his Accounts, with Vouchers, which were examined and found correct.

The President submitted the Report of the Directors, whereupon it was resolved that the Report be adopted, and 500 copies of it be printed for distribution.

It was also resolved, that in accordance with a recommendation of the Directors, an edition of one thousand copies of "Norton's Essay on Scientific Agriculture" be printed, and that the Secretary offer the different Societies in the Province such number of copies as they may require, at cost.

The Society then proceeded to the election of Office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were returned :—

ROBERT JARDINE, PRESIDENT;
ROBERT F. HAZEN, } VICE-PRESIDENTS;
ROBERT BOWES, }
JOHN DUNCAN, TREASURER;
M. H. PERLEY, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY;
D. B. STEVENS, RECORDING SECRETARY.

DIRECTORS:

PETER DEWAR,
JAMES DUNN,
THOMAS TRAFTON,
THOMAS DAVIDSON,
W. J. RITCHIE,
WILLIAM HAWKES,
GEORGE P. PETERS, M. D.,
JOHN H. GRAY.
HENRY CHUBB,
HENRY BLAKSLEE,
F. J. AYER,
OTTY CROOKSHANK,
JAMES BROWN,
CHARLES DRURY,
WILLIAM HOWARD.

Extract from the Minutes.

DOUGLAS B. STEVENS.
RECORDING SECRETARY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

FOR

1850.

The Directors of the Saint John County Agricultural Society, in submitting their Annual Report, have to express their gratitude to the Giver of all Good, for the return of another propitious season, by which an abundance for man and beast has been secured in the land. With the exception of the potato crop, which has been again the victim of the mysterious blight, and on which a loss of about one-fourth of its bulk will be sustained in this County, all other crops have been productive and free from disease. Wheat, when tried in this County, has yielded a large return of remarkably heavy grain. Barley is coming more into cultivation, and invariably does well. Oats and Buckwheat have, as usual, been productive. Hay rather under an average crop. Turnips, Carrots and Beets, owing probably to cold rains after sowing, remained long backward, and until the middle of September did not promise much; since that time however they have rallied, and will now prove a fair crop. Monthly meetings of the Directors have been held regularly, and an increasing interest seems to be manifested in the improvement of Agriculture.

As the Directors had found much difficulty in maintaining a proper circulation of the books which they had obtained for a Library, they considered that, owing to the cheapness of Agricultural publications in the United States, they might, by giving books for premiums, enable Farmers to have each his own library. Books therefore were offered as premiums for all articles this year. As might have been expected, the competition was chiefly amongst those who knew the value of knowledge. Still much useful information has, by this means, been distributed in directions which would not otherwise have been reached, and which, if not immediately productive, will at least favorably affect the next generation.

The books awarded have been eight copies of Stephen's Book of the Farm, nine copies of the Encyclopedia of Agriculture, thirteen copies of Colman's European Agriculture, one copy of Stewart's Stable Economy, one copy of Buel's Farmers' Instructor, one copy of Youatt's Cattle Doctor, one copy of Johnston's Lectures, one copy of Bousingault's Rural Economy, six copies of North British Agriculturist, two copies of London Gardeners' Chronicle, and two copies of the Albany Cultivator.

The Directors would recommend that in future the first premiums might be in money, and the second and third in books.

The annual Fair and Cattle Show was held on 10th October. The Judges, Messrs. Charles Perley of Woodstock, James Ingledew of Washademoak, and Monmouth Fowler of Hampton, reported "the show of cattle as highly creditable to the Province, the Sheep as very fine, and the Swine as a superior breed and well adapted for the use of this country, and the vegetables generally as of good quality. They also reported the ploughs exhibited by Messrs. Harris & Allan as equal if not superior to any imported; the edgetools, hammers and forks exhibited by Messrs. Samuel Spiller, and E. & J. Broad as highly commendable. They expressed themselves gratified at the manifest improvement in stock, which is beginning to show itself by many of the cattle exhibited, and the zeal generally manifested by the Farmers for the improvement of the country."

The Branch Society at Loch Lomond and Golden Grove has been conducted with much spirit, and has effected considerable improvement in those districts. A Report from that Society will be found in the Appendix.

The Directors would recommend that Branch Societies be formed in the other Parishes of the County. When such Societies are in operation in each Parish, competitors are placed more on an equality, and articles of proved excellence only are brought to the County Show.

The Directors would here call the attention of the Society and the public to the necessity, now becoming apparent, for a suitable piece of ground in or near the City being secured for a Cattle Market. The Monthly Fair is now necessarily held on the street, and must soon be felt as a nuisance. Had a situation been secured ten or twenty years ago it would have been obtained for a trifle ; it will now cost a considerable sum, but every year will add to the expense. As such a site will sooner or later be indispensable, the Directors recommend that the Corporation or Sessions purchase or procure at least an acre of ground in or near the City, erect sheds and cattle pens upon it, and fix a small charge for each animal brought into it for sale. The benefit this would afford to sellers and buyers is obvious.

The Treasurer's account is herewith submitted to the Meeting. It will be seen that the amount received for subscriptions for the year was £59 5s., and the Government allowance, £117 15s.

The expenditure has been £25 premium for an Oat-Mill, £6 16s. 2d. for expenses of Fair, £80 paid and accounted for by the Branch Society, £15 loss on Thrashing machine imported and sold, and £10 salary and office rent paid to the Secretary.

A balance of £130 remains in the Treasurer's hands. The amount of subscriptions, with the Legislative allowance, for the next year will add about £120, which will be a sum quite sufficient for all the purposes of the Society.

A Prize Essay on Scientific Agriculture, by Professor Norton of Yale College, was this year extensively distributed by the New York State Agricultural Society. This Essay furnishes in plain language a short compendium of all that practice, aided by science, has been doing of late years for the improvement of Agriculture. and the Directors would suggest that a small portion of the Society's funds could not be better appropriated than towards publishing a cheap edition of this work. Copies might be furnished to members of the Society, and probably other Societies in the Province may take quantities at cost price for a like purpose. One or two thousand copies can be printed at six-pence each.

The Directors have received from the New-Brunswick Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Manufactures and Commerce, fifty copies of Reports on various subjects, which have been distributed. These Reports have been got up with great care, and are calculated to be of much service. The Directors would recommend that subscriptions be made in this County towards the support of this Society.

By the aid of grants made by the Legislature, a Bone-mill and Tile Machine have been imported and placed in the Penitentiary. The Directors trust that Farmers will be ready to avail themselves of the privilege thus afforded to them. With tiles the land can be drained much cheaper and more effectually than with stones, and most Farmers may collect every year as many bones as will manure an acre of land.

A quantity of seeds was distributed by the Society among the colored population at Loch Lomond, and premiums, forwarded by several benevolent gentlemen in England, through Mr. Duval of the Normal School, were awarded. By this means considerable improvement has been made in the habits of this class of people, and many of them have, by their own industry, raised this year and the last sufficient food for their own use—a state of things quite new to them.

As Flax is not grown to any extent in this County, the Directors have inserted in the Appendix directions for the cultivation and dressing of this crop, to which they call especial attention. As an article of clothing it might, to a considerable extent, supersede the imported linen and cotton, and the seed is of much value. After the oil is extracted the cake forms the best food known for fattening cattle, and by its use the manure is nearly doubled in value. The dressing, spinning and manufacture of the fibre would also afford profitable indoor employment during the winter.

The Directors think it their duty to bring before the Society and the public the connection they have had with the survey of the Province by Professor Johnston.

The character of New-Brunswick as a field for Emigration or Agricultural settlement, stands in Great Britain and Europe at probably the lowest point. While the surplus population of the Old World is almost circling the globe to find a resting place;—while Australasia, Southern Africa, and even Gothland are absorbing thousands of that intelligent and energetic race, whose destiny it is to subdue the wilderness and carry the blessings of civilization over the earth;—while thousands of wealthy farmers are annually pouring into Canada and the Western States—New-Brunswick is passed by. What little emigration there is, is by accident, or of those who take advantage of the cheap passage by the returning timber ships, to get to the United States.

One reason for this is, that New-Brunswick is either quite unknown to the middle classes of Great Britain, or regarded as a barren and inhospitable wilderness, where the wolves and the bears contend with the nearly-as-savage lumberman for the scanty pittance which he can extract from a soil, which has scarcely time to be thawed from the snows of one winter before it is sealed with the frosts of another.

One cause for this unfavourable impression is alluded to in Professor Johnston's Report. He says, "Two very different impressions, in regard to the Province of New-Brunswick, will be produced on the mind of the stranger, according as he contents himself with visiting the towns and inspecting the lands which lie along the seaboard, or ascends its rivers, or penetrates by its numerous roads into the interior of its more central and Northern Counties."

"In the former case, he will feel like the traveller who enters Sweden by the harbour of Stockholm or Gothenburg, or who sails among the rocks on the northern coast of Norway. The naked cliffs, or shelving shores of granite or other hardened rocks, and the unvarying pine forests, awaken in his mind ideas of hopeless desolation, and poverty and barrenness appear necessarily to dwell within the iron-bound shores. I have myself a vivid recollection of the disheartening impression regarding the agricultural capabilities of Nova-Scotia, which the first two days I spent in that Province, around the neighbourhood of Halifax, conveyed to my mind. Had I returned to Europe without seeing other parts of that Province, I could have compared it only with the more unproductive and inhospitable portions of Scandinavia."

"A large portion of the Europeans who visit New-Brunswick, see only the rocky regions which encircle the more frequented harbours of the Province. They must therefore carry away and convey to others very unfavourable ideas, especially of its adaptation to agricultural purposes."

Again, owing to the great profits arising from lumbering or timber getting, farming has been always regarded as a mere makeshift, as a matter of quite secondary consideration. It was easier to cut and hew a few sticks of timber for a barrel of flour or pork, than to plough, manure, sow, and wait patiently for the earth to yield its increase. And as habit forms a second nature, it came at length to be the general and settled opinion of the great majority in this country, that because, as compared with the apparently more profitable pursuit of lumbering, and followed in a slovenly and improvident manner, farming did not pay, therefore it would not pay, and ought not to be attempted; that it was folly to think of being able to raise the staple articles of consumption, such as wheat, corn and pork. Finally, that this was not an Agricultural Country! The Directors of this Society, in common with many intelligent men through the country, have long dissented from this prevailing opinion. They thought, on the other hand, that this country possessed *superior* capabilities for Agricultural pursuits. That the soil was fertile, the climate quite favourable to the production of grain and vegetables, and that increased population, more capital, and a better system of farming were all that was required to advance that interest, and with it all the other interests of the country, to a state of prosperity.

The Directors saw, in the announced visit of Professor Johnston to New-York, an opportunity of putting their opinion of the country to the test.

Professor Johnston has attained celebrity in Europe as a Lecturer on Scientific Agriculture. He is regarded by the scientific and intelligent throughout the world as cautious, searching and trustworthy. His opinions on all points connected with his profession are held as of the highest authority. The Directors therefore addressed the Members of Government, requesting them to invite the Professor to visit New-Brunswick, and report on its Agricultural capabilities. This request was responded to. The assent of the Legislature was obtained, and the Professor came. After spending three months in the Province, travelling upwards of two thousand miles through the length and breadth of the land, issuing queries and obtaining replies from seven Agricultural Societies and fifty-five of the principal farmers, he furnished, as the result, a report, which places the Agricultural capabilities of the Province in a most favourable point of view, and fully corroborates the opinions held by those who were esteemed the most extravagant in their notions.

The principal points established are :

1st. That of the eighteen millions of acres in this Province, thirteen are capable of being cultivated, and five waste. To judge by comparison, Scotland contains nineteen millions of acres, only five of which are capable of being cultivated.

2d. That of this land, the Professor, from his own observation and researches, pronounces eight millions of acres to be very good in quality, and capable of producing on an average two tons of Hay or forty bushels of Oats per acre, and that the thirteen millions of acres of available land are capable of producing, even with the present method of cultivation, one and a half tons of Hay, or twenty-seven bushels of Oats per acre.

3d. That the climate is exceedingly healthy, and that it does not prevent the soil from producing crops, which, other things being equal, are not inferior either in quantity or quality to those of average soils in England.

4th. That, as compared with Canada, New-York and Ohio, the produce per acre of grain and vegetables of all kinds, is greater in New-Brunswick.

5th. That better prices are obtained for grain, vegetables and meat in New-Brunswick than in Canada, New-York, or Ohio.

6th. That "all the circumstances which have had an influence in rendering the agricultural body less prosperous, the agricultural interest less influential, and the agricultural capabilities of the soil less appreciated in New-Brunswick, are independent of, and extrinsic to, the natural capabilities of the soil itself, and that they do not in reality determine, nor permanently interfere with, the natural adaptation of the Province as a field of agricultural exertion."

And finally, "That those who have confined themselves to their farming operations alone, and have been ordinarily skilful, industrious and prudent, have, in no case, failed to do well."

The Directors will only notice and endeavour to refute one objection which has been frequently made to the correctness of this Report, and on which much of its value depends.

It is, "that much of the information furnished is obtained from farmers who either had better land and better crops than their neighbours, or were desirous of making things appear better than they are."

To the first part of this objection it is replied, that there are included in the other returns seven from agricultural Societies—that it may be presumed that these gave the general produce of the County or district which they represented.

The Directors beg distinctly to state, that the return furnished for this County was made up at a full meeting by unanimous consent; that the meeting consisted mainly of practical farmers, and of others well acquainted with the produce of the County; and that the returns were given as the *general average produce* of the County.

Now, on comparing the returns of those seven Societies with those from individuals, it will be found that they do not, in any material point, vary.

To the second part of the objection it may be answered, that of the fifty farmers who gave in the returns, twenty-five are of opinion that farming *will not pay*. It may be assumed that they, at least, would not wish to represent matters in too favourable a light, and yet their returns give no less favorable a view of produce and prices than do those of the twenty-five who say that farming *will pay*.

As to the prices given, the returns are more than confirmed by a price current running over five years, made up from the Colonial Advocate Newspaper, and likewise published in the Report.

It is important to know, that the statistics with which these are compared were made up in precisely the same manner, namely, by returns from Agricultural Societies and farmers.

No one in this Province will presume to say that more authentic or trustworthy information could be obtained in any country than from such men as Walton, Mowat and Farmer, of Charlotte County; Gilbert, Chapman, Crane and Trenholm, of Westmorland; Otty, Hayward, Aiton and McLeod, of King's; Coster, Robertson, Perkins and Smith, of Queen's; Hubbard, Clowes, Harrison and Simonds, of York; Rankin and Pickett, of Carleton; Steven, Lewis, Wallace and McLatchey, of Albert; Layton and Wheton of Kent; Porter and Hea, of Northumberland; Baldwin and Lockhart, of Gloucester; and Stewart, of Restigouche.

There are many, however, who, from having made up their minds that this is not a farming country, or from being naturally predisposed to criticise, grumble, and find fault, will continue to assail this, as they do every effort at improvement, with sneers, doubts and ridicule. It is not expected that evidence or argument can have any effect upon such.

It did not surprise those who were familiar with the produce of the Northern States and New-Brunswick, to be told, that the Grain, Vegetables and Grass of New-Brunswick surpassed those of New-England in quantity and quality. All who had travelled with their eyes open had seen it, and those who had thought at all upon the subject must have been aware that prices of provisions must needs be higher in the importing than in the exporting country, by, at least, the charges for transport and merchants' profits.

As compared with Great Britain, to those who knew that it is not the annual average temperature, but the quantity of heat distributed through the summer months, that effects the growth and maturity of grain and vegetables, it needed only to be told, that while in Great Britain the temperature barely reaches the required standard, in New-Brunswick it considerably exceeds it, to expect it to follow, that while in Great Britain a fall of one or two degrees in the summer temperature spreads dismay over the land, causes a certain and serious deficiency, and in many localities hinders the ripening of wheat and even oats; in New-Brunswick, on the contrary, wheat, oats and barley have never failed to ripen when sown in good season, and in favorable circumstances, and that Indian Corn, which, in England, can scarcely be grown, is here a productive, and generally a sure crop.

The Directors understand, that in addition to the 1000 copies of Professor Johnston's Report, already published, another edition of 10,000 copies is being printed.

It is expected that these will be distributed for sale at a cheap rate through every town and village in Great Britain and Ireland, and that a copy will be placed in every agricultural library. Thus will a knowledge of our advantages, as a field for emigration be communicated to thousands in the older countries, who are seeking to escape from the evils incidental to excessive competition, and to find a home where an honest living may be obtained by patient industry.

If, in addition to this, the Report be read, and the directions contained in it be, to any extent, put into practice by the farmers of the Province, evidence will soon be furnished in the increased productiveness of the soil and consequent prosperity of all connected with agriculture, that to increase knowledge is to increase power, and that all that has been judiciously expended in obtaining this knowledge has been well laid out.

In conclusion, the Directors are gratified to be able to record, that a desire for

information and a spirit of improvement have arisen, and are spreading over the land; agricultural Societies are formed, or forming, in almost every County and Parish in the Province; Shows are held; improved stock, seeds and implements are sought after and appreciated; a much larger quantity of provisions is now raised in the country, to the exclusion of the imported wheat, flour, and meal, and the great truth is coming nearer and nearer to men's minds, that on the ability to furnish food to its inhabitants, on the substitution of an *improving*, for an *exhausting* system of husbandry, must depend the future prosperity, independence, and well-being of this country.

Respectfully submitted.

R. JARDINE, *President.*

D. B. STEVENS, *Secretary.*

St. John, October 31, 1850.

APPENDIX.

METHOD OF FLAX CULTIVATION.

From the Transactions of the New-York State Society, for 1849.

The importance of this crop to the farmer has just begun to be appreciated, and as it has some peculiarities in its culture, I shall give the results of my experience for the last seventeen years.

The soil best adapted to its culture is a rich loam, but it will succeed on almost any soil except sand, provided it be high or hilly land. It will not grow well on low lands, on borders of streams or rivers; it is there subject to mildew. The seed being small, it must not be placed deep in the ground. The ground should be well ploughed, harrowed before sowing, and very lightly harrowed or bushed after sowing. The earlier sown in spring after the ground is fit to work, the better. One bushel of seed to the acre is the best quantity to ensure a good yield of seed and lint. Flax succeeds best after such crops as have been cultivated the previous year, so as to destroy weeds. The ground cannot be too rich, but the manure should be applied with the crop of the previous year. A good mixture to sow with the Flax is one bushel each of plaster, salt, wood ashes and lime per acre.

The expense of a crop of Flax is about the same as Oats. Pulling costs $3 per acre; thrashing and cleaning the seed, $1; dew rotting the lint, $1, and dressing at the mills, $2, per 100 lbs. of Flax. The average quantity of Seed raised is eight bushels per acre, and the average quantity of Flax 250 lbs. per acre, although this has frequently been more than doubled both in seed and lint. The average price of Seed is $1,25, and of Lint, 9½ cents per lb.

I have raised from ten acres up to fifty acres yearly. I copy from my book the results of one acre I surveyed in 1847, of about the average in yield and in price: Weight of flax and seed before thrashing, 3848 lbs.; weight of Flax, 2664; quantity of clean seed, 13 bushels, but when dressed, 348 lbs.

Lint sold for 10 cents. per lb. . . .	$34,80
13 bushels Seed, ...	16,27
1¼ bushels yellow Seed, . . .	78
	51,85
Expenses of seed, labour, &c. . .	14,75
Profit, .	$37,10

WATER ROTTING.

There are two methods of rotting Flax, one by spreading it thinly and evenly on our meadows, which is called dew rotting. It is considered sufficiently rotted when, by rubbing the stem and breaking it with the hand, the lint easily separates from

the woody portion. This is the common process, and requires but little judgment to do it properly. The other method is by immersing it in water; and as I have rotted, by this process, many hundred thousand pounds, I may be excused for being particular, as it is a process which enhances the value of the lint when properly done. Cloth from water-rotted lint will withstand the mildew or rotting which dew-rotted cloth is subject to.

In water-rotting Flax, it must be entirely covered by the water, and kept under by weights, and must not remain after it is sufficiently rotted.

It is rotted much better in still water or vats than in the running stream. I cannot do better than describe my own vat or pit, which is about sixty feet long by twenty wide and five feet deep, which will contain twenty tons of Flax in the stem, with a gate at the lower part of the pit to draw off the water from the Flax, and a gate from the pond above to fill the pit with water.

The Flax is placed on poles laid on the ground regularly, as it would be in the barn, and when the pit is filled and the weights placed I let on sufficient water to cover the Flax. In warm weather, from the 6th to the 10th day, fermentation will take place, the Flax will rise above the water and remain a few hours, after which it sinks, and the process of rotting is then finished.

But this process is retarded when new water is added, and then the only way to determine is by the stem. When the lint slips freely from the stem, by drawing it through the fingers, leaving the stem free from the fibre, it is sufficiently rotted; the water is then let off, the Flax drawn out and spread for drying. All Flax, before being immersed, is bound in bundles with strong bands, the sheaf not too large.

With all the directions that can be given, constant watching is necessary, and some experience before it can be done safely and with certainty. The Flax crop I consider less exhausting to the land than any of the cereal grains. It is true the crops do not succeed well sown in succession, but all other crops succeed well after Flax, and it is my favorite crop to lay down in grass seeds, and I have always had seed take better after this crop than any other.

LOCH LOMOND AND GOLDEN GROVE BRANCH SOCIETY.

ROBERT JARDINE, ESQ.,

President of the Saint John County Agricultural Society, &c. &c.

SIR,—This being only the second year since the formation of our District or Branch Society, formed under the auspicious management of the Saint John County Society, I take much pleasure in giving you a brief outline of the results within this short period.

It appeared that when your Commissioners were appointed to organize Branch Societies in the different Parishes of the County, as named in your Annual Report of 1849, its principal object must have been to induce persons who had hitherto neglected, to enrol themselves in the Saint John County Society, or to form District or Parish Societies, to take an interest in the cause ; and at the same time to hold out such encouragement, by reducing the annual subscriptions so low as would enable every person who might be inclined to avail himself of the opportunity of becoming a member; and also, to bring the Society meetings and annual exhibitions so close to their doors that no reasonable excuse could be offered for thus declining to come forward, and it must therefore be gratifying to you to observe that those efforts have been so far crowned with success.

Last year being the first exhibition at which premiums were given for the best samples of grain, vegetables, &c., and also for the best cattle, and improvements in various other ways in farming; it could not be expected that so much interest would be excited on the first occasion. But it appeared after that exhibition, the encouragement thus held out at that time, must have had the effect of stimulating

and arousing to exertion many farmers. The increase of members in our Society immediately after—the ploughing and preparing of lands last autumn for cropping the following or this year, to such an extent as never before were known in this Parish, and the making of manure, all strengthen this idea—the beneficial results of which are obvious. It will be found that a greater quantity of grain of different kinds has been raised in this Parish this year than in any year previous, samples of which were recently exhibited in the Grove at the second or last Fair or Cattle Show, which certainly could not be considered inferior to grains of the same kind raised in any country. Potatoes generally, especially those on newly burnt lands, turned out a good crop, although somewhat injured by the blight, farmers will have more than a sufficiency for their own use. Oats and buckwheat were the principal kinds of grain raised, which were of a superior quality, and it might be said for this Parish, compared with other years, an abundant crop. Wheat was good, although there was not a great quantity of it raised. I think there were not so many turnips raised this year as last, as grain appeared to be more the object of the farmer. Hay was not an abundant crop, but it was much better than last year. On the whole, this Parish, I should say, would have quite enough for its own consumption. It would be superfluous for me to recapitulate those who received premiums at the last exhibition, and who have been already published. But it will be necessary to acquaint you, that at the last meeting it was moved and carried, that the Society be enlarged to the whole Parish, at which time many of the leading members subscribed liberally, and a number of new ones enrolled their names.

It is evident there has been, within the last two or three years, an increasing desire manifested amongst the inhabitants generally to improve in Agriculture. The premiums offered for the best, second, and third methods of making manure have created a stimulus in this very essential and important branch of Agriculture.—The improvements in it certainly are very great. I regret that I am not in possession of the written descriptions of those to whom premiums have been awarded for manure, to accompany this Report. The premiums also held out for the best turnips and carrots, have been the means of introducing to some extent the raising of these very certain and beneficial crops, as also premiums for the greatest crops of all kinds.

Our means being limited as yet, we have not been able to hold out encouragement for the draining of lands; but this being so necessary, especially in this climate, to render lands earlier and more productive, I trust our Society will soon turn its attention to this most important improvement.

I am Sir, your most ob't. servant,

Loch Lomond, October 30th, 1850. JOHN JORDAN.